



PUBLIC SCHOOL FAQs

UPDATE AS OF APRIL 28, 2020

Q. Will there be distance learning for the rest of the school year?

A. Due to recommendations from health professionals and community leaders, distance learning for public and charter schools will continue through May 28th, which is the last day of the 2019-2020 school year.

Q. When will schools reopen?

A. As of now, there is no set date for schools to reopen. The DOE is looking at how to coordinate reopening once it is deemed safe. However, all services – such as bus, school nurse, and meal services – must be in place and operational before doing so.

Q. How have graduation requirements been modified due to COVID-19?

A. The DOE is providing additional access points and extended opportunities for those who were not on track to graduate during Q3. The DOE will also ensure these students have access to the necessary equipment needed to complete the additional work.

Q. Will there be traditional graduation ceremonies?

A. It is important to celebrate and honor our hard-working graduates while also considering safety concerns and social distancing guidelines. After much deliberation, traditional commencement ceremonies at public and charter schools are canceled for the graduating class of 2020. Alternative celebrations will be determined by each principal for their respective school. The alternate celebrations will occur in the latter half of May.

Q. Will there be summer school?

A. Yes, there will be two tracks offered to students in the summer: (1) an online statewide credit recovery approach for those who need to make up credits and (2) e-school for those who want to be at-level or ahead. The cost for the credit recovery approach will be covered from CARES Act funding.



PUBLIC SCHOOL FAQs

UPDATE AS OF APRIL 28, 2020

Q. How are seniors who lost internships or summer jobs able to complete career technical education (CTE) hours for graduation?

A. The DOE will help provide alternatives for graduating seniors through a new summer internship program within the DOE facilities. Students will be able to use this as one of the opportunities to make up CTE hours. The DOE made a formal request to the private sector to financially support these endeavors.

Q. Do students have access to counseling and health services?

A. Yes, students will soon have access to a new telehealth hotline through the DOE where they can consult with licensed practical nurses (LPNs) and registered nurses (RNs) for physical, mental, and emotional health issues. These nurses may also refer students to counselors, social workers, or licensed school psychologists for mental and emotional guidance.

SOURCES

- **Honolulu Star Advertiser:** Hawaii State Department of Education Superintendent Christina Kishimoto joins the COVID-19 Care Conversation (April 15, 2020) click [here](#)
- **Governor David Ige** COVID-19 News Conference (April 17, 2020) click [here](#)
- **HIDOE** Covid-19 Information and Updates, click [here](#)