

Guidance released to help schools respond to COVID-19 cases and outbreaks

DENVER, July 30, 2020: The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) released [guidance](#) for detecting, reporting, and responding to cases and outbreaks of COVID-19 in schools.

The guidance provides specific steps a school should take in response to cases and outbreaks and outlines when classrooms, cohorts, and schools should close. It is a go-to manual for school leadership experiencing one or more cases of COVID-19.

Schools are required to report all suspected and confirmed outbreaks to their local public health agency or CDPHE within four hours. Clinical labs and health care providers report cases to public health; however, schools also are encouraged to report single cases of COVID-19 to their local public health agency.

This [case and outbreak guidance](#), the [guidance](#) for the fall opening of schools, [CDE's toolkit for the 2020-21 school year](#), and guidance from local public health agencies will provide districts with the information they need to start the school year in a way that makes sense for their local communities. CDPHE will update guidance as additional information becomes available.

A shorter executive summary of the school case and outbreak guidance is linked [here](#).

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