**PED Updates:**

**The Road Less Traveled**

**March 17–April 13, 2020**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| A picture of a winding road and trees | PED  Communications Team |

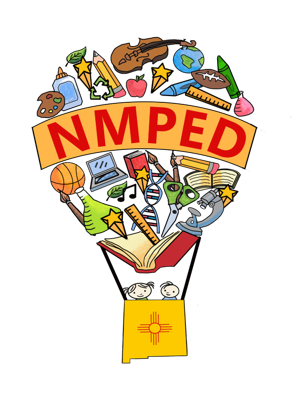


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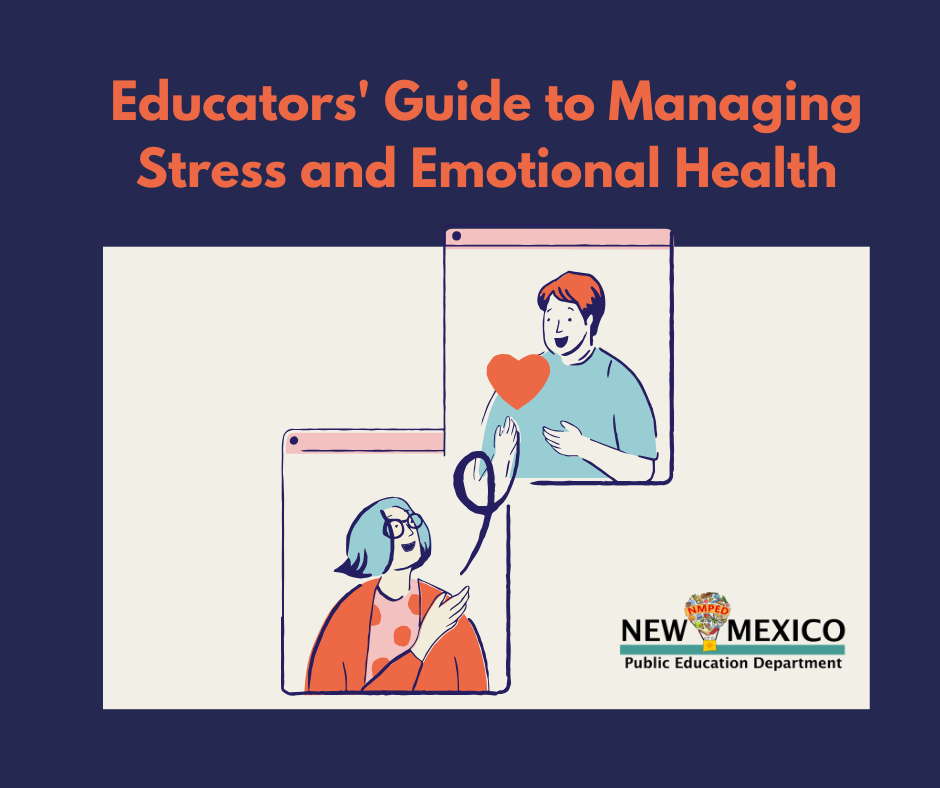
# Evening Update 4/13/20

Good Evening School Leaders

We've heard your questions around attendance practices during school closure and how this affects Attendance for Success Act reporting. Today we are publishing two resources to address these questions. If you have additional questions about attendance that are not covered in this memo or FAQ, please email [Jessica.Harper@state.nm.us](mailto:Jessica.Harper@state.nm.us?subject=Attendance%20Questions).

## **Attendance**

[Attendance Reporting Requirements During Campus Closures](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/R-a0CJ62pVTpL8AnCnjl1I?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)  
  
[FAQs about the Attendance for Success Act](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/7uPJCKr2qWI8xqM1HrrTRa?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)  
  
Managing Stress for EducatorsIt's not only our students who are facing disappointment, fatigue, and uncertainty right now. It's more important than ever for our educators to practice self-care and healthy coping skills. Please share this resource with your school community; you may find that the content is also relevant to parents and caregivers.

[](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/fOfUCL92rXHNMPw3HkI9HJ?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)  
[Educators' Guide for Managing Stress and Emotional Health](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/ksAoCM82vYFxV5kJt3W60X?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)

# Evening Update 4/10/20

Dear Superintendents, Charter School Directors and Business Managers:

Please see information below from today's Spring Budget Workshop presentation.  

## NM DASH

HOW TO OBTAIN ACCESS TO THE DISTRICT DASH  
Please [use this survey](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/KQK0CkRlvJIYgo2WT3Cvtq?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com) to sign-up for access to the District Dash:  
   
TRAININGS ON HOW TO USE THE DISTRICT DASH

**NM DASH Monitoring Training 1**  
**Description:** This session will detail how districts will use the NM DASH Monitoring Module to address the HB5 requirements.  
**Date:** Apr 14, 2020  
**Time:** 2:00 PM MT  
**Register** [here](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/mDDgClYmwKfOL6RnhJuJNA?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)**.**  
   
**NM DASH Monitoring Training 2**

**Description:** This session will detail how districts will use the NM DASH Monitoring Module to address the HB5 requirements.  
**Date:** Apr 16, 2020  
**Time:** 9:00 AM MT  
**Register** [here](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/qy7SCmZnxLu1vkyJuk3xB4?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)**.**   
   
WHERE TO ACCESS THE DISTRICT DASH  
The [District DASH may be accessed directly here](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/RJ-3Cn5oyMUlnr9OIXDXEB?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com).  
   
WHERE TO FIND THE PROCESS HANDBOOK  
Please see attached [EDUCATIONAL PLAN AND BUDGET SUBMISSION PROCESS](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/Qr1wCo20zNhlk62qI9NbWD?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com) Manual

Documents – Spring Budget Workshop

DOCUMENTS FROM THE SPRING BUDGET WORKSHOP  
For the presentation recording can be found at [NMASBO](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/vFQkCpYqAOfQ5p4MIWDueF?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com) or [here](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/USwmCqxrBPFL9JY0H3mZjV?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com).   
  
To review the questions from the Spring Budget Workshop presentation, see the attached [Educational Budget Submission Process FAQs](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/XA6wCrkvDQuwx4QVcBUCvJ?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)  
  
To access the handout from the presentation, see the attached [EdPlan Checklist Spring Budget Handout](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/nIZICv2z0XhOvrwNhJMCnb?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)  
  
To see the PPT slides from the presentation, see the attached [EdPlan Spring Budget Friday 8AM 2020 file](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/UjgXCwpALYF0ogl8hpiApX?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)  
  
**Conclusion**  
  
Thank you for your hard work this week and your participation in this year's Virtual Spring Budget Workshop. Have a wonderful weekend.

# Evening Update April 9, 2020

As PED makes continued efforts to respond to Covid-19 closures, the Professional Licensure Bureau has launched an online licensure application and payment system.  
  
