



2021-2022

REOPENING PLAN

HOME AND SCHOOL REOPENING TOGETHER



REOPENING TIMELINE + GOALS

2021 BACK-TO-SCHOOL TIMELINE

- **August 17:** K-4 schedules posted to Skyward after 3 p.m.
- **August 18:** 5-8 schedules posted to Skyward after 3 p.m.
- **August 19:** 9-12 schedules posted to Skyward after 3 p.m.
- **August 19:** 5/6/7 Grade Center Self Guided Tours, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m
- **August 19:** 8th Grade Center Self Guided Tour, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- **August 23:** Regularly scheduled School Board Meeting
- **August 23:** 9-12 Grade Self Guided Tours, 8-11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m.
- **August 23:** 8th Grade Center Self Guided Tour, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- **August 24:** 5/6/7 Grade Center Self Guided Tours, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m
- **August 24:** 8th Grade Center Self Guided Tour, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- **August 24:** 9-12 Grade Self Guided Tours, 8-11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m.
- **August 27:** K-4 Building Walk Thru, 2:30-3:15 p.m.
- **August 29:** Enjoy your last day of summer, we'll "see" you tomorrow!
- **August 30:** Welcome Back to the First Day of School!
- **August 30:** Canvas opens!

2021-2022 GOALS

Spring-Ford Area School District (SFASD) is planning to open for in-person instruction, 5-days per week, for all students in kindergarten through 12th grade for the 2021-2022 school year. Students in grades K-12 who wish to continue learning from home may enroll in [Spring-Ford Cyber Learning](#).

- SFASD will monitor county and municipality incidence and positivity data leading to a designation of low, moderate, substantial, or high status as determined by the Commonwealth
- SFASD will continue to consider guidance and implement mandates provided by:
 - The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
 - The Pennsylvania Department of Health (PaDoH)
 - The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE)
 - The Montgomery Office of Public Health (MCOPH)
- If schools are required* by local health officials to open at a reduced capacity, SFASD will operate on a hybrid model (Blue/Gold) with two days of in-person instruction and three days of virtual and asynchronous instruction.
- If schools are required by local health officials to fully close for in-person learning, SFASD will operate on a synchronous and virtual basis.
 - Staff will report to their assigned building for instruction
 - Students with special needs will adhere to a modified in-person model where feasible to best facilitate a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)
 - Athletics and extracurricular activities will follow PaDoH/PDE/MCOPH/PIAA/PAC requirements. Guidelines will be considered.

* A requirement to modify our instructional model is defined as a mandate from PDE/PaDoH/MCOPH.

2021-2022 IN-PERSON LEARNING

GOAL: *SFASD will use the guidance of the state and federal government as well as support from the Montgomery County Office of Public Health in planning to reopen schools in person.*

UNDERSTANDING COVID-19: *SPRING-FORD TASK FORCE*

Spring-Ford's COVID Task Force reports required information to the Montgomery County Office of Public Health and the Superintendent.

- Bob Rizzo, Superintendent (Pandemic Coordinator)
- Beth Leiss, Director of Human Resources
- Bob Hunter, Director of Planning, Operations, and Facilities
- David Boyer, Coordinator of Safety, Security, and Emergency Preparedness
- Trisha Smith, School Nurse: Secondary Department Chair
- Laura Murphy, School Nurse: Elementary Department Chair
- Erin Crew, Director of Communications, Marketing, and Media
- Lora Sanderson, Coordinator of Transportation
- All School Principals

TASK FORCE TRAINING

- Measuring and Maximizing Impact of COVID-19 Contact Tracing, Johns Hopkins University
- Best Practice During Pandemic, American Nurse Association
- Report from the COVID Front Lines, ICU Management
- COVID and Asthma in the Schools (4), Asthma and Allergy Network Webinar Series
- COVID the New Normal for Asthma, Asthma and Allergy Network Webinar Series
- Managing Infectious Diseases at School, University of Pitt Medical Center
- Coronavirus Training Courses (6), Safe Schools
- Psychosocial Impact and Interventions During the COVID Crisis, CDC
- COVID Psychological Effects, Health Advocate
- COVID Establishing Emotional Balance, Health Advocate
- COVID Conversations Webinar Series (6), American Public Health Association and National Academy of Sciences
- Why Immunity to the Coronavirus is Complicated, Smithsonian
- Stress Burnout and Self Care in the Face of COVID, Elite Learning
- Zoom Meetings with Dr. Rachel Levine, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health
- Meetings with Michele Masters and Sierra Gomez, Montgomery County Office of Public Health
- Weekly Updates from Montgomery County Office of Public Health
- Zoom Meetings with Montgomery County School Nurse Association
- Zoom Meetings with Pennsylvania Association of School Nurses
- Additional resources: CDC website, PA DOH website, MCDOH website, COVID 19 resources from nurse.com
- In addition we have read a reviewed hundreds of journal articles regarding COVID

