

Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan Instructions (2020–21)

Senate Bill 98 (SB 98) established the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan (Learning Continuity Plan), which is intended to balance the needs of all stakeholders, including educators, parents, students and community members, while streamlining meaningful stakeholder engagement and condensing several preexisting plans. In particular, it was important to combine (1) the intent behind Executive Order N-56-20 (<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/EO-N-56-20-text.pdf>), which required a written report and envisioned an off-cycle Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) due December 15th, and (2) the ongoing need for local educational agencies (LEAs) to formally plan for the 2020–21 school year in the midst of the uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Learning Continuity Plan replaces the LCAP for the 2020–21 school year and supersedes the requirements in Executive Order N-56-20. This plan is intended to memorialize the planning process that is already underway for the 2020–21 school year. All LEAs, which includes school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools are required to complete the Learning Continuity Plan.

Instructions

The following resources, among others, may be helpful to LEAs when answering prompts within the Learning Continuity Plan:

- California Department of Public Health Website (<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/>)
- California Department of Education (CDE) Coronavirus Response and School Reopening Guidance web page (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/coronavirus.asp>)
- CDE Stronger Together, A Guidebook to the Safe Reopening of California’s Public Schools (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/documents/strongertogether.pdf>)
- California Collaborative for Education Excellence (CCEE), *The Continuity of Learning Playbooks* (<https://k12playbook.ccee-ca.org/>) and Supporting Families and Communities in Distance Learning CCEE Supporting Families and Communities (<https://ccee-ca.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/CCEE-Webinar-Community-Engagement-Initiative-Supporting-Families-and-Communities-in-Distance-Learning.pdf>)
- CCEE COVID-19 Distance Learning Technical Assistance resources (<https://ccee-ca.org/distance-learning.asp#TechnicalAssistance>)
- Support for English learners in response to COVID-19 (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/el/er/covid19resources.asp>)
- Special Education Guidance in response to COVID-19 (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/specialedcovid19guidance.asp>)
- Support for Foster Youth in response to COVID-19 (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/pf/fy/fyscpccovid19.asp>)
- Support for Students and Families Experiencing Homelessness in response to COVID-19 (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/hs/cyl/>)

Additional Guidance and Resources can be found at the CDE Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan web page (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/lc/learningcontattendplan.asp>)

Responses to the prompts below should be specific, concise and clear, with the overall goal of promoting stakeholder understanding.

In responding to the prompts throughout the Learning Continuity Plan, an LEA may include information from an existing plan to the degree that it addresses the prompt and related instructions.

General Information

A description of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on the LEA and its community.

Briefly provide information deemed relevant to enable a reader to more fully understand how the LEA's Learning Continuity Plan has been informed by the impacts the LEA and its community have experienced from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Stakeholder Engagement

Purpose

Stakeholder engagement has long been recognized as an important component of school planning and improvement. Meaningful stakeholder engagement has been linked to:

- An improved understanding of current needs and possible solutions
- More informed decision-making
- Greater trust between parties
- Stronger and longer lasting partnerships

An LEA must consult with parents, pupils, teachers, principals, administrators, other school personnel, and local bargaining units, in developing its Learning Continuity Plan.

During the consultation and stakeholder feedback process regarding the development of the Learning Continuity Plan, LEAs shall include efforts to reach pupils, families, educators, and other stakeholders who do not have internet access, or speak languages other than English.

Specifically, an LEA shall:

- Solicit recommendations and comments regarding the specific actions and expenditures proposed to be included in the Learning Continuity Plan, using the most efficient method of notification possible.

- Provide the opportunity to submit written comments regarding specific actions and expenditures proposed to be included in the Learning Continuity Plan.
- Present the Learning Continuity Plan to the Parent Advisory Committee and the English Learner Parent Advisory Committee separately for review and comment*
 - District and County Office of Education (COE) superintendents must respond in writing to comments received from these committees.
- Present the Learning Continuity Plan to the community at a public hearing of the governing board of the school district, the county office of education, or charter school for review and comment (the agenda must be posted at least 72 hours prior to the public hearing and include the location where the learning continuity and attendance plan will be available for public inspection).
- Adopt the Learning Continuity Plan in a public meeting of the governing board of the school district, the county office of education, or charter school that is held after, but not on the same day as, the public hearing held pursuant to California *Education Code (EC)* 43509.

