



Office of the State Superintendent of Education

REQUEST FOR DISTANCE LEARNING FOR STUDENTS POSSIBLY SUBJECT TO EDUCATIONAL NEGLECT, 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

In certain circumstances, outlined in City Administrator's Order No. 2021-6, a local education agency may provide distance learning to a student whose parent(s) or guardian(s) have been reported to the Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) or the Family Court Social Services Division of the District of Columbia Courts (FCSSD) due to possible educational neglect of the student. This form implements City Administrator's Order No. 2021-6.

This form may be used when the following conditions are met:

- A school has made a report of suspected educational neglect of a student to CFSA or FCSSD in accordance with D.C. Official Code § 38-208;
- CFSA or FCSSD have investigated the report pursuant to their standard operating procedures;
- CFSA or FCSSD is unable to obtain the agreement for the student to attend school in person;
- The student is ineligible for a medical certification for distance learning; and
- CFSA or FCSSD determined that the student's distance learning would not present safety concerns for the student.

The completion of this form **does not** guarantee that the student will be approved to attend school through distance learning in SY 2021-2022. **The decision whether to allow distance learning is made by the LEA. Decisions to admit a student into distance learning are based on the following standards and on the available space, financial, and other operational considerations of an LEA.** Responses to questions in Part II of this form will be one of the components used by the LEA/school to determine whether to approve access to distance learning. Responses will be assessed based on the following standards.

STANDARD 1: NEED FOR DISTANCE LEARNING

The request for distance learning has a clear and specific COVID-related rationale.

STANDARD 2: REGULAR, TIMELY PARTICIPATION IN DISTANCE LEARNING

The request includes clear and specific steps that have been taken, or will be taken, to ensure the student's regular and timely participation in distance learning, and the student has a strong record of attendance in distance learning during the previous virtual learning opportunities provided by the LEA beginning in March 2019 and running through the 2020-21 school year.

STANDARD 3: DISTANCE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The request has a clear and specific description of what the student's learning environment will be while the student participates in distance learning, and that environment is suitable for distance learning. It also include a clear and specific plan for providing daily supervision to support the student while engaged in distance learning.

STANDARD 4: ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY

Confirmation that the student has, or will have, access to the appropriate computer hardware, online curricula and internet bandwidth to support effective distance learning. If you do not have access to appropriate hardware or internet bandwidth, you may request that the school provide these to you. A student should not be denied distance learning due to the need for technology or internet services; LEAs, if they provide distance learning, should meet these needs if students need them.

Instructions: Complete the form in its entirety. Only those forms with complete responses in all fields will be considered. Submit the form to the student's school for review and potential offering of distance learning.

PART I: STUDENT INFORMATION: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PARENT/GUARDIAN

STUDENT INFORMATION:

Student Name _____ DOB _____

Address _____

School of Enrollment _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____ Phone _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

PART II: NARRATIVE OF PARENT SUPPORT IN DISTANCE LEARNING

To support LEAs and schools with making the determination whether a student is eligible for distance learning, parents/guardians **must** respond to the following questions for review by their child's LEA or school. These responses will be used to demonstrate readiness and likelihood of success in distance learning. Please use the space provided and only attach additional pages where indicated.

1. Describe the COVID-19 related health barriers that the student and/or family have experienced that make the student's in-person attendance a challenge in the 2021-22 school year. You may attach additional documentation to support your narrative response.

2. Describe how the parent or guardian will ensure the student's regular, timely participation in distance learning.

3. Describe the student's learning environment while attending school through distance learning and the steps the parent or guardian will take to provide age appropriate supervision and support so students can fully engage.

4. Does your child have access to the internet and a device for distance learning? If no, describe the supports needed from the school for securing access to the internet and a device for distance learning.

PART III: PARENT/GUARDIAN ATTESTATION

By signing this form, I acknowledge the following:

1. I am requesting distance learning for my child or the child for whom I serve as guardian (referred to as “my child” throughout this).
2. My child is between the ages of 5 and 18.
3. I understand that under D.C. law, education for my child is compulsory (required), it is not optional.
4. I understand that if my child is absent from school without a valid excuse, it is unlawful.
5. I understand that D.C. law limits the number of unexcused absences, whether from distance learning or in-person classes, a child may have before the school reports the child.
 - Students from ages 5 to 13: 10 full days of school - referrals to the Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA);
 - Students from ages 14 to 17: 15 full days – referrals to the Family Court Social Services Division of the District of Columbia Courts (FCSSD);
6. I understand that my child has been referred to CFSA or FCSSD in the 2021-2022 school year for having too many absences without a valid excuse.
7. I have participated in a CFSA or FCSSD initiated investigation and I have been told that CFSA or FCSSD determined that there are no safety concerns present for my child related to distance learning;
8. My child’s school may provide distance learning to my child if the standards described in this form are met, but it is not required to do so;
9. I understand that if my child’s school does not approve distance learning for my child, my child’s referral will return to CFSA/FCSSD for further review. At that time, I will need to inform CFSA/FCSSD of the plan for my child to meet the compulsory education requirement;
10. I understand that I am under a legal requirement to be sure that my child attends school while this application is being reviewed;
11. I understand that any distance learning approved through review of this form will not extend beyond the 2021-22 school year;
12. I understand that if my child is allowed to fulfill the education requirements through distance learning my child may return to in-person learning in the 2021-22 school year at the school’s discretion;
13. I understand that even if my child is permitted to participate in distance learning, regular attendance is required and collected daily. If a student misses school, the absence requires a valid excuse within 5 days of the absence in order for the absence to be considered excused.
14. I understand that attending school remotely means reporting to all classes, and it may mean keeping the video on throughout classes if the classes are live and responding promptly when called upon;
15. I understand that if my child does not have satisfactory attendance in school offered through distance learning at any point in the 2021-22 school year, the student’s authorization for distance learning may be revoked and my child will be required to attend in person;
16. I will support my child’s learning in distance learning by providing them with a distraction-free space to participate in distance learning and maintain regular communication with my child’s school as requested, or if my student or our household is having trouble complying with requirements for distance learning or attendance; and
17. I will provide the appropriate level of supervision to ensure that the child is safe at home and on-task in distance learning.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____