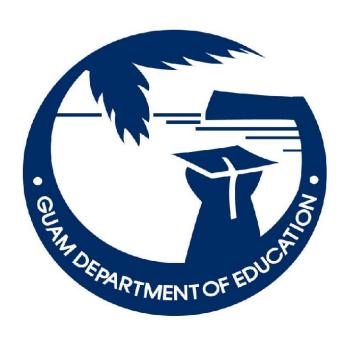
FEDERAL PROGRAMS DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Government of Guam



QUARTER 4 PROGRESS UPDATE

- Education Stabilization Fund -State Educational Agency (ESF-SEA)
- Education Stabilization Fund II -State Educational Agency (ESF II-SEA)
- American Rescue Plan Outlying Areas -State Educational Agency (ARP-OA-SEA)

To the United States Department of Education Office of Elementary and Secondary Education Rural, Insular, and Native Achievement Programs Washington, D.C. 20202-6400

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QUARTER 4 PROGRESS UPDATE

ESF-SEA | ESF II-SEA | ARP-OA-SEA

GDOE | Rural, Insular, Native Achievement Programs (RINAP)
Progress Update Form

To the United States Department of Education Office of Elementary and Secondary Education Rural, Insular, and Native Achievement Programs Washington, D.C. 20202-6400



Rural, Insular, Native Achievement Programs (RINAP) Progress Update

Grantee Name	Guam Department of Education		
Grant	⊠ESF I – SEA	□IA – Consolidated Grant	
	⊠ESF II – SEA	□Republic of Palau	
	⊠ARP-OA SEA	□ESF I – Gov	
		□ESF II – Gov	
Topic ¹	Grant Administration & Evaluation: In your responses, please describe the		

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efforts made to ensure that grant program staff are aware of their individual responsibilities and are following the policies and procedures related to the current grant. Also describe any significant actions taken to ensure Federal funds are used for their intended purposes and that the projects and activities supported by Federal funds are meeting the established goals and objectives. Provide supporting documentation (e.g., training materials; communication of rules, regulations, and grant requirements; completed project/activity evaluation instruments; communication with beneficiaries/grantees regarding the assessment or progress of projects; project timelines; or quarterly budgets), as applicable. Supporting documentation should also include evidence that the grantee has established timelines for major grant funded projects and activities and are making noteworthy efforts to adhere to the timelines if implementation of major projects or activities has not occurred or is significantly off schedule. Furthermore, an explanation should be provided and an updated scheduled for how the projects or activities will be implemented or completed before the end of the grant performance period (2 CFR §200.301; 2 CFR §200.329).

Directions: In preparation for the Progress Update, grantees will receive an electronic form four weeks in advance of the grantee interview to submit their responses and associated

¹ The topic will change for each progress update and will be selected by the U.S. Department of Education. Grantees will be notified of the topic at least one quarter in advance of progress updates and the topic will be the same for all grantees completing a progress update. The topic will be closely related to a specific, or set of related, statutory or regulatory requirements. The specific, or set of related, statutory or regulatory requirements outlining Departmental oversight authority will be cited in the electronic questionnaire distributed in advance of progress updates (e.g., Internal Controls: 2 C.F.R. 200.61).

documentation. Grantees must submit their completed form (and upload any related supporting documentation) two weeks in advance of the grantee interview. Where applicable, grantees should upload documentation that supports the narrative response (e.g., public notice to stakeholders, guidance documents, sample monitoring report, media interviews, speeches, meeting agenda, etc.). Narrative responses should be brief and in bullet form, aligned with grantee goals and priorities.

As it relates to the progress update topic:

1. What were the grantee's key accomplishments this past quarter?

GDOE RESPONSE:

COVID-19 Area Risk (CAR) Score: As of September 15, 2021, Guam has recorded a COVID-19 Area Risk (CAR) Score of thirty-eight (38). Due to the drastic and continuous increase in positive cases and alarming CAR score, the Governor of Guam has issued Executive Order No. 2021-21: Relative to Suspending In-Person Learning and Amending Social Gathering Restrictions resulting in school closures effective August 30, 2021 pending an amendment by further Executive Order.