*Applicable to School Districts and COEs only

Given the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on California’s school communities, there has been an increased awareness of the importance and necessity for meaningful and timely stakeholder engagement. Information and resources that support effective stakeholder engagement, define student consultation, and provide the requirements for advisory group composition, can be found under *Resources* on the following web page of the CDE’s website: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/re/lc>.

Senate Bill 98 (Statutes of 2020, Chapter 24) established the requirement for LEAs to develop a Learning Continuity Plan that is informed by stakeholder engagement. Furthermore, the bill codified provisions to promote remote participation and to address language accessibility.

Instructions

A description of the efforts made to solicit stakeholder feedback.

A sufficient response to this prompt will describe the overall stakeholder engagement process, including the efforts to reach pupils, families, educators, and other stakeholders who do not have internet access, or who speak languages other than English; and a description of how stakeholder engagement was considered before finalizing the Learning Continuity Plan.

A description of the options provided for remote participation in public meetings and public hearings.

A sufficient response to this prompt will describe how the LEA promoted stakeholder engagement, and the option(s) provided that allowed remote participation in the public hearings and local governing board meetings.

- A local governing board/body is authorized to hold public meetings via teleconferencing and to make public meetings accessible telephonically or otherwise electronically to all members of the public seeking to observe and to address the local legislative body or

state body consistent with the flexibility afforded by Executive Order N-29-20 (<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/3.17.20-N-29-20-EO.pdf>), published on March 18, 2020.

A summary of the feedback provided by specific stakeholder groups.

A sufficient response to this prompt will describe and summarize the stakeholder feedback provided by specific stakeholders. A sufficient response to this prompt will indicate ideas, trends, or inputs that emerged from an analysis of the feedback received from stakeholders.

A description of the aspects of the Learning Continuity Plan that were influenced by specific stakeholder input.

A sufficient response to this prompt will provide stakeholders and the public with clear, specific information about how the stakeholder engagement process influenced the development of the Learning Continuity Plan. This response must describe aspects of the Learning Continuity Plan that were influenced by or developed in response to stakeholder feedback.

- For the purposes of this prompt, “aspects” may include sections or specific actions within a section of the Learning Continuity Plan that may have been influenced by stakeholder input.

Continuity of Learning

In-Person Instructional Offerings

Purpose

In-person instruction is defined in California *Education Code (EC)* Section 43500(b) to mean instruction under the immediate physical supervision and control of a certificated employee of the LEA.

Given the uncertainty of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person instruction may not be immediately allowable under state and local health orders. However, LEAs must be prepared to offer in-person instruction when possible. A sufficient response will address the actions the LEA will take when health and safety allows a return to in-person instruction.

Instructions

A description of the actions the LEA will take to offer classroom-based instruction whenever possible, particularly for students who have experienced significant learning loss due to school closures in the 2019–2020 school year or are at a greater risk of experiencing learning loss due to future school closures.

A sufficient response to this prompt will describe the LEA’s classroom-based instructional schedule model, including how the LEA will ensure student learning and competency development while also considering a student’s social–emotional well-being.

- The LEA’s classroom-based instructional schedule model should include plans and protocols to ensure the safety of students and staff, consistent with public health guidance, including considerations for campus access, hygiene practices, protective equipment, physical distancing, and cleaning and disinfecting to ensure physical health and safety in school facilities and vehicles.
- To identify students who have experienced significant learning loss due to the school closures in 2019-20, LEAs should consider and solidify a systematic cycle of assessments, including initial screenings and formative and summative assessments. LEAs may use this data to develop an instructional schedule model to address student needs with a focus on implementation of intervention strategies to accelerate learning for students at risk of experiencing continued learning challenges due to the impacts of COVID-19 and ongoing distance learning.

