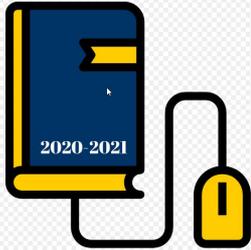


Update on 2021-2022 Back To School Plan



Back to School in U-46



De Regreso a Clases en U-46

May 24, 2021

Concluding the 2020-2021 Year

The CDC guidance states that schools should continue to use the current COVID-19 prevention strategies for the 2020-2021 year.

Summary of Recent Changes

Updates as of May 15, 2021 

- CDC recommends schools continue to use the current COVID-19 prevention strategies for the 2020-2021 school year.

[View Previous Updates](#)

Key Points

1. Evidence suggests that many K-12 schools that have strictly implemented prevention strategies have been able to safely open for in-person instruction and remain open.
2. CDC's K-12 operational strategy presents a pathway for schools to provide in-person instruction safely through consistent use of prevention strategies, including universal and correct use of masks and physical distancing.
3. All schools should implement and layer prevention strategies and should prioritize universal and correct use of masks and physical distancing.
4. Testing to identify individuals with SARS-CoV-2 infection and vaccination for teachers and staff provide additional layers of COVID-19 protection in schools.

Safe Return to All In-Person Instruction

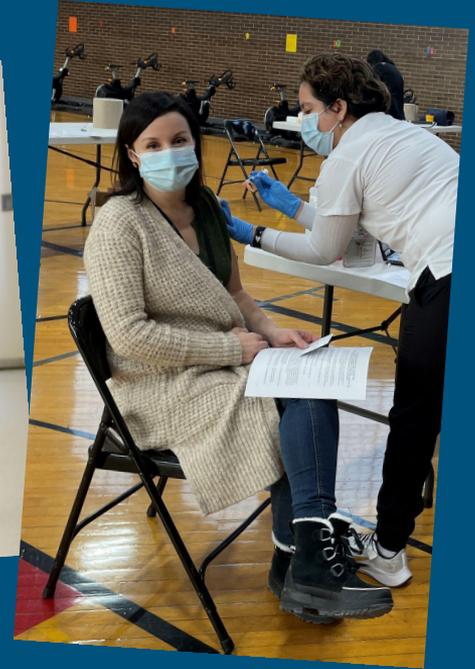
Mitigation Strategies:

1. Universal mask wearing
2. Social distancing observed as much as possible and per guidance
3. Contact tracing
4. Increase in schoolwide cleaning and disinfection
5. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
6. Self-certification per guidance
7. Occupancy restrictions per guidance



Additional Mitigation Strategies

1. Testing - Binax Now/CLIA Waiver approved. Available now.
2. Vaccinations



In-Person Instructional Model Updates

- Students return for full-day instruction beginning August 16, 2021.
- A/B day designations are eliminated.



In-Person Updates Continued

- Approximately 36,000 Pre-K - Transition students are expected to return for in-person instruction
 - Professional Development Sessions - Focused on Standards-Based Learning and Assessment, Core Instruction, and Instructional Leadership
 - Classroom structures
 - Planning: curriculum, resources, strategies



In-Person Updates Continued

- Implement in-person lunch across 57 sites
- Arrange, rearrange, measure and measure again almost all facilities and learning spaces
- Update technology in all classrooms



May 19 ISBE Declaration

The State Board of Education passed the declaration put forward by the State Superintendent of Education, Dr. Carmen Ayala, “Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, all schools must resume fully in-person learning for all student attendance days, provided that ... remote instruction be made available for students who are not eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine and are under a quarantine order by a local public health department or the Illinois Department of Public Health.”

Response to Lifting Governor's Emergency Order

- Current emergency order allows for distance learning throughout the state of Illinois.
- When the order is lifted, school districts resume pre-pandemic practices.
- School districts are required to have Board of Education policy 6.185 in place to allow for a Distance Learning option for students.
- Policy 6.185 is in alignment with **105 ILCS 5/10-29**.
- 105 ILCS 5/10-29 is restrictive in nature and the Distance Learning Academy application process and structures must align to this guidance.

Distance Learning Academy 2021-22

- A Distance Learning model will be available for Pre-K-12th grade students who complete our Distance Learning Request Form by 4 p.m. June 2, 2021 and who demonstrate they meet specific criteria as follows:
- Student is unvaccinated with a medical condition(s) that significantly increases risk or harm of serious complications related to COVID-19 as supported by a signed document from a licensed physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant. Such documentation may already be on file within our system or a new and/or updated document may be needed.
- In addition to the signed medical statement, a parent or legal guardian must provide a statement detailing the medical condition(s) that place the unvaccinated student at higher risk for serious complications related to COVID-19.

Distance Learning Academy 2021-22 Continued

- Approved requests will be effective for the entirety of the 2021-22 school year.
- Certain courses will not be available online next school year. Please click [here](#) for a listing of courses/programs that will not be offered to Distance Learning Academy students. At the high school level, there may also be instances when remote students will need to be placed in an alternate elective class due to staffing and scheduling limitations. High school students will need to speak with a school counselor to ensure an appropriate schedule to support on-time graduation.
- State law prohibits the school district from allowing a student to participate remotely for more than 12 months without evaluating the student's participation and success during the past year. If your student participated in distance learning for the entire 2020-21 school year, the district will review his/her academic performance as well as attendance before providing a decision.

Distance Learning Academy 2021-22 Continued

Students approved for the Distance Learning Academy, by law, must have a written remote educational plan which must include:

- Specific achievement goals for the student aligned to Illinois learning standards.
- A description of all assessments that will be used to measure your student's progress. Assessments also must be administered at a U-46 school (to be determined in the plan).
- A description of how progress reports will be provided to both the school district and the parent/guardian.
- The expectations, processes, and schedules for interaction between your student and their teacher.
- A description of the specific responsibilities of your student's family and the school district with respect to equipment, materials, phone and internet service, and any other necessities for remote learning.

Distance Learning Academy 2021-22 Continued

- If applicable, a description of how a student's individualized education plan will be met while learning remotely.
- The identification of a parent, guardian, or other responsible adult who will provide direct supervision of the program; and an acknowledgement that the plan shall designate the parent, guardian, or other responsible adult as non-teaching personnel or volunteer personnel.
- The identification of a school district administrator who will oversee the Distance Learning Academy.
- **The specific location where the student will be receiving remote instruction. If the location is different than the student's home, the district will be unable to accommodate the Distance Learning Academy request as it would require a chaperone vetted by U-46.**

Important Dates

5/25/2021 - Family communication concerning Distance Learning Academy

6/2/2021 - Applications for Distance Learning Academy are due by the end of the day

June - Staffing, scheduling, and professional development finalized

