

COVID and Education Recovery Resources

Please consider the resources outlined below brought to you from FEMA Region 4 IRC COVID19 Cell as a Courtesy Share provided by our federal partners at HHS ASPR Division of Recovery and the US Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, Disaster Recovery Unit. As always, be sure to forward to your network and those who could benefit.

CARES Act Funds and Personal Protective Equipment Purchase: Reopening and safely operating schools during the COVID-19 pandemic has posed an unprecedented and ongoing challenge across America. Educators are on the front lines of our national effort to overcome COVID-19.

Web Link: <https://blog.ed.gov/2020/09/may-cares-act-funds-used-purchase-personal-protective-equipment/>

Government-Supported Education Technology Products: As schools begin re-opening for the new school year, a group of 70 developers and researchers have collaborated to produce a new series of *Guides to Education Technologies*. The guides present information on government-supported education technology products that are ready now for in-class and remote learning. All the resources are web-based and can be used on either computers, tablets, or personal devices. The resources in the guides include a mix of no-cost products as well as ones that are fee-based.

Web Link: [Back to School During COVID-19: Developers and Researchers Continue to Respond to Support in-class and Remote Teaching and Learning](#)

Virtual Panel on Successful Strategies to Reopen Schools: On September 23, the U.S. Department of Education's Assistant Secretary Frank Brogan for the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education held a virtual panel discussion on successful strategies used to reopen schools around the country. A geographically diverse group of education practitioners discussed how they prepared for and executed opening their schools while sharing how they overcame difficulties along the way. A recording of the webinar is available [here](#).

Strategic Budgeting: Using Evidence to Mitigate the COVID Slide and Move Toward Improvement

The [National Comprehensive Center](#) designed the tool kit [Strategic Budgeting: Using Evidence to Mitigate the COVID Slide and Move Toward Improvement](#) to guide state education agencies and local education agencies through a process which aligns agency priorities, policies, and financial allocation based on evidence of student need and program effectiveness. This guide is also set up to help agencies prioritize and make trade-off decisions based on available evidence.

Accelerating Collaboration During COVID-19

The [Region 18 and 19 Comprehensive Centers](#) and the [Regional Educational Laboratory \(REL\) Pacific](#) published a new [blog](#) sharing how their institutions collaborated to create a Community of Practice on Continuity of Learning.

COVID-19 Resources Delivered to Your Inbox

[IDRA EAC-South](#) continues to deliver resources for schools and families responding to the pandemic via its eNews Weekly Updates. In the [September 17 edition \(in Spanish\)](#), readers can find tips for safe Zoom instructional usage, and ways schools can more authentically engage and communicate with families. Previous editions are located on IDRA EAC-South's [Learning Goes On site](#). To sign up for eNews Weekly Updates, please [click here \(in Spanish\)](#).

Addressing Inequities Related to Online and Distance Learning

In its latest [Equity Digest](#), the [Midwest and Plains Equity Assistance Center](#) provides insight into the inequities experienced by minority students and communities in online and distance learning environments. The Center discusses challenges related to online learning (e.g., access, job loss, housing insecurity, health disparities, ongoing civil unrest), and ways to create a culturally responsive, inclusive, and more equitable education environment that mitigates these challenges.

Hidden Consequences: How the COVID Pandemic is Impacting Children Webinar Series, 10/16, 1p – 2:15p ET

The [ASPR Technical Resources, Assistance Center, and Information Exchange \(TRACIE\)](#) and ASPR's Pediatric Centers of Excellence are collaborating on a webinar series focused on how the COVID-19 pandemic may affect children. The second webinar in this series will focus on the emotional and social effects of COVID-19 on children. Panelists will discuss food and financial insecurity, racial disparities, the impact of social determinants on children's health, return to school and daycare, and alternate childcare. To register for this webinar click [here](#).

The Effects of Secondary Disasters on Children, 10/23, 1p – 2:30p ET

The third webinar in this series will focus on how secondary disasters may affect children during the COVID-19 pandemic. Panelists will discuss sheltering in place versus mass sheltering; family preparedness considerations; wildland fire preparedness and response; the potential impact associated with the 2020-2021 influenza season; planning for pediatric surge; multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children (MIS-C): epidemiology, clinical features, laboratory findings and outpatient approach; and pharmacy and supply chain considerations. [Register](#)

Impact of COVID-19 on Children with Special Healthcare Needs, 10/29, 12p – 1p CT

The fourth and final webinar in this series will focus on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on children with special healthcare needs. Panelists will discuss related programs, the impact of COVID-19 and social determinants on this population of children, behavioral health/psychological effects, child neglect/abuse, and secondary disaster preparedness planning considerations. [Register](#)

Latest COVID-19 Response Resources from the REL Program

In response to COVID-19, the 10 **Regional Educational Laboratories (RELs)** have collaborated to produce a series of evidence-based resources and guidance about teaching and learning in a remote environment, as well as other considerations brought by the pandemic. Please see below for **REL** featured resources:

- **REL Southeast** shared the following infographic for teachers and school leaders: [When Teachers and Students Are Separated: Strategies from Research on Social Presence for Teaching at a Distance](#)

- **REL West** shared the following video for teachers, families, and caregivers: [Interactive Readalouds: Learning from Books Together](#)
- **REL West** wrote the following blog for social workers, support providers, and teachers: [Culturally Affirming Care for Rural Students During the Pandemic: A Karuk Perspective](#)
- **REL West** wrote the following blog for early childhood providers and district leadership: [How “Classrooms on Wheels” Continue to Reach Rural Preschoolers During the Pandemic](#)
- **REL West** wrote the following blog for social workers, support provider, and teachers: [School Social Work in the Time of COVID-19: When Human-Centered Work Moved Online](#)