Actions Related to In-Person Instructional Offerings

For each action related to in-person instructional offerings, please enter the following information in the table:

- A description of what the action is. This may include a succinct description of how the action contributes to meeting the increased or improved services requirement for foster youth, English learners, or low-income students, as applicable. Enter the total amount of expenditures associated with this action; and
- Indicate whether the action contributes to meeting the increased or improved services requirement as described in the Increased or Improved Services section using a “Y” for Yes or an “N” for No.

Please add additional rows, as necessary.

Distance Learning Program

Continuity of Instruction

A description of how the LEA will provide continuity of instruction during the school year to ensure pupils have access to a full curriculum of substantially similar quality regardless of the method of delivery, including the LEA’s plan for curriculum and instructional resources that will ensure instructional continuity for pupils if a transition between in-person instruction and distance learning is necessary.

A sufficient response to this prompt will:

- Include specific information that explains how the LEA will provide continuity of instruction and learning to ensure that pupils have access to a full curriculum of substantially similar quality regardless of the method of delivery; and
- Provide a succinct description of the curriculum and instructional resources that will be developed or utilized that will ensure instructional continuity for pupils if a transition between in-person instruction and distance learning is necessary.

Access to Devices and Connectivity

A description of how the LEA will ensure access to devices and connectivity for all pupils to support distance learning.

A sufficient response to this prompt will describe how the LEA will ensure access to devices and connectivity for all pupils to support distance learning whenever it occurs, including:

- The process used to ascertain the needs of students. In doing so, the LEA may consider the needs of teachers and families in order to ensure that students have access to devices and connectivity.
- The plan for ensuring access to devices and connectivity for all pupils to support distance learning, whenever it occurs, and for providing technological support to ensure access to devices and connectivity.
- Descriptions of the efforts of the LEA to ensure students and families with unique circumstances have access to devices and connectivity.
- Description of methods used to reach students and families who were unable to access devices and connectivity following school closure in the 2019-20 school year.

Pupil Participation and Progress

A description of how the LEA will assess pupil progress through live contacts and synchronous instructional minutes, and a description of how the LEA will measure participation and time value of pupil work.

A sufficient response to this prompt will provide specific information about how the LEA will track and monitor student progress through live contacts and synchronous instructional minutes, and a description of how the LEA will measure participation and time value of student work.

- Instructional time for distance learning is calculated based on the time value of synchronous and/or asynchronous assignments made and certified by a certificated employee of the LEA.

Distance Learning Professional Development

A description of the professional development and resources that will be provided to staff to support the distance learning program, including technological support.

A sufficient response to this prompt will provide specific information about the professional development and resources the LEA will provide to staff to support the distance learning program, including technological support.

- When responding to this prompt, an LEA may find it helpful to refer to the “Professional Learning and Relationships” section in the CDE’s *Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California’s Public Schools* (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/documents/strongertogether.pdf>). This section includes essential questions for LEA planning, as well as models and best practices related to professional learning.

Staff Roles and Responsibilities

A description of the new roles and responsibilities of affected staff as a result of COVID-19.

A sufficient response to this prompt will describe how the LEA has adapted the roles and responsibilities of employees that have necessarily changed as a result of COVID-19 such as, but not limited to:

- Modifications made to staff roles and responsibilities to meet the academic and social-emotional needs of students while ensuring the health and safety of staff and students.
- Changes to an employee’s original role or responsibility when that original role or responsibility is not feasible in a remote environment.

Supports for Pupils with Unique Needs

A description of the additional supports the LEA will provide during distance learning to assist pupils with unique needs, including English learners, pupils with exceptional needs served across the full continuum of placements, pupils in foster care, and pupils who are experiencing homelessness.

A sufficient response to this prompt must describe the additional support that the LEA will provide during distance learning to assist pupils with unique needs, including additional supports provided to the following groups:

- English learners;
- Pupils with exceptional needs served across the full continuum of placements;
- Pupils in foster care; and
- Pupils who are experiencing homelessness.

