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## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### COVID-19 On Campus Attendance Plan

El Paso, Texas (October 23, 2020)—Given the rise of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations, Region 19 school districts, in collaboration with the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and support from the El Paso Delegation and Health Authorities, initiated a plan to address the safety of students, teachers and school staff. School districts will continue to offer remote instruction for all families. School districts will mitigate on-campus instruction based on tri-county hospitalization information from the Texas Department of State Health Services.

The hospitalization rates are categorized in four types of emergency percentage Zones which impact the day-to-day operations of school districts. The counties of El Paso, Hudspeth, and Culberson are currently in the Red Zone with a hospitalization rate of 32%.

All school systems in the region will take steps to implement this as a minimum framework no later than Monday, November 9, 2020. To assist with adoption, rapid COVID-19 testing will be made available for those districts to coincide with the start (or continuation of) on-campus instruction. Since we are currently in the Red Zone, any school system already offering on-campus instruction to priority students will have testing made available to them. As districts move into different Zones, testing will be made available for on-campus staff and students.

Funding, regardless of instructional delivery method offered, will continue.

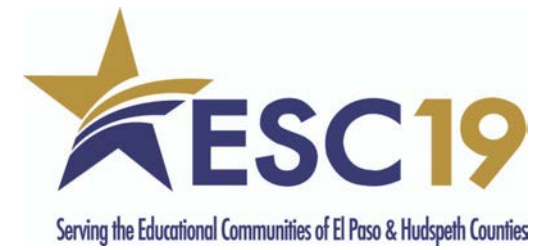
Please visit our Education Service Center Region 19 website, [esc19.net](http://esc19.net), for additional information about school safety zones, testing and updates from the TEA. More details can be found at: <https://www.esc19.net/Page/1564>.

For additional details about this press release or ESC19 contact:  
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# Region 19 School Safe Zones

Covid-19 Prevention & Mitigation Plan



- 1 **Based on tri-county hospitalization rate information**
- 2 **Parents have choice of instructional delivery method**
- 3 **Priority Populations**
  - Students with no internet access or device at home
  - Students of families who lack effective childcare access
  - Students of parents of essential workers
  - Students with special academic needs



20% and above

- School systems may (but are not required to) restrict access to on-campus instruction for all grade levels
- On-campus instruction must still be provided for priority populations
  - \* Priority high school students may be served via a hybrid schedule
  - \* Priority middle school students may opt into a hybrid schedule



15% to 19.9%

- Daily on-campus instruction must be provided to all elementary (PK-5) students who wish to attend on-campus
- School systems may (but are not required to) restrict access to on-campus instruction at the middle and high school level
- Priority populations must be allowed within safe capacity
  - \* Safe capacity is 50% students or to be determined by district/campus



10% to 14.9%

- Daily on-campus instruction must be provided to all students who wish to attend on-campus in all grade levels (elementary, middle, and high)
- Priority populations must be allowed within safe capacity
  - \* Safe capacity is 75% students or to be determined by district/campus



Below 10%

- 100% of students who elect on-campus instruction must be allowed to be on-campus, in all grades, without restriction

