



## Coronavirus Updates – April 15, 2020

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### SUPERINTENDENT

Information on Paycheck Protection Program

For contractors who may be eligible for help from the US Small Business Administration:

[SBA's information page](#), which includes an application for the Paycheck Protection Program.

### **A quick summary:**

- The Paycheck Protection Program is a loan designed to provide a direct incentive for small businesses to keep their workers on the payroll.
- SBA will forgive loans if all employees are kept on the payroll for eight weeks and the money is used for payroll, rent, mortgage interest, or utilities.
- Businesses can apply through any existing SBA 7(a) lender or through any federally insured depository institution, federally insured credit union, and Farm Credit System institution that is participating. Other regulated lenders will be available to make these loans once they are approved and enrolled in the program. You should consult with your local lender as to whether it is participating in the program.
- Lenders may begin processing loan applications as soon as April 3, 2020. The Paycheck Protection Program will be available [through June 30, 2020](#).

**The following entities affected by Coronavirus (COVID-19) may be eligible:**

- Any small business concern that meets SBA’s size standards (either the industry based size standard or the alternative size standard)
- Any business, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, 501(c)(19) veterans organization, or Tribal business concern (sec. 31(b)(2)(C) of the Small Business Act) with the greater of:
  - 500 employees, or
  - That meets the SBA industry size standard if more than 500
- Any business with a NAICS Code that begins with 72 (Accommodations and Food Services) that has more than one physical location and employs less than 500 per location
- Sole proprietors, independent contractors, and self-employed persons

**CHILD NUTRITION**

Colleen Fillmore, Director

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Thank you for your continued hard work in feeding Idaho’s children.

As an important free resource: School Nutrition Association continues to offer free COVID-19 resources and trainings. Check out this free site at

<https://schoolnutrition.org/covid19/webinar-series-and-resources/>

Updated Clarification from USDA

Food and Nutrition Services released the latest COVID-19 Questions and Answers, which provides additional clarification on providing multiple meals for several days at a time. Please provide information to the State agency by completing the *COVID-19 Congregate Feeding Waiver Request Form Addendum* on the Governor’s website if you would like to update your meal delivery to use this option in your district. This form was also sent to your Idaho CNP program contact.

The Q &A documents have been put in the Governor’s website under the Child Nutrition Section, Questions and Answers. Below is a summary of each.

**SP-13 2020s provides FNS Q&As related to the following nationwide opt-in waivers:**

- Nationwide Waiver to Allow ***Meal Service Time Flexibility*** in the Child Nutrition Programs
- Nationwide Waiver to Allow ***Non-Congregate Feeding*** in the Child Nutrition Programs
- Nationwide Waiver of the ***Activity Requirement in Afterschool Care*** Child Nutrition Programs

**SP-14 2020s provides FNS Q&As related to:**

- CACFP Meal Delivery
- Claims and Payments
- Civil Rights
- Milk Requirements
- Multi-Program Sponsors
- SFSP Closed Enrolled Sites and Camps
- SFSP/SSO Site Finder
- Weekend and Holiday Meals

Be sure to inform the State agency if you intend to operate under these waivers in order to use the flexibilities.

Below are a few of most commonly asked questions.

**Under the current nationwide waivers allowing non-congregate feeding and no meal time restrictions due to COVID-19, may Child Nutrition Program operators provide food items in bulk, either through pick up or home delivery, without additional waivers?**

Under current statutory and regulatory authority and in conjunction with recent COVID-19 waivers allowing non-congregate feeding and no meal time restrictions, when providing multiple meals at one time, Program operators may provide bulk items as long as individual meals are easily identifiable as a reimbursable meal. When implementing such a delivery mechanism, Program operators:

- Must include the required food components in the proper minimum amounts for each reimbursable meal being claimed;
- Must ensure that food items are clearly identifiable as making up reimbursable meals;
- Are strongly encouraged to provide menus with directions indicating which items are to be used for each meal and the portion sizes;
- Should consider whether households have access to refrigeration, stoves, microwaves, etc., when providing food that requires refrigeration or further preparation, such as reheating; and
- Should ensure that only minimal preparation is required, and that food is not provided as ingredients for recipes that require chopping, mixing, baking, etc.