Actions Related to Distance Learning Program

For each action related to the Distance Learning Program, please enter the following information in the table:

- A description of what the action is. This may include a description of how the action contributes to meeting the increased or improved services requirement for foster youth, English learners, or low-income students, as applicable. Enter the total amount of expenditures associated with this action; and
- Indicate whether the action contributes to meeting the increase or improved services requirement as described in the Increased or Improved Services section using a “Y” for Yes or an “N” for No.

Please add additional rows, as necessary.

Pupil Learning Loss

A description of how the LEA will address pupil learning loss that results from COVID-19 during the 2019–2020 and 2020–21 school years, including how the LEA will assess pupils to measure learning status, particularly in the areas of English language arts, English language development, and mathematics.

A sufficient response to this prompt will describe how, with what tools, and at what frequency the LEA will assess pupils to measure learning status, within any instructional delivery model, particularly in the following areas:

- English language arts
- English language development (ELD)
- Mathematics

Pupil Learning Loss Strategies

A description of the actions and strategies the LEA will use to address learning loss and accelerate learning progress for pupils, as needed, including how these strategies differ for pupils who are English learners; low-income; foster youth; pupils with exceptional needs; and pupils who are experiencing homelessness.

A sufficient response to this prompt will include specific actions and describe the strategies used to address learning loss and accelerate learning progress. In addition, the response must include a description as to how these strategies differ for:

- English Learners;
- Low-income pupils;
- Foster youth;
- Pupils with exceptional needs; and
- Pupils who are experiencing homelessness.

Effectiveness of Implemented Pupil Learning Loss Strategies

A description of how the effectiveness of the services or supports provided to address learning loss will be measured.

A sufficient response to this prompt will describe how and by what methods the LEA will measure the effectiveness of services or supports provided to address learning loss.

- When responding to this prompt, an LEA may find it helpful to refer to the “Instructional Programs” section in the CDE’s *Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California’s Public Schools* (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/documents/strongertogether.pdf>)

Actions to Address Pupil Learning Loss

For each action addressing Pupil Learning Loss, please enter the following information in the table below:

- A description of what the action is. This may include a description of how the action contributes to meeting the increased or improved services requirement for foster youth, English learners, or low-income students, as applicable. Enter the total amount of expenditures associated with this action; and
- Indicate whether the action contributes to meeting the increased or improved services requirement as described in the Increased or Improved Services section using a “Y” for Yes or an “N” for No.

Please add additional rows, as necessary.

Mental Health and Social and Emotional Well-Being

A description of how the LEA will monitor and support mental health and social and emotional well-being of pupils and staff during the school year, including the professional development and resources that will be provided to pupils and staff to address trauma and other impacts of COVID-19 on the school community.

A sufficient response to this prompt will describe how the LEA will support mental health and social and emotional well-being of pupils during the school year which includes:

- What professional development will be provided to staff.
- What resources will be provided to pupils and staff to address trauma and other impacts of COVID-19 on the school community.

When responding to this prompt, LEAs may find it helpful to consider the guidance provided on pages 34–36 in the “Mental Health and Well-Being of All” section in the CDE’s *Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California’s Public Schools* (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/documents/strongertogether.pdf>).

Pupil and Family Engagement and Outreach

A description of pupil engagement and outreach, including the procedures for tiered reengagement strategies for pupils who are absent from distance learning and how the LEA will provide outreach to pupils and their parents or guardians, including in languages other than English, when pupils are not meeting compulsory education requirements, or if the LEA determines the pupil is not engaging in instruction and is at risk of learning loss.

A sufficient response to this prompt will provide a description of pupil engagement and outreach including:

- The procedures for tiered reengagement strategies for pupils who are absent from distance learning.
- How the LEA will provide outreach to all pupils and their parents and guardians, including in languages other than English, when pupils are not meeting compulsory education requirements or if the LEA determines the pupil is not engaging in instruction and is at risk of learning loss.

School Nutrition

A description of how the LEA will provide nutritionally adequate meals for all pupils, including those students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, when pupils are participating in both in-person instruction and distance learning, as applicable.