The new system will allow constituents to apply for and renew all types of licenses, make payments, and track the status of their application from anywhere, on any device that has access to a web browser.  
  
In order to help spread the word about our new online system and to help answer questions, we have created this online tool kit for you. Share the infographic, print a poster or use a graphic in your email to staff. I've also included the Quick Start Guide in this folder. If you need assistance with the new portal, please email [LicensureUnit@state.nm.us.](mailto:LicensureUnit@state.nm.us%20?subject=I%20need%20assistance.%20)

## Your online licensure application is here:

[Online Licensure Portal Tool Kit](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/euf8C9ryZxIRAYjQHxrAM5?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)

USDE Waivers  
  
Today, PED submitted additional waiver applications to the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) to waive certain fiscal and programmatic requirements pursuant to section 3511 of Division A of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). This waiver application has been [posted to the PED website](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/4899C0RmZlIJQrzVuNId2r?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com) and to [NewMexico.gov](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/FoXaCgJGoBhPKYJ9CAyZr8?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com). Anyone who wishes to submit a public comment can email it to: [Covid.Edwaiver@state.nm.us](mailto:Covid.Edwaiver@state.nm.us).  
  
  
**Conclusion**  
  
Today, [Mayor Keller announced "WiFi on Wheels"](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/XNqxCjRkrGIlDy08UEsUQp?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com) to provide drive-up mobile WiFi units at a number of APS schools and area public libraries. Users can drive up to within 100 feet of the mobile units and stay in their cars to promote social distancing while accessing a free WiFi connection. As a reminder, the City of  Albuquerque has a map of free public WiFi Access Points [here](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/fYd2CkRlvJIYAqv9ilyt9y?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com).

# Morning Update 4/8/20

Good Morning School Leaders:

As we pivot to new technologies to support remote work and distance learning, it's important to keep student and employee security top of mind. At PED we have been widely using the Zoom platform. Here is some guidance we have distributed to PED employees today to help them increase security; if your teams are using Zoom please consider sharing these resources.  
  
Online Security [Steps to Increase Zoom Meeting Security](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/gLQ0CXD0KjIBGqpXhQTYDx?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)  
  
Secure Settings [Optimal Zoom Meeting Settings](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/HlhTCYEnLkikgNGLCQbTwd?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)

# Evening Update 4/7/20

Good Evening School Leaders:

Tonight we are sharing a memo that outlines expectations for Transportation Staff and Contractors. While this does not cover every eventuality, this memo should answer the most frequently asked questions we've received on this topic.

## Questions: Staff & Contractors

[Transportation Staff & Contractor Questions](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/jeV5C2koZnuKRPKzfpOf_J?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)

Advanced Placement Updates  
College and Career Readiness will host a live Question & Answer session to discuss this year’s Advanced Placement exams on Thursday, April 16, from 1:30-2:30 pm. A representative from College Board will also participate. Current AP teachers and AP Coordinators will receive a Zoom meeting ID and password via email. For more information, contact Alexandra Lutz at 505-827-6417 or [alexandra.lutz@state.nm.us](mailto:alexandra.lutz@state.nm.us).  
  
Census 2020  
As we navigate the current COVID-19 crisis, we want to encourage you to continue to raise awareness about the Census through school closures. Please share the link below with teachers in your community.

 E-learning at Home: Teachers can use the Statistics in Schools materials with their students online. There are activities that do not need a classroom setting and you can access those lessons on Google Classroom by using the Google Classroom code: oqm32yo.

To [learn how to access Google Classroom](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/NgSUC31p8oF7G67zU9ONZd?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com), click here. For more information about the Census, email Mercy Alarid at [mercy.n.alarid@2020census.gov](mailto:mercy.n.alarid@2020census.gov).

Conclusion  
Today, our 2020 New Mexico Teacher of the Year Mandi Torrez sent her first Teacher to Teacher email to all 22,000 New Mexico educators. These regular updates will focus on encouragement, self-care, building connections and sharing resources. Additionally, Mandi and a number of Teachers of the Year from years past put together a greeting.

## Mandi Torrez’ Message

[video message of solidarity and support to New Mexico families](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/iPA_C4xqZpFYmMYKHo4ZRO?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com).

# Evening Update 4/6/20

Good Evening School Leaders:

We are working on responding to every question that was raised on last week's Thursday morning call for Superintendents and Charter School Leaders. Rather than waiting until all questions are complete, we'll be publishing the Q&A as it becomes available. The first three pages of questions are responses are published here:  
  
[Responses to Questions from April 2nd School Leader Call](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1E2MgASZIE8vjSQCxpEO72TNqLy25ZqbV)  
  
Continuous Learning Plan Addition  
PED has published additional Continuous Learning Plan (CLP) support for issues specific to English Learners, Bilingual Multicultural Education Programs, Native American Students and the State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy.   
  
[CLP Addition: English Learners, Bilingual Multicultural Education Programs and Native American Students](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1PToTDVsg18Mq7AivucM0-DDXJedt5p9F)  
  
**Additional Updates:**

## **Feeding Plans**

* Please continue to provide meals to students up until the last day of your instructional calendar, including during your scheduled Spring Break.
* We will be launching the NSLP Annual Application and Fresh Fruit Application for NSLP for SY 20-21 in the near future. Please keep a look out for an email regarding this to ensure your participation in our programs.
* Personal protective equipment (PPE) is in a national shortage. We sent gloves and masks to as many districts as we could this week. Those districts that did not receive any this week will be the first ones to receive gloves and masks, which is tentatively scheduled to occur during the week of April 13th.

## **Community Schools, Extended Learning, and 21st Century Sites**

* If you have a school that received either a planning grant or an implementation grant, please note that all grant monies need to be expended before June 30, 2020, or they will revert.
* For FY21, we will consider and award implementation grants only, since there is not enough funding for boh implementation and planning grants. This application is live now and due April 27th.
* For FY21, we will continue to fund current 21st Century sites as is; the RFP for the next grant cycle will be delayed one year.
* Extended Learning Time Program applications are live now and due April 15th.

## **E**SEA Consolidated Federal Programs Application for Titles I, II and III

* [ESEA Consolidated Application](https://eui.ped.state.nm.us/sites/ESEAConApp/default.aspx)  If you have used the SharePoint system or the Student Teacher Accountability Reporting System (STARS) previously, your existing credentials assure you access. If you have a username and have forgotten the password; or if your password has expired; you may reset this through the STARS webpage.
* Though ongoing stakeholder input for development of the 2020-2021 Consolidated Federal Program Application (Title I, II, and III) remains a program requirement, subgrantees should practice the principles of social distancing while engaging with stakeholders. Engagement can be completed through surveys, conference calls, video conferencing, call in lines, etc.
* Once the Cross-Program Questionnaire has been completed and approved by the New Mexico Public Education Department’s (NMPED) Title program staff, the district/charter school will receive a notification via SharePoint email. The district or charter school will now be ready to access the Consolidated Application in SharePoint for Titles I, II, and III.
* Due dates: Cross-Program Questionnaire: May 4, 2020, but **we highly encourage you to submit before then;** Titles I, II, and III application submission: May 22, 2020; Final approval for Titles I, II, III applications: June 15, 2020.