**May Program operators serving meals through the Summer Food Service Program or the National School Lunch Program Seamless Summer Option (SSO) during an unanticipated school closure serve meals on weekends or previously scheduled days off, such as spring break and teacher work days?**

Yes. Where schools are closed for an unanticipated school closure due to COVID-19, with State agency approval, SFSP and SSO service institutions may serve meals on days when schools had originally planned to be closed, including weekends, spring break, and other previously scheduled days off. After careful review, FNS has determined that, because the unanticipated pandemic school closures justify continued operation of SFSP and SSO, such meals may be served when there is an ongoing unanticipated closure due to COVID-19. Please note that after

your school year ends, SFSP and SSO operate under normal summer conditions (which also includes weekends and holidays with State agency approval).

### **What is the maximum number of Program meals and snacks that can be claimed for Federal reimbursement each day?**

The maximum number of meals or snacks that can be claimed for Federal reimbursement, per child or adult participant, per day, varies by Program:

- NSLP: Up to one lunch per child per day;
- NSLP Afterschool Snack Service: Up to one snack per child per day;
- NSLP Seamless Summer Option: Up to two meals, or one meal and one snack, per child, per day, in any combination except lunch and supper;
- SBP: Up to one breakfast per child per day;
- CACFP Child and Adult Care: Up to two meals and one snack, or two snacks and one meal, per child or adult participant per day;
- CACFP At-Risk Afterschool Meals Component: Up to one meal and one snack, per child per day;
- CACFP Emergency Shelters: Up to three meals, per resident 18 years and younger, per day; or
- SFSP: Up to two meals, or one meal and one snack, per child, per day, in any combination except lunch and supper.

Some Program operators participate in multiple Programs. For example, under typical circumstances, in one day, a Program operator may serve a child breakfast through SBP, lunch through NSLP, and supper and snack through CACFP At-Risk. Under the waivers, a child may still participate in more than one program, but in no circumstances shall a child receive more than the number of meals allowed in each Program for which they are eligible. Operators must also ensure children do not receive duplicates of the same meal.

#### **CONTENT AND CURRICULUM**

Todd Driver, Director

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Thousands of Idaho students don't have a computer at home or a way to connect to the internet so they can learn remotely during this coronavirus pandemic. But nearly every family in Idaho has a television set and can watch Idaho Public Television. That is where IdahoPTV's "Classroom Idaho: Learn @ Home" programming can connect these students with certified Idaho teachers so that they can finish learning for the balance of this school year.

Beginning Monday, April 20, Idaho teachers will provide instruction to students in grades 3 through 6, via Idaho Public Television's Create channel (digital channel .3). Instruction begins at

8 a.m. MT / 7 a.m. PT for third-graders, with the next grade beginning every hour through noon MT / 11 a.m. PT. The instruction will be aligned with what the students would be learning if they could still be attending their brick-and-mortar schools. The same lesson plans also will be available in playlists for students with connectivity at [IdahoPTV's YouTube channel](#).

To read the full press release and for more information, please [visit this link](#).

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

The Army is asking schools to graduate those students who have met all graduation requirements early and to provide them with their diploma and transcripts.

This will allow those students who have already committed to join the Army to do so without having to wait until the end of the traditional school/academic year. This would facilitate the shipping process for those who have already enlisted and the enlistment process for others who have committed to join but have not yet enlisted.

For more information and to read the full press release, please [visit this link](#).

#### FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Karen Seay, Director

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Use of funds by LEAs under the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund  
Local spending options for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds are broad and flexible consistent with the federal government's goal of preventing, preparing for, and responding to coronavirus. Expenditures for these funds must be necessary and reasonable. The function code for these funds is 252.

