

SUMMARY

Beginning on January 1, 2021, local school districts have more decision-making authority to determine whether to offer in-person instruction to students. Decisions about instructional models (Comprehensive Distance Learning, On-Site, or Hybrid) will be made by local school districts. Previously, the state released COVID-19 Health Metrics for Returning to In-Person Instruction. These metrics determined if and when schools were eligible to offer in-person instruction. Those metrics are now advisory. This means schools and districts are informed but not required to make their decisions of instructional model.

All of the previously announced health and safety protocols, expectations for maintaining an operational blueprint, and all other guidance from the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) remains active and required for all schools and districts. These requirements have been designed by public health and education experts. They are based on scientific evidence and research-based best practices. They reduce the risk of transmitting COVID-19 in schools. More information about best practices to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in schools are available on [ODE's website](#).

Local school districts are designing their own processes for determining when to reopen schools to in-person instruction. Visit your local school district website or contact your local school or district for information. If you have questions about the ODE's guidance, please email ODECOVID19@ode.state.or.us.

TIMELINE OF MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARCH & APRIL 2020	Governor Kate Brown announced all Oregon schools would close for in-person instruction and remain closed for the 2019-2020 school year.
JUNE 2020	ODE released the Ready Schools, Safe Learners guidance for Oregon schools, including health and safety protocols, resources for supporting students, and information to guide schools' planning for instructional models and returning to in-person instruction.
JULY 2020	Governor Brown announced that community COVID-19 metrics, including data about the number of positive COVID-19 cases in local areas, would be used to determine whether schools could transition from Comprehensive Distance Learning to On-Site or Hybrid Instructional Models.
DECEMBER 2020	Governor Brown announced that Oregon's COVID-19 Health Metrics for Returning to In-Person Instruction are advisory rather than mandatory starting on January 1, 2021. Governor Brown also announced that educators and school staff are prioritized for COVID-19 vaccinations and schools will be able to access rapid testing.

TRANSLATED RESOURCES

Key Practices for Mitigating Spread

Resource outlining key practices for mitigating the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

- [Arabic](#)
- [Chinese](#)
- [English](#)
- [Russian](#)
- [Spanish](#)
- [Vietnamese](#)

Exclusion Summary Chart

To support compliance with health and safety protocols.

- [Arabic](#)
- [Chinese](#)
- [English](#)
- [Russian](#)
- [Somali](#)
- [Spanish](#)
- [Vietnamese](#)

Terms to Know

A list of key terms with definitions.

- [Arabic](#)
- [Chinese](#)
- [English](#)
- [Russian](#)
- [Spanish](#)
- [Vietnamese](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

Responses to common questions.

- [Arabic](#)
- [Chinese](#)
- [English](#)

Update On Returning To In-Person Instruction

- [Russian](#)
- [Spanish](#)
- [Vietnamese](#)