

Guidance for Field Trips

Field trips are offered by schools to enhance the educational experience of students, and Tri-County Health Department (TCHD) supports schools finding innovative ways to safely plan both virtual and destination experiences.

Please see below for an outline of event requirements and approaches to assure compliance as you plan your excursion. If field trips comply with public health orders, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) event guidance, and the guidance below, no formal approval from TCHD is required.

Virtual Field Trips

Schools should consider virtual field trips.

- Continue with routine mitigation strategies used in the classroom setting.

Destination Field Trips

The venue you plan to visit must follow [Guidance by Sector](#) based on the local level [dial capacity limits](#). Please note that CDPHE continues to update guidance as community conditions change. You should plan to implement all current requirements and adjust as changes are made by CDPHE.

- All school events and excursions must follow [case and outbreak guidance](#).
- Staff, students, and chaperones must observe the social distancing requirements of the venue. Chaperones should be [fully vaccinated](#), if possible.
- Everyone must follow mask orders and wear masks according to local and state public health orders.
- Lunch/snack should be conducted outside and follow school lunch guidelines.
- Students should be assigned to small cohorts. Ensure limited activity between cohorts during transportation, activity and lunch/snack.
- Field trip plan must include information on masking and social distancing and should be communicated clearly and often to all participants and parents in advance of and during the field trip.
- Individuals at risk for severe illness from COVID-19 should be encouraged to stay home and remote participation should be made available to the greatest extent possible.
- Schools should work with their venue to ensure a flexible cancellation policy is in place and should develop back-up plans in case capacity limits or requirements become more restrictive.
- An inclusionary plan must be developed for students not wishing or not able to participate in person.



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- If community transmission increases, alternative field trip formats such as virtual may be required.
- Minimize travel across county or regional borders. Be informed of [county specific guidelines](#).
- Schools should follow all [school transportation guidelines](#) if bussing students to a field trip location.
 - Assign seating to help with contact tracing if a student, chaperone or staff tests positive for COVID-19.
 - Physically distance on the bus to the greatest extent possible.
 - Everyone must follow mask orders and wear masks according to local and state public health order.
 - Request passengers avoid sitting within 6 feet of the bus driver.
 - Load the bus from the back forward to allow the greatest distance from the driver and other individuals on the bus for the longest period of time.