- This is the third instance of school closures attributed to the surge of positive COVID-19 cases in Guam. The initial instance began March 2020, the second, August 2020, and the current school closure will be the third occurrence.
- With the most recent school closures and abrupt shift to remote online learning, GDOE anticipates an increase in challenges with student attendance. The social and emotional well-being of Guam's students is an equally important focus of the educational community. Guam's students once again will bear the burden of academic learning and extracurricular activity loss.

Lead Education Stabilization Fund- State Educational Agency (ESF- SEA):

- As of September 13, 2021, approximately 96%, or \$39.7 of the \$41.5 million of the total Guam Department of Education (GDOE) ESF-SEA has been drawn, obligated through Purchase Order and/or in the requisition process.
- Remaining funds will support: (1) grant and project personnel costs for employees performing duties directly supporting the ESF-SEA grant activities; (2) proportioned cost for professional, software and installation fees for the automated *Employee Time Tracking and *Fixed Asset Management systems; and (3) professional fees related to the *Single Audit.
 - * Proportioned costs with all grants/projects (Consolidated Grant, ESF SEA, ESF II SEA, and American Rescue Plan Outlying Areas State Educational Agency (ARP-OA SEA) *
- GDOE is on target to fully expend the ESF SEA grant funds on or before the end of the performance period.

■ Education Stabilization Fund II – State Educational Agency (ESF II – SEA):

- As of September 13, 2021, approximately 67%, or \$73.9 of the \$110.5 million of the total Guam Department of Education (GDOE) ESF II-SEA has been drawn, obligated through Purchase Order and/or in the requisition process.
- Remaining funds will support the following:
 - (1) Grant and project personnel costs for employees performing duties directly supporting the ESF II-SEA grant and project activities; (2) proportioned cost for professional, software and installation fees for the automated *Employee Time Tracking and *Fixed Asset Management systems; and (3) professional fees related to the *Single Audit.
 - * Proportioned costs with all grants/projects (Consolidated Grant, ESF SEA, ESF II SEA, and American Rescue Plan Outlying Areas State Educational Agency (ARP-OA SEA) *
 - Procurement of professional development, additional educational tools and resources, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including plexiglass, electrostatic sprayers, thermal scanning equipment, consumable PPE supplies for teachers and students. Additional procurement includes industrial washers and dryers, network server, hard copy instructional materials and implementation of various extended day learning and enrichment programs (i.e. afterschool, and summer).
 - Procurement of professional services for construction management, new/repair of walkway awnings/canopy, restroom repairs, improved ventilation systems, high energy efficient filtration units and other relative supplies.
- Status of current activities implementation and ongoing Procurement, Delivery and Distribution of Equipment, Supplies and Contractual Services:
 - Technology Supplies and Equipment (i.e. laptops, tablets, peripherals)
 All current technology supply/equipment requests have completed the procurement process. Delivery, inventory and distribution of items continue as they become available from awarded vendors.
 - Instructional Materials Hard Copy Instructional Materials have partially completed the procurement process with large quantities of deliveries being made within the last quarter. The procurement of the additional Hard Copy Instructional Materials is ongoing.
 - Community Learning Centers (CLC) As a result of the recent and drastic rise in active COVID-19 cases on the island resulting in school closures, the GDOE Public Schools District has modified CLC operating hours, Monday through Friday 7:00 am to 4:00 pm. at 31 school sites.
 - CLCs have become vital to the educational community, including PNP and Charter Schools. The CLCs provide students with necessary resources such as laptops, internet access, and a safe learning environment, most especially underrepresented

- students, such as foster care, wards of the state, homeless, and indigent children.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Health & Safety Materials
 - PPE consumable supplies and materials (i.e. masks, gloves, sanitizing wipes, etc.) continue to be used and re-ordered as necessary for students and school site/ancillary personnel.
 - Initial orders of PPE and Health & Safety Equipment (i.e. handwashing stations, bottle filling stations, thermal scanning cameras, etc.) have been received, distributed, and installed at various school sites. GDOE is in the process of procuring additional health and safety equipment to ensure adequate resources support the student populations on campus.
- Walk-In Chillers and Walk-In Freezer Boxes
 - GDOE Public School District has begun the procurement of six
 (6) walk-in chillers and six (6) walk-in freezer boxes through leveraging funds from the U.S. Department of Education ESF II

