

Temporary Permission to Provide Primarily Continuous/Remote Learning (Optional)

West Des Moines

(Status as of 09/15/2020 - Submitted)

Information

Department of Education and Public Health guidelines recommend applying for a waiver for temporary Continuous/Remote Learning for an entire school building or district for up to 14 days if both of the following criteria have been met. You may still apply even if you do not meet these requirements.

- 15-20% positivity in the county on average over the past 14 days
- 10% absenteeism among students expected for in-person learning


Only the Departments of Education and Public Health can make the determination and provide temporary authorization to move to 100% online or remote learning. This plan is fluid and subject to change as more information becomes available.

Circumstance Requiring Temporary Continuous/Remote Learning


Temporary Permission to Provide Primarily Continuous/Remote Learning is being sought for

- the entire public school district.
- one or more buildings within the public school district.
- a state accredited nonpublic school.

Please enter the date that you propose primarily continuous/remote learning will begin.

Please enter the date that you propose primarily continuous/remote learning will end.

What was the county's average positivity over the past 14 days?

The average positivity rate in Polk County over the past 14 days is 7.9%.

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What is your current or anticipated absentee rate and how was it calculated?

Student absenteeism at Crossroads Park is 5%.

33% of the staff members at Crossroads Park Elementary are absent due to a positive COVID-19 diagnosis, being identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case and are quarantined.

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Please upload any relevant information or supporting documentation.

File Uploaded:
[Application for Temporary Permission to Provide Primarily Continuous Remote Learning.pdf](#)
Uploaded on: 09/13/2020

Provision of Temporary Continuous/Remote Learning

If the application for temporary permission is approved, how will the district or accredited nonpublic school ensure that all students with IEPs are provided with FAPE during the time the district/school is providing services primarily online?

Students with disabilities will have access to the services and supports outlined in their Individualized Education Plan (IEP). IEP teams will ensure appropriate revisions are made for learning in a virtual environment as necessary. This could include consideration of additional assistive technology. Teams will consider the general education setting for all students as they determine appropriate virtual specially designed instruction and changes in LRE. See attached.

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If the application for temporary permission is approved, how will the district or accredited nonpublic school ensure that students who require mental health or health services still have access to these services during the time the district/school is providing services primarily online?

Relationships and connectedness are critical, especially in times of crisis, change and in a virtual space. Communication, ongoing support and connections to needed resources are essential. In required continuous learning counselors and behavior interventionists will provide a weekly asynchronous learning opportunity in the area of SEBMH. The school district's Employee and Student Assistance programs are an option as well as School Based Therapy at each school will continue

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If the application for temporary permission is approved, how will the district or accredited nonpublic school ensure that students with 504 plans continue to receive services?

Accommodations and modifications written in the Section 504 plan will be provided by school personnel (classroom teacher, nurse, administrator, etc.). Section 504 teams will consider if accommodations and modifications are relevant or need to be adapted to the virtual or hybrid setting.

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If the application for temporary permission is approved, how will the district continue to provide meals to students?

Meals will be available for pick up at our secondary building locations. We will provide 5 breakfast and 5 lunches per week and price will be based on students individual meal eligibility status. An order form will be available online for families to sign up.

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If the application for temporary permission is approved, how will the district provide access to instructional materials and services for students who do not have access to the internet?

WDMCS has contracted with Mediacom to support families in need with internet access. In addition, where this option provides barriers for families, the district will have limited hot spots to support.

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If the application for temporary permission is approved, what process will you use to communicate with parents/families on educational services and changes in delivery models?

The WDMCS School Community Relations Department supports internal and external communication (i.e. text, email, website, etc.), including frequently-asked-questions. Information continues to be updated to provide the most relevant information to support students, families and staff. Interpreters and translators are used to communicate with multilingual families.

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Record of Application Approval

This Question Can Only Be Answered By Iowa Department of Education Staff

Department staff will use the field below to record the history of application approval.

Per our conversation on 9.15.2020 this waiver is not necessary to meet requirements and the district is withdrawing the application. [Amy Williamson 9.15.2020 4:19 pm]

