

## Expanded In-Person Learning for Public Schools: The Requirements

As of Monday, March 8, 2021, all districts and schools are eligible to expand to full, in-person learning, per the [PED Reentry Guidance](#). All districts and schools must adhere to the following requirements:

### COVID-Safe Practices (CSPs)

COVID-safe practices as outlined in the [PED Reentry Guidance and COVID-19 Response Toolkit](#) must be strictly enforced at all times. CSPs include, but are not limited to:

- Masks available and utilized by all staff and students;
- Classrooms and common areas set up for 6 feet of social distancing, to the greatest extent possible;
- Cafeteria and congregate eating areas set up for 6 feet of social distancing, to the greatest extent possible;
- Outdoor eating and drinking is encouraged, where possible, and additional mitigation practices are recommended for any congregate eating/drinking breaks;
- Ample cleaning supplies and daily sanitization protocols in place (including high-touch areas, playgrounds, and buses);
- Soap and supplies in bathrooms with reliable running water and hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol available across the school;
- Evacuation and dismissal plans that maintain 6 feet of social distancing, to the greatest extent possible;
- Full compliance with indoor air quality standards;
- Proper personal protective equipment (PPE);
- Isolation rooms for symptomatic individuals;
- Protocols and signage for entry into the building;
- Signage throughout the school site about prevention practices; and
- Protocols for students exhibiting symptoms on buses or before entry.

### Surveillance testing

All staff are required to participate in surveillance testing. For schools in red counties, there is a 25% per week requirement, ensuring that all in-person staff are tested on a monthly basis. For schools in yellow and green counties, there is a 12.5% per week requirement, ensuring all in-person staff are tested on a bi-monthly basis. Schools in turquoise counties are required to test 5% of staff on a weekly basis. School staff who are fully vaccinated may be exempt from testing protocols. Additional details regarding surveillance testing can be found in the PED's COVID-19 Response Toolkit.

### Expansion of in-person learning site visits

Prior to expanded in-person learning, each school must receive a reentry site visit. These visits, conducted by a local or state fire marshal in collaboration with the PED, will review the COVID-safe practices checklist to ensure adherence to all guidelines. Additional details about site visits can be found on the PED school reentry page.

### Signed assurance document

Each school or district that wishes to expand in-person learning must submit a signed assurance document indicating that the district/school will follow PED Rapid Response Protocols and agree to the requirements and guidance outlined in the PED COVID-19 Response Toolkit.