 SEA and the U.S Department of Agriculture National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant.
- Capital Improvement Projects
 - HVAC inspection, preventative maintenance, and repair contract has been procured utilizing ESF II SEA funds. The following are types of work being conducted: repair and replacement of old HVAC units, cleaning and maintenance to existing units to prolong their effective use, replacement of hoses and other accessories that have worn down, and complete replacement of HVAC units, when necessary.
- Federal Programs Division State Educational Agency (FPD-SEA) continues to monitor the implementation of services and/or deliveries/installation of supplies/equipment to include:
 - Hands-Free Water Bottle Filling Stations
 - Hand Washing Stations
 - HVAC
 - Community Learning Center Activities
 - Receipt and delivery of the Hard Copy Instructional Materials
 - Extended Summer Learning and Enrichment Programs
 - Repurposing of technology equipment between the Consolidated Grant and emergency relief grants
 - Hard Copy Instructional Materials
- FPD-SEA in collaboration with LEAs (public, PNP, and charter schools) continues to conduct need assessments of current indoor classrooms, offices, and outdoor spaces to adhere to the safe physical distancing guidelines based on CDC's regulations and the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Service protocols for the safe return of classroom instruction.
- Extended School Year Summer Learning Programs were implemented throughout Summer 2021. GDOE Public School District, Office of Catholic Education, *Guahan* Academy Charter School, and the iLearn Academy Charter

School successfully implemented extended Summer School activities to address learning loss/gaps and recover credits as a result of school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- GDOE Public Schools District supported approximately 6,300 students.
- The Office of Catholic Education supported approximately 318 students.
- *Guahan* Academy Charter School supported approximately 222 students.
- iLearn Academy Charter School supported approximately 105 students.
- Repurpose of Fixed Assets: In June 2021, all public, private, non-public and charter schools targeted for the return of in-person learning in August 2021 prioritizing academic learning time loss as well as providing students with extracurricular activities. In compliance with the ARP-OA SEA requirements to address learning loss, the FPD-SEA notified all participating educational institutions on June 2021 that all fixed assets (i.e. technology supplies and equipment) that were repurposed to support distance learning are required to be returned from the ESF-SEA to the CGA. The FPD-SEA then proposed to the LEAs that they may subsequently repurpose these fixed assets to the ARP-OA SEA to address learning loss as noted in the ARP-OA-SEA application. The transference of fixed assets (CGA to ESF, ESF to CGA, and CGA to ARP-OA-SEA, if applicable) was necessary as the authority to repurpose these assets was temporarily granted until June 30, 2021 as per the US Department of Education's Fact Sheet for Repurposing Federal Equipment and Supplies to Combat COVID-19 (updated October 2020):
 - o ... For temporary use, grantees and subgrantees may repurpose federally purchased equipment and supplies that are not currently in use to carry out a Department grant program to meet the general education needs of students, including students with disabilities and English learners, and the instructional needs of teachers, related services providers, and other educational personnel during school closures, including those caused by COVID-19. For example, a local educational agency (LEA) might distribute unused laptops that it purchased to provide academic enrichment in its paused before- and afterschool program to assist students in accessing online instruction in their home. This authority is temporary and extends only through June 30, 2021. When the schools fully and permanently reopen, and students once again consistently attend schools in person, the equipment and supplies that are not consumed must be returned for use in the Department grant programs for which they were purchased. The Department notes that some grant programs include statutory flexibility regarding loaning equipment; in those cases, grantees may use existing flexibility within the scope of their grant...

As a result of recent school closures, schools that did not opt to repurpose from the CG to ARP-OA-SEA in June 2021, are presented with the need to do so to address remote online learning and academic learning time loss.

In consideration of the unpredictable circumstances surrounding COVID-19, coupled with the cumbersome administrative requirements and documentation necessary to repurpose fixed assets between CG and ESSER grants, GDOE specifically requests additional guidance to streamline processes moving forward. As noted earlier, this is the third instance of school closures, repurposing of fixed assets between the CG and ESSER funds, and the burdensome administrative responsibilities to complete such tasks. GDOE anticipates that upon the return to face-to-face in-person instruction will result in another cumbersome administrative cycle of repurposing fixed assets.

