



# Illinois State Board of Education

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## Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigations FAQ

Last updated: Dec. 16, 2020

**Effective November 20, 2020 at 12:01am, all 11 regions in Illinois moved into Tier 3 mitigations.**

**1. Do the Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigation measures established by [Executive Order 2020-73](#) apply to schools? (11/24/2020)**

The Tier 3 mitigation measures do not apply to instructional activities at school. Public and nonpublic schools must continue to comply with the five public health requirements established in the Part 3 Joint Transition Guidance:

- Require use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including face coverings;
- Prohibit more than 50 individuals from gathering in one space;
- Require social distancing be observed, as much as possible;
- Require that schools conduct symptom screenings and temperature checks or require that individuals self-certify that they are free of symptoms before entering school buildings; and
- Require an increase in schoolwide cleaning and disinfection.

Schools must continue to provide meals following the requirements above.

Schools must continue to provide transportation, as applicable, following the requirements above.

**2. Do the Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigation measures established by Executive Order 2020-73 apply to non-instructional activities at schools (i.e. sports and extracurricular activities)? (11/24/2020)**

Yes. The Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigation measures do apply to non-instructional activities.

School-based athletics must comply with the requirements for recreation, youth day camps, and youth sports included in EO 2020-73. The EO prohibits indoor group sporting and recreational activities including youth and recreational sports (such as park district and travel leagues) and bowling. Outdoor sports and recreation are allowed in groups no larger than ten, but must ensure the use of face coverings, adherence to social distancing requirements, and must take other public health steps in accordance with DCEO guidance.

Non-instructional school-based activities must comply with the requirements for meetings and events or requirements for places of public amusement, as applicable.

Indoor venues and meeting spaces such as meeting rooms, banquet centers, private party rooms, private clubs, country clubs, and party buses are prohibited from hosting gatherings of any size.

Places of indoor public amusement and indoor recreation (including but not limited to arcades, indoor driving ranges, museums and aquariums, theaters and performing arts, spectator events, and casinos and gaming), are prohibited from operating by this Executive Order. Outdoor recreational activities are capped at 25 percent occupancy, with adherence to face covering and social distancing requirements. Reservations are required for outdoor activities, and any groups for outdoor activities should be limited to no more than ten people.

**3. Do the Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigation measures established by Executive Order 2020-73 apply to board meetings? (11/24/2020)**

No. The Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigation measures do not apply to government functions, including school board meetings. It is recommended that boards hold remote meetings whenever possible.

**4. Do the Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigation measures established by Executive Order 2020-73 apply to staff/teacher meetings and bus driver trainings? (Updated 12/16/2020)**

Yes. The Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigation measures apply to indoor staff/teacher meetings and bus driver **refresher** trainings. The “requirements for meetings and events” state that “Indoor venues and meeting spaces such as meeting rooms, banquet centers, private party rooms, private clubs, country clubs, and party buses are prohibited from hosting gatherings of any size.” Whenever possible staff/teacher meetings and bus driver **refresher** trainings should be held remotely.

**5. Can initial bus driver training occur in-person while Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigation measures established by Executive Order 2020-73 are in place? (Updated 12/16/2020)**

Yes. Initial bus driver training only may be held in-person while Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigations are in place. The following public health conditions must be met for in-person training to occur:

- All individuals must wear appropriate personal protective equipment, including face coverings;
- Facilities are limited to 25% capacity;
- Social distancing must be observed;
- Symptom screenings and temperature checks must be conducted; and
- An increase in cleaning and disinfection must occur.

**6. Can safety drills, including evacuation, bus evacuation, law enforcement, and severe weather/shelter in place drills be held remotely? (Updated 12/15/2020)**

No. Schools must continue to meet statutory requirements for conducting safety drills, including evacuation, bus evacuation, law enforcement, and severe weather/shelter in place drills and should implement safety drills with COVID-19 safety measures in place. Per the School Safety Drill Act, a “drill” means “a pre-planned exercise conducted by a school.” Drills shall be conducted at each school building that houses school children. A video does not constitute a drill and therefore cannot on its own meet the requirements of the Act.

Therefore, if a school district is entirely remote, drills may be completed when there is a return to in-person instruction. Districts providing in-person instruction or a hybrid model of both in-person and remote learning must still follow the provisions of the School Safety Drill Act, conducting drills in adherence to the Phase 4 health and safety requirements. Multiple drills may need to occur, and drills may take more time to allow for social distancing. Please note that school safety drills are instructional activities and therefore are not impacted by the Tier 3 Resurgence Mitigations.