Public Education FAQs

OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE JUSTIN H. WOODSON



UPDATE AS OF APRIL 1, 2020



Q: Which students are eligible for the Grab-and-Go meal service?

Children 18 years or younger are eligible for Grab-and-Go meal service. Parents must accompany their children.



Q: How many Grab-and-Go meal locations are there currently?

There are currently over 50 locations. The DOE is working with the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) to expand sites as needed. Check the attached PDF for the list of sites as of April 1st:

http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org/DOE%20Forms/Emergencies/2020GrabandGo.pdf



Q: What are the pickup dates and times for the Grab-and-Go meals?

Children and their parents will be able to pick up two meals: breakfast from 7:30AM -8:00AM, and lunch from 11:30AM - 12:00PM, from Monday to Friday. To avoid families having to drive twice a day, some locations in isolated areas may serve both breakfast and lunch at the same time.



Q: How will Grab-and-Go meals be funded?

These meals are primarily funded through the USDA's Seamless Summer Option (SSO).



Q: How will students continue to learn?

Currently, teachers have been instructed to focus on enrichment and reinforcement activities based on last quarter's lesson plans. The DOE has also instructed schools to develop distance learning lesson plans for the remainder of the school year.



Q: Are there resources to help students and families that don't have access to the internet?

The DOE has informed schools to assess their technology capacity on a school-by-school basis. Each school's approach to engaging students in enrichment activities will vary according to their students' access to technology. Lesson plans may include online portals, paper distribution, or a combination of both. The Office of Curriculum and Instructional Design (OCID) has also developed support resources to help schools design and implement these various strategies.

sites.google.com/k12.hi.us/resources-student-parent/home?authuser=0



Q: How will hard copy distribution be handled? How will work be monitored?

Schools that opt for hard copy distribution may provide printed materials at meal sites, other pickup sites within the community, or by delivery. Student work will be monitored and evaluated by the DOE through online portals or by collecting completed hard copy activities. Also, the Homeless Concerns Office has community liaisons who will be working with community service providers to distribute schoolwork and potentially other household necessities to students in vulnerable situations.

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Q: Are there any tutoring programs available to public school students either by the DOE or organizations that use DOE facilities?

The DOE is evaluating the student population's access to technology on a school-by-school basis. Some schools and teachers may provide tutoring as part of their distance-learning efforts. Tutoring may be done online, over the phone, or through hard-copy instructional materials.



Q: How is the DOE accommodating English Language Learner (ELL) students?

The DOE is utilizing a variety of approaches to provide equal access to learning for students with families who speak languages other than English at home. This can include utilizing an interpreter to translate materials into multiple languages. Distance learning, virtual instruction, or translated work packets will be used to aid ELL students.



Q: How will the CARES Act provide supplemental funding to Hawai'i's schools regarding COVID-19?

The passage of the CARES Act provides nationwide funding of \$8.8B for Child Nutrition Programs, \$3.5B for Community Development Block Grants for child care and early education, and \$750M for Head Start. Another \$13.5B was allocated for K-12 needs and costs and can be partially used to purchase educational technology to support distance learning.



Q: Is the University of Hawai'i still operational?

The University of Hawai'i system is still in operation, but as of March 23rd, all in-person classes have transitioned to online courses. Additionally, social distancing measures have been put in place for all on-campus residents. UH instruction will be conducted online for the remainder of the spring semester. The first session of summer courses in the UH system will also be online. On May 15th, UH will decide whether in-person classes will be added to the second summer session, depending on the status of the COVID-19 health crisis.



For more information and resources visit:

- HIDOE COVID-19 Information and Updates
- Continuity of Education Portal
 - All schools have access to an online learning center which includes a learning choice board which provides various activities both online and offline.
- University of Hawai'i Important Information: COVID-19