UNDERSTANDING COVID-19: *TERMS AND DEFINITIONS*

- **Asymptomatic:** when an individual is a carrier of an illness but does not show symptoms.
- **Close Contact:** any individual within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes with or without a mask
- **Contact Tracing:** An attempt by public health officials to identify situations in which an infected person is transmitting the coronavirus, and then warn others who may have been exposed through that person.
- **Confirmed Case:** Someone tested and confirmed to have COVID-19.
- **Isolation:** separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are **not** sick.
- **PPE:** PPE Stands for **P**ersonal **P**rotective **E**quipment. This includes masks, face shields, gloves, gowns and other coverings used to prevent the spread of infection to themselves and others.
- **Quarantine:** quarantines keep people away from each other to prevent the spread of disease.
- **Self Quarantine:** choosing to separate yourself when you're sick from healthy individuals to prevent spreading illness.
- **Social Distancing:** putting space between yourself and other people. Ideal Social Distancing is 6'.
- **Symptomatic:** When a person shows signs of illness. For COVID-19, that includes cough, fever, loss of taste/smell, or shortness of breath.
- **In Person:** Students and employees return to full day, in person school.
- **Cyber:** cyber learning offers individualized instruction and flexibility so that students and families can find a schedule that works best for them.

IN-PERSON LEARNING: MASKS



On August 23, 2021 the Board of School Directors voted to amend the 2021-2022 Health and Safety Plan to reflect the following changes from August 30 through September 24:

Kindergarten-6th Grade: Masks will be mandatory for staff and students through September 24. Only medical exemptions WITH a medical signature will be honored.

7th-12th Grade: Masks are recommended for staff and students. If choosing not to wear a mask, a Parental Waiver Form must be submitted. A 2021-2022 Parental Waiver Form will be made available on the SFASD website this week.

If the Spring-Ford Area School District Transmission Rate moves into High transmission during this introductory period, K-12 masking will be mandated for staff and students. Only medical exemptions WITH a medical signature will be honored. A 2021-2022 Medical Exemption Form will be made available on the SFASD website this week.

- **Mask Breaks:** to the extent feasible, mask breaks will be provided when students can maintain social distancing.
- **What type of mask is allowed?** According to PDE, "face covering" means a covering of the nose and mouth that is secured to the head with ties, straps, or loops over the ears or is wrapped around the lower face. A "face covering" can be made of a variety of synthetic or natural fabrics and can include a plastic face shield that covers the nose and mouth. "Face coverings" may be factory-made or sewn by hand. While procedural and surgical masks intended for health care providers and first responders, such as N95 respirators, would meet these requirements, these specialized masks should be reserved for appropriate occupational and health care settings.
- **Will students wear masks on school buses?** Masks will still be required on buses due to the mandated CDC order.
- **What if a student forgets a mask?** Students are expected to wear a mask when they load a bus. If a student forgets a mask one will be provided.
- **How will Spring-Ford address "mask shaming?"** The Spring-Ford Area School District is committed to providing all students and employees with a safe and civil educational environment, free from harassment or bullying. Each staff member shall be responsible to make their best efforts to maintain an educational environment free of bullying and cyberbullying. Each student shall be responsible to respect the rights of his/her fellow students and all school district employees, School Board members and the community at large and to ensure an atmosphere free from all forms of bullying and cyberbullying. Students shall be encouraged to report bullying or cyberbullying complaints to school district employees and their parents/guardians. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to report suspected bullying to a building administrator. All employees who receive a complaint alleging bullying or cyberbullying shall investigate to determine if bullying or cyberbullying is indicated. If the employee suspects that bullying or cyberbullying has occurred, a referral must be submitted to a building administrator. Employees who witness acts of bullying shall respond appropriately to ensure observed acts of bullying cease and to teach students that bullying is not acceptable behavior. A building administrator or his/her designee will inform parents/guardians as appropriate. Depending upon the severity of a particular situation, a building administrator may also take appropriate steps to further ensure student safety. Such steps may include the implementation of a safety plan; separating and supervising the students involved; providing employee support for students as needed; and reporting incidents to law enforcement, if appropriate. [See Board Policy 249 for more information.](#)

IN-PERSON LEARNING: MASKS

The following Masks are **allowable** for school use.