**Conclusion**

Congratulations to the APS@Home team for their successful launch today! I wanted to share this comment one mom posted to our Facebook page:  
  
*We tuned in for [grades] 2-3 and 4-5 & I am SO impressed with what you guys have done! The teachers were so engaging & really provided that social/emotional connection our kids need right now! The academics seemed on par. My daughter was not excited about this & ended up being very attentive & engaged. She asked to stay for the 4-5 hour & she cannot wait until tomorrow! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!*

# Evening Update 4/5/20

Good Evening School Leaders:

There will be no Monday morning update. I have combined the Friday and Weekend update into one Sunday evening communication.

## APS At Home

In response to the novel coronavirus crisis that has resulted in the closures of all New Mexico public schools, New Mexico PBS (NMPBS) and Albuquerque Public Schools (APS) announce an ambitious and vital new broadcast initiative to support at-home learning for K-5 students and their families, by broadcasting a new weekday morning schedule of televised APS classes.

Beginning Monday, April 6, APS @HOME, will begin broadcasting from 8 a.m. - Noon weekdays. Please see programming information for your local viewing station. If you're unable to catch the programming during the live broadcast, lessons will also be posted to the APS YouTube Channel.

Please share this incredible resource with your local school communities!

APS@Home News Release

APS@Home Programming Schedule

## 2020 AP Exam Updates

The College Board has published a presentation by Trevor Parker to review changes to the 2020 AP Exam administration to meet the unprecedented challenges posed by COVID-19. You may [d](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/IFMtCjRkrGIlRl72iOXyUN?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)[ownload the presentation after registering here](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/5ORyCkRlvJIY5YM7s62u41?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com). If you prefer not to register, you can keep up with [Updates for AP Students and Teachers here](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/nvCvClYmwKfOXOByhAZMFz?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com).  
  
Highlights:

|  |
| --- |
| Most AP teachers and students we surveyed prefer to test earlier, while the content is still fresh. |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | Exams will be given from May 11–22. | |  | Makeup test dates will be available for each subject from June 1–5. | |  | Students can take exams at home or in schools, if they reopen. | |  | Each subject's exam will be taken on the same day at the same time, worldwide. | |  | [View the full testing schedule.](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/WNwuCmZnxLu1W1mZTK5RaC?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com) | |

**Small Business Assistance**

New Mexico Economic Development Secretary Alicia J. Keyes has asked all Cabinet Secretaries to share this information widely. The $350 billion small business allocation int the Federal Stimulus package will be disbursed on a FIRST COME FIRST SERVE basis. This money will go quickly and we want to do everything we can to get it to New Mexico businesses.

If you know someone who owns a small business in your community, please tell them about the Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) and the Paycheck Protections Program (PPP). The first is a forgivable advance program up to $10,000 that can be distributed in 3 days to the company; and the second, a larger loan program has an interest rate of .5% and is deferrable for 6 months.  
   
Companies can [apply through the SBA](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/cJcqCn5oyMUlmlJzigZPli?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com) or through the SBDC, a SBA resource partner. They are offering instruction and guidance on how to apply. They have [19 offices across NM and are very helpful](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/aZjiCo20zNhlvl7Mip-O-8?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com).  
  
New Mexico businesses are also encouraged to be a part of our “BUY TODAY FOR TOMORROW” campaign. Businesses register their company at [Buy Local NM](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/RKhwCpYqAOfQAQjGhwbRWr?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com). Community members can buy vouchers from local companies to use later when businesses open. Together, we can help save local businesses.  
 

**Conclusion**  
  
The next email update will be Monday evening.

# Evening Update 4/1/20:

Good Evening School Leaders:  
This April 1, 2020 Memorandum supersedes the March 31, 2020 draft that was emailed yesterday evening.

## Work and Work Payment FAQs

UPDATED APRIL 1: [FAQs about Work and Payment for Work during the Physical School Closure Period of the 2019 -2020 School Year](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/q7LECER2kNI1l3gDULF5Jh?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)

## **Continuous Learning Plan—New Documents**

The PED team has developed four more documents in support of your local Continuous Learning Plans.

These are labeled documents 14-17 (documents 1 - 13 were emailed directly from Deputy Secretary Gwen Perea Warniment yesterday).  They include an FAQ on Special Education, guidance for educators on how to approach family check-ins and attend to socio-emotional wellness, and Tips for Teaching and Tips for Learning en espanol. They will additionally be listed on the PED website dedicated to the Continuous Learning Plan. Please let Deputy Secretary Warniment know if you have further requests for support.   
  
14. [Special Education FAQ](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/QzB0CG62mPTWB10MSLtzwW?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)  
15. [Educator Guide to Wellness Check-Ins](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/QTIlCJ62pVTpBq1YHWjAGI?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)  
16. [Consejos para enseñar en línea](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/-qynCKr2qWI8D2BnUVAabl?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)  
17. [Consejos para aprender en línea](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/MSUMCL92rXHNkRm1IypEDx?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)

## ****Online Licensure****

As the Public Education Department makes continued efforts to respond to Covid-19 closures, the Professional Licensure Bureau is preparing to launch an online licensure application and payment system. The new system will allow constituents to apply for and renew all types of licenses, make payments, and track the status of their application from anywhere, on any device that has access to a web browser. At this time, all licensure applications have been removed from our website in an attempt to discourage applicants from leaving their home to obtain cashier’s checks and money orders and in preparation for the online release.

Continue to visit our website for the most up to date information on this transition including the user manual and FAQs.

We will be ready for launch early next week.

**Conclusion**  
Thank you for to everyone who promoted the 2020 Census today

# Morning Update 4/1/2020

Good Morning School Leaders:

Driver's Education Update:   
Some schools and districts provide Driver's Ed as part of their elective curriculum. Guidance for the mandated school closure is that students will receive a pass/fail rating and credit for electives.  
   
While Driver’s Ed is an elective, the state requires the course be fully completed.  
  
If you have any questions about Driver's Ed, please email LeAnn Adams at the NM Department of Transportation: [Leann.adams3@state.nm.us](mailto:Leann.adams3@state.nm.us)   
  
**Conclusion**  
Please check your inboxes again this evening.

# Update 3/31/2020

Licensure and Educator Quality Zoom meeting during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We have scheduled a webinar for this Thursday to address your questions and concerns. Please note: the Zoom capacity for this meeting is capped at 300, so we are extending this invitation to this group of School Leaders. We are working on plans with multiple teams across PED to roll out this information to our 22,000 educators and teacher candidates. Please keep an eye out for an all-teacher invitation next week.

