

E-Learning Plan for Illinois School for the Deaf
Revised January 2022

In accordance with Section 10-20.56 of the School Code (105 ILCS 5/10-20.56), the Illinois School for the Deaf (ISD) may utilize “e-learning days” instead of emergency school closure days beginning in the 2021-2022 school year. Through our 1:1 iPad initiative (including data plans as needed) and utilization of Google Classroom and/or Seesaw as a primary interface, “E-learning Days” will be accessible to all our students, all of whom are special education students, and continue to meet all mandates set forth by the School Code. The following required provisions will also be accomplished as indicated:

Ensure and verify at least 5 clock hours of instruction or school work, as required under Section 10-19.05, for each student participating in an e-learning day
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Synchronous learning will be documented in class schedules. Asynchronous learning will be documented in lesson plans and gradebooks. Teachers will submit lesson plans and administrators will approve and save plans.
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Ensure access from home or other appropriate remote facility for all students participating, including computers, the Internet, and other forms of electronic communication that must be utilized in the proposed program
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All students and teachers will be issued an iPad. Students who do not have access to the internet in their homes will be provided a device with a data plan for e-learning purposes. All teachers, staff, students, and families will be trained in Google Classroom and/or Seesaw use. We will provide more training as needed for new students, families, and staff. All distributed technology will have any apps necessary pre-loaded.
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Ensure that non-electronic materials are made available for students participating in the program who do not have access to the required technology or to participating teachers or students who are prevented from accessing the required technology
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All students will have access to electronic materials. However, any family that requests non-electronic materials will be provided those whenever possible.

Ensure appropriate learning opportunities for students with special needs
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All students at ISD have Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) which will continue to guide instruction. Students will receive instruction, practice, and work allowing them to continue making progress toward IEP goals and objectives. The IEP for each student will be reviewed by the case manager, and it will be determined which accommodations and supplementary aids are able to be provided on e-learning days. A letter outlining the impact of an e-learning day on this section of the IEP will be sent to parents/guardians. Speech/Language, Social Work, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Learning Resource, and Transition services will be provided on e-learning days when possible. Vision, Psychology, Audiology, Medical Services and other related services will be rescheduled. E-learning plans will be revisited annually for any adaptations or needed revisions.

Monitor and verify each student's electronic participation.

Skyward, our school management system, will be utilized by teachers to record attendance for all students and in all classes on e-learning days. Administration will monitor e-learning attendance for trends. Teachers will also document completion of work assigned in the gradebook for the course/subject.

Address the extent to which student participation is within the student's control as to the time, pace, and means of learning

Participation in synchronous school activities, if provided, will take place during regular school hours (8:20 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) Students will be expected to participate. Parents/guardians will need to notify the respective school office of an absence by 9:00 a.m. Asynchronous learning activities may be completed when convenient for the student and family.

Provide effective notice to students and their parents or guardians of the use of particular days for e-learning

Parents/guardians will be notified via e-mail, text, or phone call regarding the use of e-learning days. The Skylert system sends e-mail, voice, and/or text per parent request.

Provide staff and students with adequate training for e-learning days' participation

Professional development trainings in Skyward, Google Classroom, Zoom, Seesaw, Nearpod and other platforms were completed with staff. Other trainings can be made available for students and families. Emerging technology/software will have a training involved for staff and families as needed.

Ensure that all teachers and staff who may be involved in the provisions of e-learning have access to any and all hardware and software that may be required for the program
<p>Educators and support staff will have access to the following:</p> <p>Hardware: iPad or laptop with webcam, headset as needed</p> <p>Software: Google Classroom, Zoom, Seesaw, Planbook, Skyward and others as needed.</p>
Ensure an opportunity for any collective bargaining negotiations with representatives of the school district's employees that would be legally required, and including all classifications of school district employees who are represented by collective bargaining agreements and who would be affected in the event of an e-learning day
<p>The administration has had conversations with IFT regarding e-learning. Most other auxiliary staff will return to work on campus when directed by their supervisor.</p>
Review and revise the program as implemented to address difficulties confronted
<p>2021-2022 (and beyond): The e-learning planning committee will be convened once yearly to review procedures and practices.</p>
Ensure that the protocol regarding general expectations and responsibilities of the program is communicated to teachers, staff, and students at least 30 days prior to utilizing an e-learning day
<p>The e-learning document will be developed and sent to teachers, staff, students, and families by August annually. This document will also be available on our website (illinoisdeaf.org). There will be one additional day offered to students to complete work assigned on the e-learning day. There will be no assessments performed on the e-learning days. IEP and ER meetings that were planned on those days may be rescheduled. However, if e-learning would be longer than a week at a time, assessments will be done in the best medium to support each student as outlined in their IEP.</p>