- ★ Two or more layers of washable, Breathable fabric.
- ★ Completely covers your nose and mouth.
- ★ Fits snugly against the sides of your face and doesn't have gaps.
- ★ Has a nose wire to prevent air from leaking out of the top of the mask. (Disposable Surgical)
- ★ Gaiters with two layers, or fold to make it two layers.

DO choose masks that



Have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric



Completely cover your nose and mouth



Fit snugly against the sides of your face and don't have gaps



Have a nose wire to prevent air from leaking out of the top of the mask



Wear a gaiter with two layers, or fold it to make two layers

DO NOT choose masks that



Are made of fabric that makes it hard to breathe, for example, vinyl



Have exhalation valves or vents which allow virus particles to escape



Are prioritized for healthcare workers, including N95 respirators



Not recommended: Evaluation of face shields is ongoing, but effectiveness is unknown at this time.

Children



Find a mask that is made for children to help ensure proper fit



Check to be sure the mask fits snugly over the nose and mouth and under the chin and that there are no gaps around the sides



Do NOT put on children younger than 2 years old

The following masks are **not allowable** for use in schools.

- Having valves or vents which allow virus particles to escape.
- Having mesh only or webbing only and used as a face covering.
- Any clear face shield either partial or full alone is not allowable without a specific medical waiver. Clear face shields are allowable in combination with a mask listed above.
- Long term use of N95 masks is not recommended for children by the CDC.
- N95 masks are for priority use for our healthcare workers.

Please refer to the [CDC guideline](#) if you have any questions regarding the proper wear of your mask or how to clean reusable masks.

IN PERSON LEARNING: Physical Distancing

Protocols for distancing student desks/ seating and other social distancing practices classroom/learning space occupancy that allows for separation among students and staff throughout the day to the maximum extent feasible.



- **Low/Moderate Transmission:** A minimum of 3' of physical distancing will be established in all learning environments to the extent feasible. All student desks will be oriented to face the front of the classroom.
- **Substantial/High Transmission:** Unnecessary furniture will be removed from classrooms to facilitate a minimum 3 feet (with a goal of 6 feet) for physical distancing. Student desks will be oriented to face the front of the classroom, and student seating will be staggered. Special consideration for musical performing ensembles, classroom spaces, and instrumental/choral music instruction may be implemented.

Procedures for restricting the use of cafeterias.

- **Low/Moderate Transmission:** Cafeteria seating will maximize spacing to the extent feasible. An automated process (RFP) will be used for student payment in the lunch line to minimize touching of the check-out keypad. If this system is not available, students will be required to sanitize their hands after they use the keypad. Cleaning carts will be available in all spaces used for serving/eating lunch to facilitate wiping down of surfaces in between lunch services.
- **Substantial/High Transmission:** Student seating will be staggered to avoid sitting directly across from one another. Alternate spaces have been identified to provide more space for students to socially distance during lunch periods. An automated process (RFP) will be used for student payment in the lunch line to minimize touching of the check-out keypad. If this system is not available, students will be required to sanitize their hands after they use the keypad. Cleaning carts will be available in all spaces used for serving/eating lunch to facilitate wiping down of surfaces in between lunch services.

IN PERSON LEARNING: CLEANING

Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation:

- SFASD will utilize EPA approved disinfectants against COVID-19.
- All frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned, sanitized & disinfected at least 1x/day 5 days per week per CDC Guidance.
- All classrooms will be cleaned, sanitized and disinfected at least 1x/day 5 days per week per CDC Guidance.
- All bathrooms and locker rooms will be cleaned, sanitized & disinfected at least 1x/day 5 days per week per CDC Guidance.
- Day custodians will sanitize high touch areas at least once during the school day.
- Disinfecting wipes will be provided to all occupied areas in each building.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be available in every classroom, building primary entrances and office areas.
- HVAC operation will follow ASHRAE Reopening of Schools recommendations 2020 where attainable.
- Increased outside air in all ventilation equipment.
- Increased building air flow by operating at full capacity two hours before and two hours after school hours.
- Scheduled filter and equipment preventative maintenance according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Inspection and maintenance on exhaust systems in kitchens and bathrooms.
- All HVAC equipment and building automations systems operate as designed.
- To the extent feasible, SFASD will implement recommended CDC strategies.

Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

Students and staff will be encouraged to:

- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
- Use tissues and throw them away.
- Stay home when sick.
- Hands should be washed regularly. Handwashing should include the use of regular soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds. If soap is not immediately available, use hand sanitizer with 60% alcohol content or greater.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

SFASD will:

- Provide tissues and no-touch receptacles for their disposal.
- Provide resources for performing hand hygiene in or near waiting areas.
- Provide space and encourage symptomatic patients to sit as far away from others as possible.



IN PERSON LEARNING: PARENT EXPECTATIONS

All parents must review the following checklist prior to departing for a district building each morning. If

ONE of the following symptoms are detected, the parent should not send their child to school:

- cough
- shortness of breath
- difficulty breathing
- or new loss of taste or smell

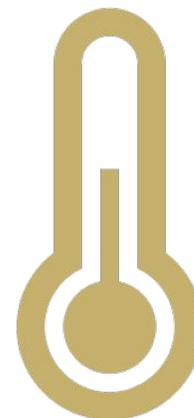
All parents must review the following checklist prior to departing for a district building each morning. If

TWO of the following symptoms are detected, the parent should not send their child to school:

- fever (measured or subjective)
- chills
- fatigue
- myalgia
- headache
- sore throat
- congestion or running nose
- nausea
- vomiting
- diarrhea

Employees will follow the same daily checklist.

Source: [COVID-19 School Exclusion Requirements](#)

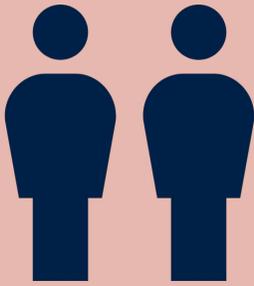


LEARNING WHILE QUARANTINED

How will students continue learning while quarantined?

- **Quarantined and Ill:** if a student is out of school with any illness – COVID, standard flu, sinus infections, etc. – their parent/guardian should call the school’s Attendance Line to report their student absent. As with any other year, they will be expected to make up work and should do so by working directly with their teacher.
- **Quarantined/Self Quarantined and Not Ill:** if a student is quarantined or self quarantined, but the student is not ill, they should complete their school work from home
 - Classroom teachers will make contact with the families of quarantined students. Through communication with the family, teachers should create a plan to provide learning to their quarantined students based on the length of the quarantine. The goal is to keep students at a similar pace with their classroom peers to the greatest extent possible.
 - If a student needs to be quarantined, students should be given access to both asynchronous direct instruction (in the form of videos etc) and asynchronous activities/homework.
 - Asynchronous Direct Instruction Examples: Pre-recorded videos, Khan Academy, Discovery Education, PowerPoint/Google slides from lessons, etc.
 - Asynchronous Activities/Homework Examples: Interactive websites, worksheets, assignments, go noodle, etc.

When am I a Close Contact at School?



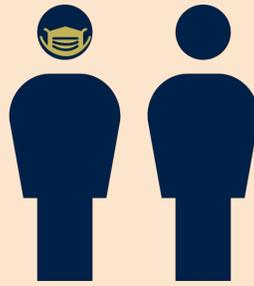
Are you wearing a mask?



No.



Students who are within 6' of an infected student for 15 minutes or more are considered a Close Contact.



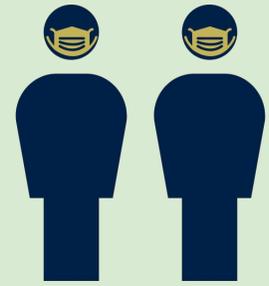
Are you wearing a mask?



Yes, but I was exposed to someone who was not wearing a mask.



All students who are 3 to 6 feet of an infected student who is NOT wearing a mask are considered a Close Contact.



Are you wearing a mask?



Yes, as was the person to whom I was exposed.



Students who are within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student where BOTH students are wearing masks are NOT considered a Close Contact.