**Join Seana Flanagan, Division Director Educator Quality and the Educator Quality Team for answers to your questions about Licensure, Teacher Evaluation, and Title II.**

**Teacher Evaluation, and Title II.**

Topic: Licensure and Educator Quality Updates

Time: Apr 2, 2020 10:00 AM Mountain Time (US and Canada)

[Join Zoom Meeting](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/XBCYCKr2qWI8v32JtQ_Ehz?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)

Meeting ID: 109 586 214

Password: 388101

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,109586214# US (Houston)

+16699009128,,109586214# US (San Jose)

 Dial by your location

        +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

        +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

        +1 253 215 8782 US

        +1 301 715 8592 US

Meeting ID: 109 586 214

Find your local number: [https://zoom.us/u/ahcEd251d](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/Xwx5CL92rXHNpERvhAkBWA?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)

**Update:** ESEA Consolidated Federal Programs Application

The 2020-2021 Consolidated Federal Programs Cross-Program Questionnaire for Titles I, II, and III is now available.  The Questionnaire is completed in collaboration with the district/charter school’s Title I, II, and III program personnel. Please see the following link:

[ESEA Consolidated Application](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/f7a4CM82vYFx0EqlC9SUUH?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)

If you have used the SharePoint system or the Student Teacher Accountability Reporting System (STARS) previously, your existing credentials assure you access. If you have a username and have forgotten the password; or if your password has expired; you may reset this through the STARS webpage.

If you are new to the federal Title programs or the STARS system, please contact your district/charter STARS coordinator for guidance.

For access to the specific Title applications please contact:

·       For Title I access, [clarice.cata@state.nm.us](mailto:clarice.cata@state.nm.us)

·       For Title II access, [reginaa.madrid2@state.nm.us](mailto:reginaa.madrid2@state.nm.us)

·       For Title III access, [kirsi.laine@state.nm.us](mailto:kirsi.laine@state.nm.us)

Though ongoing stakeholder input for development of the 2020-2021 Consolidated Federal Program Application (Title I, II, and III) remains a program requirement, subgrantees should practice the principles of social distancing while engaging with stakeholders. Engagement can be completed through surveys, conference calls, video conferencing, call in lines, etc.

Once the Cross-Program Questionnaire has been completed and approved by the New Mexico Public Education Department’s (NMPED) Title program staff, the district/charter school will receive a notification via SharePoint email. The district or charter school will now be ready to access the Consolidated Application in SharePoint for Titles I, II, and III.

Due dates:

Cross-Program Questionnaire: May 4, 2020

Titles I, II, and III application submission: May 22, 2020

Final approval for Titles I, II, III applications: June 15, 2020

# March 27 Communication

Good Evening School Leaders:  
The news release from this morning and the FAQ have now been translated into Spanish. The Spanish language News Release has been [posted to the Governor's website](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/TRwsClYmwKf1V7vkiE2e6H?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com) and the [Spanish language FAQ will be  posted to NewMexico.gov](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/69anCmZnxLupg2r6CWTorM?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com) ASAP.  
  
[March 27th News Release English](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/1tcOCn5oyMUXP5YxuLVLvq?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)  
[March 27th News Release Spanish](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/HAz5Co20zNhDg408uvuVqs?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)  
  
[Extended School Closure FAQ](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/DjXdCpYqAOf9VDBySQx6Us?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)   
[Preguntas Hechas Frecuentemente Sobre el Cierre Escolar Extendido](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/38qWCqxrBPF1EWoRiP5z4q?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)

Deputy Secretary Sandoval shared an [updated memo about Meal Service During Extended School Closure](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/yHoZCrkvDQurk9G6Ivz889?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com) and the [Meal Pattern Waiver](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/2bh5Cv2z0XhEYX34UKASJ2?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com). Thank you for ensuring that our children have access to food during these challenging times.

Deputy Secretary Perea Warniment hosted a number of calls to review the [Guide for Implementing Continuous Learning](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/AvS-CwpALYFvqpWPu7AyZd?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com) and the [Continuous Learning Plan Form](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/O61bCxkBMZuL7O3BupgN_a?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com).

Remember, completed plans should be submitted via [CL.Plan@state.nm.us](mailto:CL.Plan@state.nm.us).

If your staff has questions about how licensure will be affected during this time and you haven't already shared this guidance with them, we consolidated it into this one-page sheet. Please share and tell your staff to expect further updates from the Licensure Bureau next week.  
  
[School Closure and Educator Licensure](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/lOwsCyPDN1I78nRJU3btY2?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)  
  
Finally, we know that many people were frustrated that there was no livestream of Secretary Stewart's virtual press conference today with Secretary Blalock (CYFD), Secretary Groginsky (ECECD) and Secretary Trujillo (IAD). We were able to record the audio of that 50 minute Zoom press conference and will let you know what that has been posted to the PED website.

## Secretaries Stewart + Blalock: Good Morning School Leaders:

As discussed earlier, please find the following documents related to today's announcement of an extended public school closure to stop the spread of COVID-19.

[March 27th News Release](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/MtT-CM82vYF2N47pT4oUJt?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)  
  
[Frequently Asked Questions About Extended School Closure](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/_XaNCNk2wZuZ4mzYsxu2Z1?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com)

These documents will be reviewed with the media on a 10:00am virtual press conference.  
  
These resources will also be posted widely to [NewMexico.gov,](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/YuC2COY2x1fNWmMDHXq6HF?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com) the [PED website](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/wWALCPN9y2u0pEPBSvb5T7?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com), [PED Twitter](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/VCUkCQW2z3iX0jYnI2ptbt?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com) and [PED Facebook](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/p_GfCR60A4TG2qxwfRvFtR?domain=state.us19.list-manage.com) channels.  
  
  
**Conclusion**  
Today will be a challenging day, we are here to support you.

# March 26 Communication

*Please share this information with anyone in your communities who needs to file a claim with Workforce Solutions.*  
  
The NM Department of Workforce Solutions will complete over 30,000 initial claims this week, up from their normal load of 8,000-10,000 in a given week. As you can imagine, wait times at the Unemployment Insurance Operations Center are astronomical. Over 95% of successful claims are made on-line. Your assistance spreading the word with your staff and partners would be greatly appreciated.  
   
Here are few things you can do to help:

* Encourage new claimants to [use the New Mexico Workforce Online Connection website](http://www.jobs.state.nm.us/).
* Use the [YouTube video "How to File a Claim"](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ckVseXSDNCA&t=10s) to walk through the process.
* Read the FAQ’s on the [NMDWS COVID-19 website.](https://www.dws.state.nm.us/COVID-19-Info)
* Spanish speakers and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to call for assistance, but help them understand there may be long delays. 1-877-664-6984

# 3/25 p.m. Communication

Today, we published our Academic Enrichment Opportunities for Families in Spanish. Please help share this resource with our Spanish-speaking communities. In addition to being found in the Google folder, this resource is posted on the [PED Website](https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/) and [NewMexico.gov](https://www.newmexico.gov/education/). The tool kit is also posted on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/NMPublicEducationDepartment/)and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/NMPED) for easy social sharing.