- GDOE is on target to fully expend the ESF II— SEA grant funds on or before the end of the performance period.
- **♣** American Rescue Plan Outlying Areas State Educational Agency (ARP OA SEA)
 - FFY'2021 Consolidated Grant Title V-B, RLIS | FFY2021 American Rescue Plan Outlying Areas | Grant Award Notification and Accountability Workshop July 29-30, 2021:
 - The FPD-SEA held timely and meaningful consultations with all participating educational institution representatives from the GDOE public, private-non-public and charter schools. Sessions were held inperson aligned to the goals and objectives of the ARP-OA SEA to return school and grant operations back to face-to-face. FFY 2021 ARP-OA SEA Grant Award Notification, Implementation and Accountability Workshop provided critical information to ensure compliance, accountability and understanding of Federal Grants requirements to support activities that ultimately benefit students. Sessions topics included:
 - Overview of ARP-OA SEA | Programmatic and Administrative Requirements
 - Allowable Uses of Funds
 - Maintenance of Effort Requirements
 - Quarterly and Annual Reporting | Programmatic and Administrative Monitoring and Risk Factors
 - Constitutionally Protected Prayer
 - Federal Regulations regarding the support of Underrepresented Students
 - Standard Service Agreements
 - Automated Employee Time Tracking Live Demonstration
 - Procurement Process and Compliance Review
 - Invoicing and Drawdown Procedures
 - ARP-OA SEA Activities and Q&A Session

- Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services Presentation – COVID-19 Protocols and Procedures in Educational Institutions
- The following information outlines the survey results from the FFY2021 CGA & ARP-OA SEA GAN, Implementation & Accountability Workshop:
 - Workshop Evaluation Survey Results | July 29, 2021 (Day 1 -Public Schools)
 - o No. of attendees 100
 - Percent of participants who indicated understanding the presentations on grant regulations and requirements – 94.6%
 - Percent of participants who indicated understanding the ARP-OA SEA presentation 95.3%
 - Percent of participants who indicated understanding the DPHSS presentation 81.4%
 - Percent of participants who indicated understanding the CG project presentations 92%
 - O Percent of participants who indicated satisfaction with the consultative services and technical assistance provided by the Federal Programs Division 90.7%
 - Workshop Evaluation Survey Results | July 30, 2021 (Day 2 Private-Non-Public and Charter Schools)
 - o No. of attendees -60
 - Percent of participants who indicated understanding the presentations on grant regulations and requirements 90%
 - Percent of participants who indicated understanding the ARP-OA SEA presentation 93.3%
 - Percent of participants who indicated understanding the DPHSS presentation 86.7%
 - Percent of participants who indicated satisfaction with the consultative services and technical assistance provided by the Federal Programs Division 86.7%

• ARP – OA SEA Implementation Plan

The FPD-SEA has transmitted the most recent revised ARP-OA SEA Implementation Plan to the US Department of Education on September 14, 2021 (ET) / September 15, 2021 (CHST). GDOE-FPD awaits the final review and approval of the Implementation Plan prior to the drawdown of funds.

• Capital Improvement Projects

As part of the GDOE ARP-OA SEA Implementation Plan, the GDOE Public School District has requested Contractual Services for Capital Improvement Projects aligned to the GDOE Facilities Master Plan to include the Initiative Assessment of Buildings and Classrooms from the Department of Interior – Office of Insular Areas in partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers. In preparation for the lengthy

procurement process and implementation required for these activities, FPD-SEA and LEA personnel have begun the strategic planning and assessment of the applicable school sites. Funds for the implementation of this activity have yet to be drawn pending the final approval of the GDOE ARP-OA SEA Implementation Plan.

• Health and Hygiene Kits/School Uniform Vouchers

• The GDOE Public School District has requested to procure health/hygiene kits and school uniform vouchers for underrepresented, specifically economically disadvantaged students. In preparation for the lengthy procurement process and implementation required for the acquisition and distribution of these supplies, FPD-SEA and LEA personnel have begun the strategic planning and assessment of the applicable students and potential vendors. Funds for the implementation of this activity have yet to be drawn pending the final approval of the GDOE ARP-OA SEA Implementation Plan.