Students who are less than 3 feet for 15 minutes or more - regardless of masking - are considered a Close Contact.

COVID VACCINATION EXEMPTION

People who are vaccinated against COVID-19 do NOT need to quarantine after an exposure to another person with COVID-19 if they meet ALL of the following criteria:

- They are fully vaccinated (i.e. ≥ 2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or ≥ 2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine)
- **AND**
- They have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure.

Fully Vaccinated should get tested 3-5 days after a known exposure **AND** wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days OR until they receive a negative test result.

- If they test positive follow guidance for Covid-19 Positive Test and isolate
- If they develop Covid-19 symptoms, repeat testing is recommended and follow sick policy
- A negative diagnostic test MAY rule out Covid-19, in consultation with MCOPH.



Source: [MCOPH School Guidance](#)

ASSESSING AN ILLNESS IN SCHOOL

Task Force members were trained by Michel Masters, Montgomery County Office of Public Health Division Director of Communicable Diseases Control and Prevention Department.

SFASD COVID Liaison:

- Notifies the Montgomery County Office of Public Health of positive student or employee case
- Gathers information on close contacts in school/bus for OPH
- Track isolation and quarantine periods for cases and close contacts
- Determines infectious period of positive case and close contacts
- Determines end date for all isolations/quarantines

The chart below provides schools with exclusion and return to school guidelines developed by the Montgomery County Office of Public Health.

What happens when SFASD learns of a confirmed case: Task Force will obtain as much of the following information as possible:

- Person's name and phone number
- Last date person attended Spring-Ford class or activity
- Their building/teacher(s)/bus number/activity or team(s)
- Known close contacts at Spring-Ford
- Whether the individual was masked while indoors

This information will be reported to:

- **Elementary:** COVID Liaison, Erin Lewandoski OR
- **Secondary:** COVID Liaison, Jaclyn Gospodarek
- **Extracurricular:** Mickey McDaniel



COVID-19 School Isolation & Quarantine

Updated August 16, 2021 and subject to change at any time

Designated Contact Information for School Personnel
Phone: 610-278-6211
Email: MCSchoolsCOVID19@montcopa.org

Symptom Screening Recommendations

COVID-19 Symptoms

- Two of the following : fever (measured or subjective), chills, fatigue, myalgia, headache, sore throat, congestion or running nose, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea OR
- One of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, or new loss of taste or smell

Individual should be tested for COVID-19.

- If test result is negative OR doctor's note with differential diagnosis, return to school after 24 hours afebrile and improved respiratory symptoms
- If test result is positive or individual is unable/refuses to get tested, may return to school after:
 - 24 hours with no fever and
 - Improvement in symptoms and
 - 10 days since symptoms first appeared

Montgomery County Office of Public Health only recognizes negative results from Covid-19 diagnostic tests that have been performed under the supervision of a healthcare provider. Negative results from an over the counter (at home) tests will not be accepted in order to return to school.

Isolation Requirements for Covid-19*

*Per Montgomery County Public Health Code, pertaining to the reporting, isolation, quarantine, and respective disease control measures (including contact tracing) for the control of communicable diseases.

Positive COVID-19 PCR or Antigen (Point of Care) Test

WITH SYMPTOMS

- May return to school after:
- 24 hours with no fever AND
 - Improvement in symptoms AND
 - 10 days since symptoms first appeared

WITHOUT SYMPTOMS

- May return to school after:
- 10 days after specimen was collected
- If symptoms develop during the 10 days, follow return to school guidance for positive PCR or Antigen test WITH symptoms

Quarantine Requirements for Covid-19*

*Per Montgomery County Public Health Code, pertaining to the reporting, isolation, quarantine, and respective disease control measures (including contact tracing) for the control of communicable diseases.

Close Contact to Positive**

- Within 6ft for 15 minutes or more
- Household contact

Exception: In the K-12 indoor classroom setting only, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) where:

- Both students were engaged in consistent and correct use of well-fitting masks and
- This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.

**If testing resources are sufficient, close contacts should be tested regardless of symptoms. If an unvaccinated individual is tested, regardless of the reason, they should stay home and isolate until the results are back.