LEAs may spend their funds on a wide variety of activities (Sec. 18003(d)):

1. Any activity authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA), the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins), or the McKinney Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act,
2. Coordination of LEA preparedness and response efforts to improve coordinated responses with other agencies to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus,

3. Providing principals and other school leaders with the resources necessary to address school needs,
4. Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children or students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth,
5. Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve LEA preparedness and response efforts,
6. Training and professional development for LEA staff on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases,
7. Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean LEA facilities,
8. Planning for and coordinating during long-term closures, including how to provide meals, technology for online learning, guidance on IDEA requirements, and ensuring other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all applicable requirements,
9. Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students served by the LEA that aids in regular and substantive educational interactions between students and their classroom teachers, including assistance technology or adaptive equipment,
10. Providing mental health services and supports,
11. Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs and addressing the needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care, and
12. Other activities that are necessary to maintain operations and continuity of services and continuing to employ existing staff.

LEAs receive Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds based on their relative share of Title I-A funds, but these funds are not Title I-A funds. The function code for these funds is 252. These funds may benefit any school in an LEA regardless of a school's Title I-A status. Funds may be used on districtwide activities and/or to benefit any individual school.

#### SPECIAL EDUCATION

Charlie Silva, Director

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We had a webinar Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> and had over 180 participants. The webinar and all of the new resources are posted on the COVID-19 site: [www.coronavirus.idaho.gov](http://www.coronavirus.idaho.gov). Our next webinar is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> from 2-3pm. Today I want to showcase 2 school districts that have been very responsive to communicating with families who have special education students. Filer School District and Lake Pend Oreille (see links below). While I'm sure there are

many other districts with similar or more resources, these are just 2 that I personally have previewed. Please continue to reach out with your questions and requests for additional resources.

<http://www.filer.k12.id.us/>

<http://www.lposd.org/>

## TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Lisa Colon Durham, Director

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208-332-6886

1. Applications and background checks are still being processed.
2. **Good news** - fingerprints **are** being printed at the following location:

Bureau of Criminal Identification

700 S. Stratford Dr., Ste 120

Meridian, ID 83642-6251

(208) 884-7154

We are not aware of any other Idaho State Police or Sherriff's office that are fingerprinting. We are asking that certification applications still be submitted. This will allow us to process them as soon as we are able to receive the fingerprints. In addition, if you are hiring new employees, and are not able to get their prints, just ensure they are supervised around students until fingerprinting resumes and you can submit the fingerprint packet.

3. The Professional Standards Commission met last week and we are prioritizing processing the approved Alternative Authorizations.
4. We are aware that ETS (Praxis) and American Board (Pearson) have closed their testing centers. The guidance below is offered based on your candidate's certification needs:
  - a. **ETS:** ETS is close to introducing a solution that will allow teacher-candidates to take a Praxis® exam at home or other secure location while test centers are closed due to Coronavirus (COVID-19). ETS anticipates this solution, Praxis at Home, will be available mid-May 2020.
  - b. **ABCTE:** ABCTE is working with candidates and Pearson. ABCTE is providing complimentary extensions to all candidates affected by this timeline. Candidates need to contact ABCTE by utilizing the Help Desk ticket option in their portal.

Districts and charters are encouraged to meet with candidates to discuss their progress and what remains. Please provide them the information shared above. Districts and

charters may choose to apply for a renewal of the Alt Auth (if applicable) with a letter of explanation from the candidate and a copy of all supporting documentation; including cancelled or rescheduled testing. The Professional Standards Commission's Authorizations Committee will be considering the COVID-19 situation as an extenuating circumstance.

