Health officials are currently taking steps to prevent the introduction and spread of COVID-19 ("Coronavirus") into communities across the United States. Schools can play an important role in this effort.

Through collaboration and coordination with State and local health departments, State and local educational agencies, other education officials, and elected officials, schools can disseminate critical information about the disease and its potential transmission to students, families, staff, and community. Schools can prepare to take additional steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19, should State and local health officials identify such a need.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers the most up-to-date information on COVID-19 along with their Guidance for School Settings.

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**Additional Resources for Elementary and Secondary Schools**

The Following links are from and available on the U.S. Department of Education website at: [https://www.ed.gov/coronavirus](https://www.ed.gov/coronavirus)

- The [Readiness Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance](https://rems.ed.gov/Resources_Hazards_Threats_Biological_Hazards.aspx) website, [https://rems.ed.gov/Resources_Hazards_Threats_Biological_Hazards.aspx](https://rems.ed.gov/Resources_Hazards_Threats_Biological_Hazards.aspx), has useful information, resources, trainings, and tools for addressing infectious diseases, related topics, and protecting the school community.
- The USDA released new information on [flexibilities that will allow students to access meal service during school closures](https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/flexibilities-allow-students-access-meal-service-during-school-closures).