# [Enriquecimiento Académico Para Familias](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1oxkCtWWzxkos8hFb7Fv4RJVRrwVimBk2)

**NMDWS Advises Employers on Families First Coronavirus Response Act Guidance**

Also on March 25, the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions shared some guidance from U.S. Department of Labor’s (USDOL) Wage and Hour Division (WHD) around Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) implementation. The guidance provides answers to employers’ top questions in regards to determining coverage, obtaining exemptions, part-time employees, and how an employer calculates wages an employee is entitled to under FFCRA.

Guidance is available in the form of fact sheets and frequently asked questions. All information and resources can be found on the [USDOL WHD website](http://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic).

The FFCRA requires certain employers to provide their employees with expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19. USDOL WHD administers and enforces the new law’s paid leave requirements. These provisions will apply from the effective date through December 31, 2020.

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Additional information for employers and workers affected by COVID-19, including frequently asked questions, can be found on the [NMDWS website](http://www.dws.state.nm.us/COVID-19-Info).  
  
If you are a school employer and have questions about what FFCRA may mean for your employees, [Aaron.Rodriguez@state.nm.us](mailto:Aaron.Rodriguez2@state.nm.us) will help to answer your questions.

## **Titles I, II, and III**

The 2020-2021 Consolidated Federal Programs Cross-Program Questionnaire for Titles I, II, and III will be available on Friday, March 27th. The Questionnaire is completed in collaboration with the district/charter school’s Title I, II, and III program personnel. Please see the following link:

[ESEA Consolidated Application](https://eui.ped.state.nm.us/sites/ESEAConApp/default.aspx)

If you have used the SharePoint system or the Student Teacher Accountability Reporting System (STARS) previously, your existing credentials assure you access.

If you have a username and have forgotten the password; or if your password has expired; you may reset this through the STARS webpage.

If you are new to the federal Title programs or the STARS system, please contact your district/charter STARS coordinator for guidance.

For access to the specific Title applications please contact:

* For Title I access, [clarice.cata@state.nm.us](mailto:clarice.cata@state.nm.us)
* For Title II access, [reginaa.madrid2@state.nm.us](mailto:reginaa.madrid2@state.nm.us)
* For Title III access, [kirsi.laine@state.nm.us](mailto:kirsi.laine@state.nm.us)

Census 2020  
  
If you missed the Census webinar on Tuesday, March 17th you can view the recording by clicking [here.](https://zoom.us/rec/share/wPd8D4v3-CRJSY3xy03_AqA7LojFT6a8gSUZ86AFy0okrS2C319NGO9CDUCk6QXQ) The content was modified to address the challenges of getting an accurate count during a public health crisis. This recorded webinar will provide relevant information on how to encourage families to respond to the Census even during this mandated closure. You will learn about resources for administrators and support from Census Bureau employees that are available. For more information, or if you have any questions about the Census, please contact Dr. Mercy Alarid at [mercy.n.alarid@2020census.gov](mailto:mercy.n.alarid@2020census.gov).  
  
**Conclusion**  
  
Our friends at CES LEAP have compiled a public [Google Workbook with Distance Learning Tools & Resources](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/19cJkbeCLaVKjMStrheqijV1mPr5CgpWZmUUP5ADupxY/edit?usp=sharing). Please check this out if you are looking for more tools for your tool box.

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# 3/24 p.m. Communication

Earlier today Deputy Secretary Sandoval sent out an update regarding the preparation and distribution of meals to students during school closure. For your reference, I am providing links to that document along with the Spring Break Meal Services Invoice Spreadsheet.  
  
[Feeding Update During COVID-19 School Closure](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1jZTGZV9jtFwiRAMHugxmMKwnrZQmiLas)

[Spring Break Meal Services Invoice](https://drive.google.com/open?id=17WmSsKmpvQ6ysVzyRCliVaahHK52W00R)  
  
Dual Credit Updates  
  
For Dual Credit (DC) courses being taught in a high school classroom:

* Courses are cancelled until at least April 6, 2020.
* High school dual credit instructors should be preparing to move the course to an online environment and restructure content for the shortened time for completion.
* If cancellation continues, these courses will need to be delivered virtually, in accordance with the partner college’s virtual instruction plans.
* Students who do not have online access from home may request a W or I; see message below regarding seniors.

For DC classes previously online:

* Courses that were previously online resumed, in most cases, on March 23, 2020.
* Students who do not have online access from home should reach out to the college for possible solutions. Students who do not have online access from home should reach out to the college for possible solutions.

 For DC classes previously taught in a college classroom:

* Most college courses will not resume until April 6th at the earliest. For most courses, instruction will be transitioned to an online environment, subject to the college's polices. Classes with significant hands-on learning may transition to a virtual environment; however, the instructor may need to issue an incomplete if the learning objectives intended to be met by hands-on instruction cannot be effectively transitioned. The governor is encouraging colleges to strive for paths to completion.
* Students who do not have online access from home should reach out to the dual credit college for possible solutions.

 Specific guidance for high school seniors:

* Students who must complete a dual credit course in order to graduate should be prioritized in the district’s problem solving attempts. Districts should make every effort to support internet access so these students can complete, since an incomplete may defer graduation.

Dual Credit Council recommendations (require college agreement):

* Students may request a grade of incomplete if they cannot complete the course due to lack of access, with completion allowed up to December 31, 2020.
* Students may request a withdrawal through the end of the semester, regardless of published drop dates.
* For questions about Dual Credit, please email [Elaine.Perea@state.nm.us](mailto:Elaine.Perea@state.nm.us)  
    
  Medicaid School-Based Services  
    
  The New Mexico Department of Human Services published a letter to supplement the MSBS guidance [previously provided by PED in our March 17th memo](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1mzPK9gKesDnblmHQkxdPd-qiEVN-ByIm).
* Please [see this letter](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1Ax8oR0B13AMtc6KJDPXOjtMhGg9JlOSH)for more guidance on what constitutes administrative activities and which allowable activities are eligible for direct service billing.

**Conclusion**  
Ashley Garcia, our Health Services Coordinator, shares this[new study from the National Institutes of Health](https://www.nih.gov/news-events/nih-research-matters/study-suggests-new-coronavirus-may-remain-surfaces-days) that finds coronavirus can be detected on plastic and stainless steel surfaces for up to three days. More reasons to follow the excellent advice laid our by [Taos Municipal Schools educators in this video](https://youtu.be/WVxP5r7S_70).