• Youth Employment Internship Program

The GDOE Public School District has requested funds for the implementation of the Youth Employment Internship Program (YEIP). The YEIP took place between June 2021 – July 2021. GDOE, in collaboration with the Office of the Governor of Guam and the Guam Department of Youth Affairs, implemented the YEIP. The YEIP provided summer learning and enrichment for approximately 700 secondary students, 9th through 12th grade, from eligible and participating public, private-non-public and charter schools; priority placement of students included the underrepresented populations who are indigent, homeless, wards of the state (foster) and incarcerated. Funds for the implementation of this activity have yet to be drawn pending the final approval of the GDOE ARP-OA SEA Implementation Plan.

♣ Ongoing Professional Development: FPD – SEA Personnel

- FPD-SEA Personnel continue to participate in Professional Development opportunities to enhance awareness of roles and responsibilities related to grants administration, compliance with policies and procedures, improved technical assistance services and ensure proper internal controls. During this quarter, FPD-SEA personnel have participated in:
 - Air Quality and Ventilation in America's K-12 Schools: Guidance and Strategies for Improved Results
 - Lessons from the Field Strategies for Safely Returning to School: The Latest Federal Guidance
 - Lessons from the Field Returning to School: Strategies for Supporting Staff
 - Lessons from the Field Returning to School: Strategies for Reengaging Students
 - Lessons from the Field Safe and Supportive Early Learning: Lessons Learned for the New School Year

2. What were the grantee's key challenges this past quarter?

GDOE RESPONSE:

- Leadership changes and limited administrative workforce within the Public, Charter and Private-Non-Public Schools:
 - LEA Leadership, School and Administrative: The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the workforce within the schools significantly. A large number of school leaders, educators and employees have either retired, moved to a new profession, relocated, and/or resigned due to the unpredictable and unforgiving circumstances surrounding the pandemic. The pandemic also further exacerbated the existing shortages in personnel at the various school sites as the changing educational (i.e. multiple models of learning, health and safety protocols) requirements created additional stress and burden on existing individuals.
 - FPD-SEA continues to provide guidance and technical assistance to new LEA leadership as they navigate through the grant requirements and expectations, and the approved CGA activities.
 - FPD-SEA continues to provide guidance, technical assistance and training to new school administrative personnel with regard to the procurement processes, fixed assets management, reporting and tracking procedures, and employee time tracking, if applicable.
 - Key Grant | Project Personnel and GDOE Local Personnel: To date, GDOE has lost a significant number of key personnel, both grant/project and local employees throughout the Fiscal Year as a direct result of the global pandemic and unrelenting extensive work hours and workloads. Countless grant, project and ancillary personnel (including Procurement) have opted to either retire, relocate and/or assume other employment to minimize work stress, ensure personal, family time is intact, and to minimize their health and safety risks.
 - Over the course of the last 2 months of the 4th Quarter, the FPD-SEA reports the following changes in SEA and LEA key personnel:
 - State Educational Agency State Administration (Consolidated Grant Application, ESF-SEA, ESFII-SEA, ARP-OA SEA):
 - Hired (1) State Program Officer (Program Coordinator III)
 - ➤ Hired (1) Administrative Officer
 - Resignation of (2) State Program Officers (Program Coordinator III)
 - ❖ Local Educational Agency GDOE Public Schools District (Consolidated Grant Application, ESF-SEA, ESFII-SEA, ARP-OA SEA)
 - ➤ Hired (1) Administrative Officer
 - ➤ Hired (5) Instructional Coaches
 - > Resignation of (1) Program Coordinator IV
 - ➤ Resignation of (1) Instructional Coach
 - Resignation of (2) Program Coordinator III