A sufficient response to this prompt will describe how the LEA will provide nutritionally adequate meals for all pupils, including those students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals, when pupils are participating in both in-person instruction and distance learning, as applicable.

- When responding to this prompt, LEAs may find it helpful to consider the changes in food service operations provided on pages 43–44 in the “School Services” section in the CDE’s *Stronger Together: A Guidebook for the Safe Reopening of California’s Public Schools* (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/documents/strongertogether.pdf>).

Additional Actions to Implement the Learning Continuity Plan [additional rows and actions may be added as necessary]

This table should include additional actions related to the implementation of the Learning Continuity Plan that are not already included in the plan, including any actions related to the Mental Health and Social Emotional Well Being, Pupil and Family Engagement and Outreach, and School Nutrition Sections of the plan if needed. If applicable, please enter the following information in the table:

- The section of the Learning Continuity Plan related to the action described. If the actions and expenditures described in this table do not apply to one particular section the LEA may put “N/A.”
- A description of what the action is. This may include a succinct description of how the action contributes to meeting the increased or improved services requirement for foster youth, English learners, or low-income students, as applicable.

- Enter the total amount of expenditures associated with this action; and
- Indicate whether the action contributes to meeting the increased or improved services requirement as described in the Increased or Improved Services section using a “Y” for Yes or an “N” for No.

Please add additional rows, as necessary.

Increased or Improved Services for Foster Youth, English Learners, and Low-Income Students

Purpose

EC Section 43509 maintains the requirement for LEAs to describe how they are increasing or improving services for unduplicated pupils pursuant to *California Code of Regulations*, Title 5 (5 CCR) Section 15496. In developing the Learning Continuity Plan, LEAs are to consider the unique needs of foster youth, English learners, and low-income students.

The responses to the prompts in the Increased or Improved Services section of the Learning Continuity Plan provide stakeholders and the LEA community with a comprehensive description, within a single dedicated section, of how an LEA plans to increase or improve services for its unduplicated students as compared to all students.

Descriptions provided should include sufficient detail yet be sufficiently succinct to promote a broader understanding of stakeholders to facilitate their ability to provide input.

Requirements and Instructions

Percentage to Increase or Improve Services

Identify the percentage by which services for unduplicated pupils must be increased or improved as compared to the services provided to all students in the Learning Continuity Plan year as calculated pursuant to 5 CCR Section 15496(a)(7).

Increased Apportionment Based on the Enrollment of Foster Youth, English Learners, and Low-Income Students

Specify the estimate of the amount of funds apportioned on the basis of the number and concentration of unduplicated pupils for the Learning Continuity Plan.

Required Descriptions

For the actions being provided to an entire school, or across the entire school district or county office of education (COE), an explanation of (1) how the needs of foster youth, English learners, and low-income students were considered first, and (2) how these actions are effective in meeting the needs of these students.

For the actions included in the Learning Continuity Plan and marked as contributing to the increased or improved services requirement for foster youth, English learners, and low-income students and that are being provided on an LEA-wide or schoolwide basis, provide a general explanation of these actions consistent with 5 CCR Section 15496(b).

Principally Directed and Effective: For these actions, explain how:

- The LEA considered the needs, conditions, or circumstances of its unduplicated pupils as a result of COVID-19;
- The action, or aspect(s) of the action (including, for example, its design, content, methods, or location), is based on these considerations; and
- The action is intended to meet the needs of the students in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A description of how services for foster youth, English learners, and low-income students are being increased or improved by the percentage required.

Consistent with the requirements of 5 CCR Section 15496, describe how the services marked in the Learning Continuity Plan as contributing to the increased or improved services requirement for foster youth, English learners, and low-income students contribute to meeting the percentage calculated as compared to the services provided for all students. Additionally, consistent with the requirements of 5 CCR Section 15496, please describe any other actions or services that contribute towards meeting the increased or improved services requirement.

- To improve services means to grow services in quality and to increase services means to grow services in quantity.

A sufficient description to this prompt must address how the action(s) are expected to result in the required proportional increase or improvement in services for unduplicated pupils as compared to the services the LEA provides to all students.