# 3/24 a.m. Communication

As I mentioned last night (3/23), the Governor’s Office and the Department of Health put out some helpful resources to understand the most recent Public Health Order.   
  
Essential Businesses

All New Mexicans must immediately heed the directive to stay home except as needed to maintain continuity of functions critical to public health and safety.

This list does not include government services, which are unaffected by this order. State government has already implemented telework policies for all employees who are able to work from home; local governments have been strongly encouraged to do the same.

[Click here for a list of private operations deemed essential](https://cv.nmhealth.org/stay-at-home-essential-businesses/) per that order.

Stay At Home FAQs   
  
Please [click here for a list of frequently asked questions and answers about the new Stay Home Order](https://cv.nmhealth.org/stay-at-home-faqs/).

**Conclusion**  
We know that schools, like PED, are getting many questions about extending the school closure period. To help answer that question for the public, we have posted a statement on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/NMPublicEducationDepartment/photos/a.103411601024018/221045009260676/?type=3&theater)and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/NMPED/status/1242472480079405058)on March 24. Please feel free to share in response to this question.   
   
3/23 Communication

[New public health emergency order](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1VzsJlCTbMviLvkUDDgOqpv7po0QqYssr) **effective at 8 a.m. Tuesday, March 24**

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and New Mexico Department of Health Secretary Kathy Kunkel announced closing all private businesses and nonprofit entities except for those deemed essential, and further restricting mass gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have received a number of questions from school leaders about whether or not this new public health order extends to public schools.

This order does **NOT** apply to public schools. School meal sites should follow the same guidelines as grocery stores, farmers markets, food banks, convenience stores and restaurants: meals should be provided for takeout or delivery only. No one will be allowed to stay and to eat on the premises. Transportation workers who are delivering meals are also not affected by the latest order. Visiting schools to pick up instructional materials and equipment is also an approved exemption.  
   
As of March 24[, the public order outlining the school closure period](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1m2ageyaosRCvMBVLypkMT1L-yhTt639Q) has not changed, but there is a strong likelihood that the closure period will be extended. We know that you are eagerly awaiting this update and it is our intention to give you as much notice as possible to make plans, but we are still waiting on more data points and guidance from public health officials and the federal government. We anticipate making an announcement later this week or early next week.  
   
The Governor’s Office and the DOH are producing a detailed FAQ and definition of what constitutes an essential service. These additional documents will be released  
on March 24. Until then, many of these questions can be answered in [the full text of of the public health order.](https://cv.nmhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/COVID-19-DOH-Order-fv.pdf)   
  
New Mexico Submits Waiver to USDE re: student testing  
Due to schools closures associated with COVID 19 pandemic, today [the PED submitted a waiver application to the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) to seek a one-year reprieve from federal student testing and accountability requirements for the 2019-20 school year.](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1UTNG-F5dObqZYGLP7ZCREdmCQIhfPGR-)  
  
On Friday, March 20, the USDE announced it will grant a waiver for states providing relief from federally mandated testing requirements. New Mexico’s waiver has been submitted and can be [viewed for public comment on the Assessment Memoranda page of the PED website.](https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/assessment-3/assessment-memoranda/) People can submit comment to: [PED.Assessment@state.nm.us](mailto:PED.Assessment@state.nm.us)     
  
The Anti-Donation Clause and Emergency Supplies   
Many districts and schools have provided paper, cleaning and other emergency supplies, which are not available in stores, to childcare facilities. Childcare services are critical during this public health emergency when schools are closed. This is especially true for the families of first responders, healthcare providers, and grocery store and pharmacy employees. Under the circumstances, childcare facilities would be unable to fully clean, sanitize and operate without your support.  
   
The [applicability of the anti-donation clause](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1VNu56FyHtfeqeJNUFzWcAz4rD3JCaR1W) has come up. Upon legal review, we believe that your provision of emergency supplies is permissible as it allows childcare facilities to continue to operate and provide vital services that benefit the State during this public health emergency. The benefit to the State is legal consideration for the receipt of emergency supplies. Therefore, it’s not a donation within the meaning of Article IX, Section 14 of the New Mexico Constitution.

**Conclusion**  
Thank you for your concern and continued collaborative efforts in support of the safety, health and well-being of our students and families during these challenging times.  
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# (March 20 Communication)

## **K-5 Plus Program**

The applications can be found in the shared Google Folder (links below) and they are also [hosted on the PED website.](https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/literacy-humanities/new-mexico-k-3-plus/)  
  
[K-5 Plus 2020 Program Application](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1cFETynx7kwjjg85akSfyHR1XJTwy0rNI)[K-12 Plus 2020 Pilot Program Application](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1gcfvOwxDdnFt2XsXhl8UPTy1_UqGrKf-)   
  
[K-5 Plus and K-12 Plus Pilot Programming Memo](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1CRBRp1n99Df6qZrxwbzSVvHX9KEInkuN)  
[K-5 Plus and K-12 Plus Pilot Programs Informational Pamphlet](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1iHcjiKkrCd7_G-l9mhEqSY3yA_-5R8wx)

## Assessment—USDE waiver

On March 20, 2020, the US Department of Education issued a letter to SEAs that outlined a process to waive requirements of assessment, accountability and school identification requirements, and report card provisions related to assessment and accountability. The PED is in the process of reviewing the waiver and will share immediately with district and charter leadership as next steps unfold.  
  
AP Exam Updates for High School Students  
For the 2019-20 exam administration only, students can take a 45-minute online exam at home. Educator-led development committees are currently selecting the exam questions that will be administered. Some students may want to take the exam sooner rather than later, while the content is still fresh. Other students may want more time to practice. For each AP subject, there will be two different testing dates.

* There will be no traditional, face-to-face exam administrations. Students can take a 45-minute online exam at home. For each AP subject, there will be 2 different testing dates.
* Students will take exams on any device they have access to—computer, tablet, or smartphone. Taking a photo of handwritten work may also be an option.
* College Board is working to provide access for schools and students with limited technology assets. If you have an Advanced Placement technology need, [contact College Board directly.](https://collegeboard.tfaforms.net/74)
* The exam will only include topics and skills most AP teachers and students should have covered in class by early March.
* Any student already registered for an exam can choose to cancel at no charge.
* AP Coordinators should indicate students’ fee reduction eligibility in AP Registration and Ordering by April 30.

### Important AP Links

* Beginning Wednesday, March 25, students and teachers can attend [free, optional live AP review courses](https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/coronavirus-updates#free-ap-classes).
* To see the full exam schedule and modified exam details or  to get help with AP Classroom, please [see the complete information about AP testing](https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/about-ap/news-changes/coronavirus-update).
* AP coordinators who haven’t collected exam fees have the option to [arrange a payment partner](https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/ap-coordinators/exam-ordering-fees/exam-fees/managing-fee-collection/ap-exam-fee-collection-providers) through which students can make payments.

