

COVID-19 Guidance from State Education Departments in the Northeast & Islands Region

Regional Educational
Laboratory
Northeast & Islands

From the National Center for Education Evaluation at IES

What guidance related to COVID-19 are states in the REL Northeast & Islands region providing?

As public education systems respond to school closures resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak, state leaders are producing new guidelines and gathering resources to promote consistent support for staff and students. Below is a compilation of guidance documents that have been released by the REL Northeast & Islands member states.

Connecticut State Department of Education

- [Guidance to Connecticut School Districts in Regard to COVID-19](#). Includes guidelines for school closures and distance learning; postponing, or cancellation of events; [COVID-19 planning tool](#); [guidance regarding “green cleaning” requirements](#).
- [COVID-19: Resources for Families and Educators](#). This includes resources to support student learning during school closures due to COVID-19; resources for families: including information on Advanced Placement (AP) students, adult education, mathematics, special education, and English learners; resources for educators: including planning, AP updates, distribution of meals and educational materials, special education, English learners, financial FAQ, Learn from Home Taskforce, distance learning, adult education, superintendent letters, and [Secretary DeVos’ New Resource on Accessibility and Distance Learning Options](#).

Maine Department of Education

- [Maine Department of Education Coronavirus Update](#). This includes news updates and information on feeding Maine students, internet connectivity, resources for schools including [Guidance to Schools for Continuity of Educational Services](#), supporting children during outbreaks, webinars including [COVID-19 guidance for schools](#) and [COVID-19 nutrition/school lunch](#), health recommendations, guidance for school boards, travel, and planning for a pandemic event.

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

- [Remote Learning Recommendations During COVID-19 School Closures](#). Includes a short set of guiding principles for Massachusetts’ priorities as an educational community in the coming weeks, as well as specific recommendations regarding remote learning.
- [COVID-19 Information and Resources](#). Includes guidance and information for schools including school closure, letter to families about remote learning, and links to other state and federal resources such as the [CDC Checklist for Teachers, Parents and Administrators](#).

New Hampshire Department of Education

- [Answering your Questions about Remote Instruction](#). Includes answers to some of the most common questions received at the New Hampshire Department of Education including how missed days will be made up, how special education students will be taught, expectations for parents, and provision of school breakfasts and lunches.
- [COVID-19 \(coronavirus\) Resources for Schools](#). Includes a list of links to guidance documents, recorded conference calls with school leaders, and [guidance for remote instruction](#).

New York State Education Department

- [Updated Guidance to Schools Regarding Novel Coronavirus During Statewide School Closure](#). Includes measures to ensure continuity of learning and child nutrition services including updated guidance related to school closure. Additional information about P–12 school guidance, continuity of learning, guidance for colleges and universities, licensed professionals, adult education programs, and New York State Education Department employees as well as building closures are available on the [New York State Education Department Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) website](#).

Puerto Rico Department of Education

- [Academic Alternatives](#). The Puerto Rico Department of Education is allowing students to use an online platform called “[aplicación EduPR](#)” to access materials and assignments by grade level and in the four content areas. [Special education services](#) have been suspended, which includes therapy services until further notice.

Rhode Island Department of Education

- [COVID-19 Updates and Resources](#). Includes updates and resources for the Rhode Island community about the coronavirus including a [distance learning resource guide](#), a list of [resources for distance learning and working with your child at home](#), and other resources for distance learning.

Vermont Agency of Education

- [COVID-19 Guidance for Vermont Schools](#). Includes information specific to Vermont schools and Supervisory Unions or Supervisory Districts including school closure guidance, special education guidance, guidance for school nutrition program, and information for families.

U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Education

- [Office of Public Relations and Communications](#). Includes links to [Meal Distribution Schedule](#), [family-friendly Coronavirus Preventative Care Tips](#), and [News and Press Releases](#).

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