WITH SYMPTOMS

- Individual should be tested for COVID-19
- May return to school after:
- 24 hours with no fever AND
 - Improvement in symptoms AND
 - 10 days since symptoms first appeared

WITHOUT SYMPTOMS

- Quarantine can end 10 days after exposure without testing OR after 7 days with a negative PCR or antigen test (must be collected on day 5 or thereafter).
- Household contacts may require further investigation, by either OPH or school officials, to determine dates of quarantine.
- The most protective quarantine is 14 days post exposure.**
- Recommended symptom monitoring until day 14. If symptoms develop during this time, follow return to school for Close Contact with symptoms.

COVID VACCINATION EXCEPTION

- People who are vaccinated against COVID-19 do NOT need to quarantine after an exposure to another person with COVID-19 if they meet ALL of the following criteria:
- They are fully vaccinated (i.e. ≥2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or ≥2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine) AND
 - They have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure.
- Fully Vaccinated should get tested 3-5 days after a known exposure AND wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days OR until they receive a negative test result.**
- If they test positive follow guidance for Covid-19 Positive Test and isolate
 - If they develop Covid-19 symptoms, repeat testing is recommended and follow sick policy
 - A negative diagnostic test MAY rule out Covid-19, in consultation with MCOPH.

SARS COV-2 ANTIBODY TEST OR RECENT INFECTION EXCEPTION

- People who recently test positive for SARS-CoV-2 antibodies (documented test for IgM or IgG) DO NOT need to quarantine in low-risk situations if specific criteria is met and person exposed is asymptomatic. **Consultation with MCOPH to release from quarantine.**
- People who had a positive diagnostic test for Covid-19 within the last 3 months before their exposure do not need to quarantine if they remain asymptomatic.

IN PERSON LEARNING: FERPA + HIPAA

Spring-Ford is committed to honoring all FERPA and HIPAA laws and standards. Only the positive individual and Direct Contacts will be notified with each diagnosed case.

	Who must comply?	Protected information	Permitted disclosures ¹
FERPA	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any public or private school: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Elementary – Secondary – Post-secondary • Any state or local education agency <p>Any of the above must receive funds under an applicable program of the US Department of Education</p>	 <p>Student Education Record: Records that contain information directly related to a student and which are maintained by an educational agency or institution or by a party acting for the agency or institution</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School officials • Schools to which a student is transferring • Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes • Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student • Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school • Accrediting organizations • Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies • State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific state law • To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena
HIPAA	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every healthcare provider who electronically transmits health information in connection with certain transactions • Health plans • Healthcare clearinghouses • Business associates that act on behalf of a covered entity, including claims processing, data analysis, utilization review, and billing 	 <p>Protected Health Information²: Individually identifiable health information that is transmitted or maintained in any form or medium (electronic, oral, or paper) by a covered entity or its business associates, excluding certain educational and employment records</p>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To the individual • Treatment, payment, and healthcare operations • Uses and disclosures with opportunity to agree or object by asking the individual or giving opportunity to agree or object • Incident to an otherwise permitted use and disclosure • Public interest and benefit activities (e.g., public health activities, victims of abuse or neglect, decedents, research, law enforcement purposes, serious threat to health and safety) • Limited dataset for the purposes of research, public health, or healthcare operations

1. Permitted disclosures mean the information can be, but is not required to be, shared without individual authorization.

2. Protected health information or individually identifiable health information includes demographic information collected from an individual and 1) is created or received by a healthcare provider, health plan, employer, or healthcare clearinghouse and 2) relates to the past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual; the provision of healthcare to an individual; or the past, present, or future payment for the provision of healthcare to an individual; and
 (i) That identifies the individual, or
 (ii) With respect to which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify the individual.

For more information, please visit the Department of Health and Human Services' [HIPAA website](#) and the Department of Education's [FERPA website](#).



What is FERPA? The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that affords parents the right to have access to their children's education records, the right to seek to have the records amended, and the right to have some control over the disclosure of personally identifiable information from the education records. When a student turns 18 years old, or enters a postsecondary institution at any age, the rights under FERPA transfer from the parents to the student ("eligible student"). The FERPA statute is found at 20 U.S.C. § 1232g and the FERPA regulations are found at 34 CFR Part 99.

What is HIPAA? The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) is a federal law that required the creation of national standards to protect sensitive patient health information from being disclosed without the patient's consent or knowledge. The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued the HIPAA Privacy Rule to implement the requirements of HIPAA. The HIPAA Security Rule protects a subset of information covered by the Privacy Rule