

State Requirements

Will I have to make up the lost seat-time for students?

CDE is exploring options for adjusting requirements for the minimum number of hours students have to be in school. The commissioner has the authority to modify state seat-time requirements. However, before a waiver is approved, districts will be asked to see what steps they can take to make up the lost time between now and the end of the school year. For example, adding a few minutes per day times the number of days left in the school year and/or subtracting a few minutes from the lunch period for the rest of the school year will probably allow them to make up the lost time without needing any waiver from the commissioner. Each waiver and justification will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the commissioner.

Will this impact my October 1 Count?

We understand the anxiety of impacted districts over the Oct. 1 count date. Our finance staff is researching options to provide relief. There are a number of ideas we will explore internally and with lawmakers and the Governor's office. While some changes may be implemented through internal department action, enacting other changes will require legislative action.

May I have additional time for the Student October report for 2013-14?

The **Student October** deadline of Nov. 10 hasn't changed. Districts may submit data before then. But because it is a new system, districts are encouraged to submit well before the deadline. For further information, contact Annie Matula matula_a@cde.state.co.us, 303-866-6755. There may be a few districts that are significantly impacted and CDE will consider those options on a case-by-case basis.

May I have additional time to submit the 2012-13 Student End of Year report?

Districts still needing to submit **Student End of Year** reports should contact Kevin Smith at smith_k@cde.state.co.us, or 303-866-6723.

May I cancel my participation in Social Studies and Science field test this fall?

Yes. However, if your district can maintain a field test commitment, we would urge you to do so. There is no penalty if you withdraw. The Assessment Unit is exploring to see if there is an opportunity for later field testing.

May I cancel my participation in the PARCC Field Testing?

Yes. If you can't participate, please contact Joyce Zurkowski at Zurkowski_j@cde.state.co.us, or 303-866-6760. CDE is contacting PARCC to make them aware of the circumstances in Colorado.

May I have additional time for Request for Reconsider?

Yes. If you need additional time to submit your Request to Reconsider, please contact Lisa Steffen, steffen_l@cde.state.co.us, or 303-866-6676.

May I reschedule any CDE audits?

Food Service Audits: Audits can be postponed. Districts heavily impacted by flooding should contact Jane Brand, brand_j@cde.state.co.us, or 303-866-6934.

Financial Audits: Audits can be postponed. Districts heavily impacted by flooding should contact Scott Abbey, abbey_s@cde.state.co.us or 303-866-6153.

Is a deadline extension being considered for the Race to the Top district competition?

CDE has submitted a request to the U.S. Department of Education that the deadline for the Race to the Top district competition be delayed for those Colorado districts impacted by the floods.

What do I do if I have displaced students?

The flood has caused many students to be displaced and to find other places for shelter and other basic needs. Federal law indicates that students displaced even for a short period of time, are technically considered “homeless.” Homeless students immediately qualify for free school meals. When a McKinney-Vento liaison or shelter director provides a child’s name to the local school food service office, free school meals should be available immediately. Homeless students are also eligible for Title IA services. Visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us/sites/default/files/expeditingidentificationunderMV.pdf> to learn more about the details of the McKinney-Vento Act and the provision of services for homeless children.

Events

What do I do about contests or tournaments affected by the flooding?

The **Colorado High School Activities Association** encourages schools to use the following process when addressing concerns about contests and tournaments affected by the recent flooding. The most current information is posted at www.CHSAANow.com.

- 1 – Encourage parents with questions to contact their local school athletic director for answers to their questions. The athletic director can contact the CHSAA with any questions they have not already had answered. This will expedite the information flow. Athletic directors: Please remember to keep your principals and superintendents informed of any new information.
- 2 – For state qualifying events this week, the athletic director should contact the local site director to see what arrangements have been made for continuation, postponement, site changes, etc. Please note that for regional golf, rearranging the schedule may be quite difficult due to facility availability, etc. The local site director will be in contact with the CHSAA liaison for that sport to help facilitate those decisions.
- 3 – For regular season contests and tournament, the schools involved in those events are responsible for determining whether the activities will be held as scheduled, rescheduled or cancelled. Remember that participant safety should be of primary concern when making these decisions.
- 4 – Any information on rescheduling and/or cancellations that is shared with the CHSAA Office will be posted at CHSAANow.com and MaxPreps.com. The following is a list of sports and the appropriate CHSAA personnel to contact. The office number is 303-344-5050.

Cross Country – Jenn Roberts-Uhlig
Field Hockey – Bethany Brookens
Football – Harry Waterman
Boys’ Golf – Tom Robinson
Girls’ Gymnastics – Bert Borgmann
Boys’ Soccer – Bud Ozzello
Girls’ Softball – Bud Ozzello
Spirit – Jenn Roberts-Uhlig
Boys’ Tennis – Bethany Brookens
Girls’ Volleyball – Bethany Brookens

Resources

What resources are available to help with recovery efforts?

Project SERV

Project SERV funds short-term education-related services to help recover from a violent or traumatic event in which the learning environment has been disrupted. Allowable services include things like: mental health assessments, overtime for teachers, counselors, substitute teachers and other staff, emergency transportation, and temporary leasing of space to substitute for a damaged school building. CDE is working with the US Department of Education and several members of our congressional delegation to explore an option of submitting a consolidated application for funds directed to the affected districts. Trish Boland is the CDE contact for this work and can be reached at boland_t@cde.state.co.us or 303-866-6998. More information can be found at: <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/dvppserv/index.html> or <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdegen/projectservgrants>.

BEST Emergency Grants

The BEST program maintains an assistance fund to be used for a public school facility emergency identified as an unanticipated event that makes all or a significant portion of the building unusable for educational purposes or threatens the health or safety of the people using the facility. For more information, contact Ted Hughes, BEST Director, hughes_t@cde.state.co.us or 303-866-6948.

Library Books

Congressman Jared Polis' staff has offered to connect school libraries with resources from the Library of Congress. Libraries that have been damaged and wish to have some books sent to them from the Library of Congress should contact Danielle Oliveto at Danielle.Oliveto@mail.house.gov or Allie Kimmel at allie.kimmel@mail.house.gov.