

Reopening Protocols for K-12 Schools: Appendix T1

Recent Updates – (Changes highlighted in yellow)

3/22/21:

- Adjusts minimum distance requirement between student seating to 3 feet. Minimum distance between staff desks and student desks or other staff desks remains at 6 feet.
- Revises school opening thresholds and eligibility.

3/15/21: Revised to clarify that specialized instructors in elementary schools may work with up to 3 stable groups of students over the course of a school day or school week.

3/8/21:

- Allows reopening of grades 7-12 for all schools as long as schools comply with all state and local requirements
- Expands discussion and provides clarity on creating stable groups of students

The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health is adopting a staged approach, supported by science and public health expertise, to enable schools serving students from kindergarten through grade 12 to reopen safely. In addition to the conditions imposed on schools by the State Public Health Officer and the California Department of Education, schools must also be in compliance with these employee and student safety and infection control protocols.

Please note: This document may be updated as new information and resources become available. Go to <http://www.ph.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/> for updates to this document.

This document starts with a discussion of current provisions for on-campus education in Los Angeles County, followed by information about safety strategies specific to the school environment.

The TK-12 reopening checklist starts on page 4, and provides safety measures in five areas:

- (1) Workplace policies and practices to protect employee and student health
- (2) Measures to ensure physical distancing
- (3) Measures to ensure infection control
- (4) Communication with employees, students and families of students and the public
- (5) Measures to ensure equitable access to critical services.

These five key areas must be addressed as your facility develops any reopening protocols. Schools must implement all applicable measures listed below and be prepared to explain why any measure that is not implemented is not applicable to the setting.

General Reopening Guidance for All Schools

At this time when Los Angeles County is in Red Tier or higher, all schools are permitted to reopen for all students in any grades TK – 12. Note that the state defines an open or reopened school as one that offers in person instruction at least one day each week to all students in at least one of the grades served by the school. Schools that do not meet that criteria may be providing certain in person services to a limited number of students, but do not meet the criteria of being open or having reopened for the purposes of this protocol.

Schools open for in person learning must also continue to offer 100% distance learning as an option for