Update on Perkins Spend Down  
US Department of Education has authorized the States to offer extensions for spend down of Federal funds. PED is exploring our options and expects to announce a spend down extension in upcoming weeks, as the situation become clearer. Salaries and benefits previously charged to a federal grant can continue to be charged to those grants. Incurred costs related to the cancellation of events, travel, or other activities that would have been grant activities can be charged to the grant. States may elect to delay application deadlines for 2020-21 funding as well. PED is exploring our options and expects to announce coordinated application deadlines in upcoming weeks, as the situation becomes clearer.

Childcare    
In support of childcare across the state, PED Preschool Instructional Coaches have resolved 168 cases of childcare providers that needed cleaning supplies, paper products, and food. Thanks to extraordinary cooperation and generosity by school districts, childcare centers received supplies and food that allowed them to continue to care for the children of first responders and essential personnel. Thank you to everyone who stepped up to make this happen!

There is a new page on NewMexico.gov specifically to help people in our communities who need assistance right now. Please [share this page widely](https://www.newmexico.gov/i-need-assistance/) as it addresses questions about mortgage relief, utilities assistance, internet access, nutrition support, unemployment, and more.  
  
Behavioral Health Resources  
Many New Mexicans are feeling overwhelmed, scared, and anxious right now. PED and the New Mexico Department of Health have put together this [one-page memo with advice and resources](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1_bs-rv1hIVZK90oJ95N0sbhygGrfybWd) for taking care of your mental health during isolation, talking to kids about COVID-19, countering virus-related stigma and racism, and more.  
  
[This Google Folder](https://drive.google.com/open?id=130ZuxxefHgqOlBR0VplyOotjy9QUmXzG) has additional resources including self-care tips for providers and coping skills for kids and adults.  
  
For questions about Behavioral Health supports for schools, please email Leslie Kelly at [Leslie.Kelly@state.nm.us](mailto:Leslie.Kelly@state.nm.us).

**Conclusion**  
Don't forget to complete the [Family Outreach Survey](https://forms.gle/bBNurywGct4smQsT8). Thank you.

# March 19, 2020 Communication

We are adding more and more people to the distribution list for these communications all the time. If you or anyone else in your school community needs to reference guidance documents from PED, please share the [link to the Google Folder](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1D_hirefTji5t3owKZ3wxowxWkNLdsZrz?usp=sharing). This folder is updated daily to ensure the most current information is available.   
  
New Closure Guidance from the Governor and DOH  
  
On March 18, 2020, Gov. Lujan Grisham and New Mexico Health Secretary Kathy Kunkel announced additional mandatory closures to stop the spread of COVID-19. The new guidelines include restaurants, bars, indoor shopping malls, movie theaters, etc. The new Public Health Emergency Order closes these facilities through April 10th. Some of you have asked if this means that schools are also closed through April 10th This order does NOT apply to schools. The existing order closing all public schools through April 3, 2020 still stands. [Read more about the additional closures here.](https://www.governor.state.nm.us/2020/03/18/new-mexico-to-order-additional-closures-to-limit-spread-of-covid-19/)

AP Testing Update  
  
The AP Program is developing resources to help schools support student learning during extended closures, as well as a solution that would allow students to test at home, depending on the situation in May. Additional information will be posted by March 20. Please also see: <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/about-ap/news-changes/coronavirus-update>. For more information, please contact Alexandra Lutz at the Public Education Department: [Alexandra.Lutz@state.nm.us](mailto:Alexandra.Lutz@state.nm.us)  
  
Sharing Outstanding Work  
  
We know that the current situation is stretching all of us to develop new, innovative ways to deliver vital services. If you have a teacher, principal, or staff member who is going above and beyond, we want to hear about it! I am collecting stories to pitch to local media about the amazing ways our educators are stepping up. Last night [KOB4 did a story featuring Ms. Rivera in Los Lunas, Ms. Berry in Las Cruces and Superintendent Romero in Deming](https://www.kob.com/coronavirus/new-mexico-educators-find-creative-ways-to-connect-with-students-during-school-shutdown/5678103/#.XnL-cxV19vs.twitter). If you have a story to share, please email: [nancy.martira@state.nm.us](mailto:nancy.martira@state.nm.us?subject=Outstanding%20Work) We are also [elevating this work on Twitter](https://twitter.com/NMPED). To help us find you there, please tag **@NMPED.**   
  
**Conclusion**  
Our Curriculum and Instruction Team and our Community Engagement Team are currently working on Tool Kits for Educators and Families. We expect to include those in the evening communication drop tonight. This [interactive article from the Washington Post](https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/world/corona-simulator/) is a good explainer of how social distancing can help "flatten the curve" for kids and adults alike.

This update has important information about program deadlines, tool kits for educators and families, and guidance from the Federal Government. *Let's get to it.*  
  
K-5 Plus Program  
On March 19, 2020 we sent communication about the K-5 Plus and Extended Learning Programs. We have extended the deadline for these program applications to at least **April 15th**. Should something change, we will let you know. In the meantime, if you have questions about either application, please contact: for K-5 Plus, Severo Martinez at [Severo.Martinez@state.nm.us](mailto:Severo.Martinez@state.nm.us) and for Extended Learning, Feliz Garcia at [FelizE.Garcia@state.nm.us](mailto:FelizE.Garcia@state.nm.us).

[K-5 Plus and K-12 Plus Pilot Programming Memo](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1CRBRp1n99Df6qZrxwbzSVvHX9KEInkuN)[K-5 Plus and K-12 Plus Pilot Programs Informational Pamphlet](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1iHcjiKkrCd7_G-l9mhEqSY3yA_-5R8wx)

Community School Deadline Extensions  
The Community School Planning and Implementation Grant Application will be released March 27th and will be due back to PED on April 27th. For questions about Community School Grants, please contact: [FelizE.Garcia@state.nm.us.](mailto:FelizE.Garcia@state.nm.us)    
PED Educational Resources   
Distance Learning Tool Kits (hyperlink)  
We know that educators and families alike are looking for resources to keep students entertained and engaged during this time, and so we have put together these tool kits for educators and families.  
  
[Educator Distance Learning Tool Kit](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1yfwIrCEX4pvsWFEfapk0NHESZp0MAKNl) (hyperlink)  
Teachers who wish to do so will find sample lessons, planning guides, activities and complete courses that should be modified to meet their students' needs.  
  
[Families Distance Learning Tool Kit](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1GDA7O8m66NRPmgnLft35I8J3NsmaJIo9) (hyperlink)  
While schools are closed, many families may choose supplement daily activities with online learning for their students. Families looking for some optional online learning support, may consider these free resources.  
  
[Grab & Go Cards](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1s9y84ipaMAbXpdOq0oRAQ6j9gpsZvQH6)(hyperlink)  
To help spread the word about the Families Distance Learning Tool Kit, you may wish to print these QR cards and distribute them during meal pickup. If a Smartphone takes a photo of the QR code, it will automatically open the Families Distance Learning Tool Kit PDF.  
  