5. The regional math centers are working on online options. Please let teachers know they can reach out to their [Regional Math Centers](#) to inquire about online options.
6. A new course, [Level 1 Idaho Administrator Renewal of Professional Practice](#) that meets the administrator renewal requirement has just been approved by the State Board of Education and just started. Even though it has just started, they are willing to work with those that are able to join in the future. If you have questions, please contact BSU Extended Studies Customer Services as (208) 426-1709 or email [ExtendedStudies@boisestate.edu](mailto:ExtendedStudies@boisestate.edu).
7. Educators have shared concerns regarding renewing this year and completing the six (6) credits especially with courses being cancelled or postponed. We recommend looking at online options through our Idaho colleges and universities as they have online PD opportunities for educators:
  - a. NNU Vesi – <http://www.virtualeduc.com/nnu/>
  - b. BSU Vesi – <https://www.boisestate.edu/k12pd/vesi/courses/>
  - c. Independent Study of Idaho (through U of I, and includes classes through BSU, LCSC, U of I, and ISU) – <https://www.uidaho.edu/academics/dee/independent-study>

**Also, if the individual is employed, Idaho districts and charter schools can approve in-service hours for three (3) of the six credits.**

#### TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

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The Broadband Program team is continuing to provide assistance to LEAs that have identified broadband gaps to support continued student learning

- We have already processed funding requests to expand wireless broadband services to parking lots or other common areas on campus for 60 school locations.
  - Funds are available to assist with hotspot needs  
Application: <https://www.sde.idaho.gov/coronavirus/technology-services/Broadband-COVID-19-Assistance-Application.pdf>



- Please contact our team if you have any questions related to broadband or need any assistance. Our team is constantly working with LEAs and providers to identify solutions and target assistance where needed.
- A list of free or discounted internet solutions is posted on the [www.coronavirus.idaho.gov](http://www.coronavirus.idaho.gov) website under Technology Services.
  - This is being regularly updated with feedback from providers.

If you have any needs related to broadband services, please contact us and let us know how we can assist. Christopher Campbell: (208) 332-6970 or [cacampbell@sde.idaho.gov](mailto:cacampbell@sde.idaho.gov)

#### TRANSITION TO POST-SECONDARY ISSUES

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**Many changes have occurred or may yet occur in Idaho high schools that affect admissions, placement, and scholarship decisions for incoming college students for the 2020-2021 academic year, and possibly the 2021-2022 academic year. All of the public post-secondary institutions in Idaho desire to do everything possible to hold incoming students harmless from the effects of COVID-19.**

This document provides a brief update on how Idaho's public post-secondary institutions are responding to many of these changes, specifically related to Dual Credit courses, regular high school courses, the College Entrance Exam, Advanced Placement testing, other graduation requirements, the Idaho Standards Achievement Test, and general disruptions to learning that high school students are likely experiencing.

This update relates only to Idaho's public post-secondary institutions. The State Board of Education does not have detailed information about how private post-secondary institutions in Idaho are responding to these changes in Idaho high schools.

\*For more information and to view the full document, please [visit this link](#).

#### WEBINARS

##### **(Resources from CCSSO)**

**Webinar on Remote Learning Guidance:** The MIT Teaching Systems Lab is hosting a webinar on **Thursday, April 16 at 3 p.m. ET** to discuss its recent report: [Remote Learning Guidance from State Education Agencies: A First Look](#). This webinar will feature Justin Reich, Assistant Professor at MIT and director of the [Teaching Systems Lab](#) joined by Martin West, the William Henry Bloomberg Professor of Education at Harvard University, editor-in-chief of

Education Next, and a member of the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. Free Registration is available [here](#) and registrants will receive a recording after the webinar.

**Webinar on Social-Emotional Supports for Students:** The Aspen Institute Education & Society will host a webinar at 1 p.m. ET on April 20, 2020 to discuss “How Schools Ensure Social Connections During Physical Isolation.” Every community in America has turned to schools to sustain relationships and connectedness during the COVID-19 crisis. Join this webinar to explore the practical realities and research foundations of how distance learning offers both opportunities, and imperatives, to re-establish relationships during school closure—and learn some of the new ways that students, parents, and educators are connecting to advance the work of schools. Click [here to register](#).