

FLORIDA DOE
March 17, 2020

Assessments, Accountability and Promotion

- All remaining assessments for school readiness, voluntary prekindergarten and K-12 will be cancelled for the 2019-2020 school year.
- Requirements for graduation and promotion, and final course grades will be evaluated as though those assessments which were cancelled, did not exist.
- K-12 school Grades will not be calculated for 2019-2020 and schools in turnaround may continue their current status for 2020-2021 to avoid disruption to school leadership and operations.

Instructional Hours

- The Commissioner may reduce required K-12 instructional hours, as necessary, to accommodate for closures mentioned above.

Funding and Compensation

- All school readiness, voluntary prekindergarten, public K-12, private scholarship programs, career and technical centers and state college programs will be fully funded as though there was no disruption.

Teachers

- For the next 120 days, the deadline will be tolled for teachers/test takers, and in addition, all the fees of all test takers will be waved.

Funding to Support Students' Loss of In-Class Educational Time

- The Department and K-12 school districts are instructed to redirect unspent 2019-2020 funds from Reading Scholarship Accounts, the Reading Instruction Allocation, the Digital Classroom Allocation and the Teachers Classroom Supply Assistance Program to help low-income students purchase digital devices and establish Internet services.
- In order to facilitate the remote connection between teachers and students, K-12 school districts are further permitted to redirect unspent Title 2 funds to help low-income students purchase digital devices and establish Internet services.
- K-12 school districts are permitted to redirect unspent 2019-2020 funds from the Safe Schools and Mental Health allocations to virtual and telephonic mental health counseling services for students need emotional support due to COVID-19.
- To support students with identified IEP-related services who may have a disruption in services, school districts are given flexibility for the remainder of the school year to provide alternative services or delay services until later in the summer months, in coordination with a student' parents and IEP team.

School Board and College Board of Trustees Meetings

- All school board and colleges' board of trustees meetings through June 30, 2020, are postponed and may only be scheduled for emergency purposes only by the respective school district superintendent or college president.
 - Those meetings must be convened virtually or telephonically.
 - If there is a vacancy or inability to serve on the part of the superintendent or college president, then the respective board chair may convene an emergency meeting.

Mass Gatherings and Community Events

- Adhere to the CDC's guidance for higher-risk populations by cancelling any mass gatherings, community events, and extracurricular activities including sports of more than 10 people in a single occupied space at any educational program, including school readiness, voluntary prekindergarten, public and private K-12, career and technical centers, public and private colleges and universities.
 - [Implement and re-review every 15 days in accordance with the 3/15/20 Interim Guidance from the CDC.](#)

School Readiness and Voluntary Prekindergarten

- Strongly recommend school readiness and voluntary prekindergarten programs adhere to the CDC's guidance for higher-risk populations by limiting students and employees to no more than 10 people convening in a single occupied space, therefore breaking students into groups as necessary, maintaining social distancing best practices and proper hygiene.

Vocational Rehabilitation and Blind Services Offices

- All services provided by the divisions of Vocational Rehabilitation and Blind Services to clients shall be provided solely through virtual and telephonic methods to the extent possible.
 - The Department will work with appropriate federal authorities to seek waivers for any federal requirements that may be impacted.
 - [Implement and re-review every 15 days in accordance with the 3/15/20 Interim Guidance from the CDC.](#)

School District Closures

- Any public and private K-12, and career and technical center campuses will be closed through April 15.
 - Encouraged to operate virtually or through other non-classroom-based means to the greatest extent possible.
 - Although if they do stay open, particularly as needed to support parent's need for daycare services, then it is strongly recommended that they adhere to the CDC's guidance for higher-risk populations by limiting students and employees to no more than 10 people convening in a single occupied space, therefore breaking students into groups as necessary, maintaining social distancing best practices and proper hygiene.
 - [Implement and re-review every 15 days in accordance with the 3/15/20 Interim Guidance from the CDC.](#)

- The above does not apply to Department of Juvenile Justice education programs, including programs like PACE Center for Girls.
- For Collier, Duval, Sumter and Union county school districts, which are all completing their extended spring break 3/20/20, their school campuses will remain closed through April 15, although they will begin instruction virtually on March 23.

Postsecondary Closures

- Any public state college and private college or university campuses will be closed for the remainder of the spring semester.
 - Encouraged to operate virtually or through other non-classroom-based means to the greatest extent possible.
 - Although if they do stay open, particularly as needed to support parent's need for daycare services, then it is strongly recommended that they adhere to the CDC's guidance for higher-risk populations by limiting students and employees to no more than 10 people convening in a single occupied space, therefore breaking students into groups as necessary, maintaining social distancing best practices and proper hygiene.

Bright Futures Scholarships

- Eligibility for Florida Bright Futures scholarships shall be based only on data that is available.
 - [Implement and re-review every 15 days in accordance with the 3/15/20 Interim Guidance from the CDC.](#)