**Please note:** **These resources are meant as suggestions only and will not be required. Completion of activities or digital coursework will not count towards instructional hours. Not every resource is available in all formats – we encourage you to use the resources that work best for your family’s needs.**  
  
We also encourage you to review this [short, seven minute webinar on online education and website accessibility presented by the Office of Civil Rights](https://www.youtube.com/watch?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=&v=DCMLk4cES6A). Please email questions to [OCRWebAccessTA@ed.gov](mailto:OCRWebAccessTA@ed.gov)

Family Engagement  
To help us share resources like the Family Distance Learning Tool Kit directly with families, please complete the [Family Outreach Survey](https://forms.gle/bBNurywGct4smQsT8) about stakeholder groups in your communities. This may include PTA or PTO groups, a Family Engagement Coordinator and other channels you use to effectively communicate with families. For questions about Family Engagement, please email [Katherine.Avery@state.nm.us.](mailto:Katherine.Avery@state.nm.us?subject=Family%20Engagement)   
  
**Conclusion**  
Questions about FERPA in the time of Covid-19? The U.S. Department of Education issued this [FAQ about Student Privacy and Coronavirus](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1Jsw6wtS-ZBPigHVSnw3-lI4P_zZBNZHE)

# March 18, 2020 Communication

Considering the crucial importance of food safety, especially with your districts enlisting so many folks to help with food distribution, we wanted to share the [New Mexico Environment Department's recommendations for food facilities.](https://www.env.nm.gov/foodprogram/wp-content/uploads/sites/9/2020/03/2020-03-13-EHB-food-safety-flier.pdf) (hyperlink)

# March 17, 2020 Communication

I have migrated our crisis communications emails over to Mailchimp because it is easier to update our contact lists dynamically. If there is someone who should be included on these emails, please have them send a note to [nancy.martira@state.nm.us](mailto:nancy.martira@state.nm.us?subject=Please%20add%20me%20to%20PED%20Crisis%20Response%20List) and I will get them added to the list.  
  
I've heard from some leaders that they have difficulty receiving the attached .PDF memos. In this evening's communication I will try hosting these documents online and linking to them in hopes that this improves accessibility. *Let's get started.*  
  
The [memo attached to the email from earlier today](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1mzPK9gKesDnblmHQkxdPd-qiEVN-ByIm) mentioned new Medicaid Reimbursable codes, but that document was not attached. Please find it here: [New Medicaid Reimbursable codes for Telephonic Visits and E-Visits.](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1CS1eiGW2DbMFTkv_3CJU8ahryDM2jv7i)    
  
We also received a number of questions from our School Board partners about how to be in compliance with both the Open Meetings Act and the Public Health Order limiting mass gatherings; the Attorney General's office has put out new guide here: [Guidance to Public Entities Regarding Open Meetings Act Compliance During COVID-19 State of Emergency.](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1SYNJI7ihe-ml6ZZSm7AHongltxpvifD6)   
  
Department of Workforce Solutions has issued an FAQ about [Unemployment Insurance for Employers and Workers Affected by COVID-19](https://drive.google.com/open?id=11nGYAnc4GhueMUn8e3ZPGUiap13pvWa8). (hyperlink) DWS also asked us to share the information below.

Unemployment eligibility **has been extended to include the following circumstances:**

Employers may lay off some or all of their workforce as a result of the impact of COVID-19; for example, a restaurant that sees a significant reduction in business due to lack of customers dining out during this time, or an event facility that cancels all events until a later date, or bus drivers who are out of work due to temporary school closure. 

* Workers who are self-quarantined or directed to be quarantined, or who have immediate family who is quarantined; or
* Workers who have their hours reduced as a result of COVID-19.
* For those who qualify under the above circumstances, the work-search requirement is being waived at this time.

**All** Workforce Connections field offices **are closed to the general public under the following circumstances:**

* Customers may request an appointment should they need to meet with staff.
* Customer may request an appointment to utilize the resource room.
* Services can be accessed remotely via Zoom and phone.
* Finally, this evening 3/17, we have an update from the Licensure Department.

PED Licensure Department Update  
  
The best way to communicate with the Licensure team right now is email as most of the team is working remotely. Please send emails to the consultant you typically work with or to Jessica Green ([jessica.green@state.nm.us](mailto:jessica.green@state.nm.us)) or Seana Flanagan ([seana.flanagan@state.nm.us](mailto:seana.flanagan@state.nm.us)). **AS of 3/31:** send your emails to the [LicensureUnit@state.nm.us](mailto:LicensureUnit@state.nm.us)  email address. Jenna Jaquez has been tasked with monitoring this email account. Of course, as the Staff Manager, any emails from the Governor’s office should be sent directly to me. Could you *always include an email address* of the constituent

Please note that Rebecca Reyes will be moving to a new position in the Indian Education Department and is no longer a contact for Licensure.  
  
We are still receiving mail every day and processing licenses; we do not anticipate delays in our normal processes.  
  
Assessments for Licensure:

* Test centers in NM are currently closed. To support Educators who still need to test, NMPED will make the following accommodations:
  + For alternative licensed teachers who are in their third year and still need to complete testing we will offer an extension for a 4th year
  + For educators just finishing a traditional program who are in needs of testing we will issue a 1CS license for these educators to allow them time to complete tests while working in the classroom

### Licensure Renewal:

* This time of year is very busy with renewals and we know that getting a superintendents form to send in with an application may be a challenge for many of your educators.
  + Please send a weekly packet with the superintendent forms and the Licensure Bureau will match them to the educator’s file

### Dossier/OPAL:

* The portal is open for submissions and all of our reviewers are working diligently to get submissions reviewed within 72 hours. If an educator has a question about the dossier please have them send an email to [licensureunit@state.nm.us](mailto:licensureunit@state.nm.us) for support. If an administrator needs support please have them email [jessica.green@state.nm.us](mailto:jessica.green@state.nm.us) for support.
* If you have an educator who was still collecting data for their submission and may not be able to meet the deadline for submissions during the current closures NMPED will make the following exceptions for:
  + OPAL candidates if needed we will issue an extension to a 4th year which will allow them to submit when the portal opens in July. If you have educators in this situation please send an extension request to Jenna Jacquez at [jenna.jaquez@state.nm.us](mailto:jenna.jaquez@state.nm.us)
  + Dossier Candidates who have a license that is expiring in June of 2020, NMPED will issue a 1 year extension to allow them to submit when the portal reopens in July

*As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to:*  
  
Division Director: Seana Flanagan: [Seana.flanagan@state.nm.us](mailto:Seana.flanagan@state.nm.us)  
Deputy Secretary Gwen Warniment: [Gwen.warniment@state.nm.us](mailto:Gwen.warniment@state.nm.us)