- Resignation of (1) School Program Consultant
- > Transfer out of (1) Program Coordinator III
- > Transfer out of (3) Instructional Coach
- ➤ Retirement of (1) Instructional Coach
- With limited resources, remaining professional, administrative and procurement personnel have taken on substantial workloads in addition to their already immense roles and responsibilities thereby leading longer workdays including weekends and holidays. Essentially, remaining staff are burdened with addressing a multitude of demands and timelines, which has and/or will lead to burnout, mental and emotional challenges and potentially opting to leave GDOE. The hiring of additional employees will provide critical support to remaining professional, administrative and procurement personnel, as well as to the schools in providing critical resources needed to operate effectively and safely.
- The COVID-19 pandemic situation has presented a multitude of challenges on the education and island community affecting both the delivery of educational supports and project activity implementation/timelines:
 - As mentioned previously, on August 27, 2021 the Governor of Guam issued Executive Order 2021-21 which called for the suspension of in-person models of learning for all public, charter and private, non-public educational institutions serving prekindergarten through twelfth (12th) grade students. GDOE has had to once again shift the focus of students, teachers and the entire educational community to provide an effective remote online model of learning. To date, there is no anticipated date of reopening as a result of the continued rise of active COVID-19 cases on the island.
 - The economic impact of COVID-19 pandemic has diminished the vendor pool causing a lack of, or minimal responses to Small Purchases, Request for Proposals (RFP) and Invitation for Bids (IFB). The ability of vendors to meet the needs remain a consistent challenge considering the global supply and demand coupled with the extended delivery to Guam. Additionally, vendors continue to request for extensions and/or cancellation of deliveries due to these issues. Challenges include:
 - Due to Guam's isolated geographic location in the Pacific Ocean, delivery of goods procured can take four (4) months or more extending delays in shipments
 - Nationwide shortages and competing demands for supplies and materials further delays delivery. This applies especially to technology supplies and equipment as the global chip shortage has impacted the ability of manufacturers to complete orders.
 - o Lengthy IFB/RFP for high value supplies, equipment and contractual services creates further delays. Some examples include the procurement of:
 - High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) Filtration Systems
 - Indoor and Outdoor Wireless Local Network Infrastructure (upgrading internet capacity)
 - As mentioned in previous reports, the COVID-19 pandemic situation has negatively impacted Guam students economically, academically, socially and emotionally. As the GDOE continues to implement activities to support the

increased number of transient, homeless and foster children, there still remains unaccounted students participating in this new school year. There are an estimated 1,000 students unaccounted for at the beginning of School Year 2021-2022 in both the initial in-person model of learning and the online model of learning.

3. What methods, tools, and processes are you utilizing to address these challenges?

GDOE RESPONSE:

- Although delays and challenges are prevalent due to the COVID-19 pandemic, GDOE is making every effort to accelerate the implementation and expansion of activities. GDOE has and continues to carry out the following to ensure activities move forward and status is monitored collaboratively:
 - As the sudden shift to online models of learning was required for educational
 institutions, FPD-SEA began to provide meaningful and timely technical assistance
 to participating public, charter and private, non-public schools to repurpose
 supplies and equipment to support this change. This would primarily include
 laptops and other technology items to support remote learning.
 - Collaboration between the Procurement Office, key LEA personnel, FPD-SEA and Management is on-going as it relates to accelerating the procurement of services, supplies, materials, and equipment for participating schools.
 - Collaboration with other GDOE divisions to streamline processes and increase efficiency in the implementation of approved activities.
 - Collaboration with the Office of the Governor of Guam and respective agencies to provide services, tools and resources for underrepresented students to include transient students, students facing homelessness, wards of the state and foster children.
 - The FPD-SEA, GDOE Public School District, Social Workers, Community Program Aides and school site personnel continue to collaborate to identify and locate the estimated 1,000 unaccounted students in need of further assistance and support. These unaccounted and underrepresented student populations are in dire need of support due to the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on these subgroups.
 - Continuous communication with stakeholders, educational institution representatives from the GDOE public, eligible participating private-non-public and charter schools.
 - Communicating with vendors to ensure services, activities and deliveries are accomplished/received in a timely manner.
 - FPD –SEA continues to develop and revise comprehensive Federal Grants Manual Guidance that will allow for consistent internal controls ensuring Federal compliance.

4. How can the U.S. Department of Education help the grantee address these challenges? GDOE RESPONSE:

A streamlined process for fulfilling the administrative requirements associated with the repurposing of fixed assets to support remote learning, and the unpredictable COVID-19 pandemic conditions is needed.

- A streamlined process for fulfilling the administrative reporting requirements (Federal financial reporting, quarterly and annual performance report) is needed. GDOE is seeking administrative relief from the burden of meeting concurrent report deadlines for the following:
 - o Consolidated Grant
 - o Education Stabilization Fund State Educational Agency
 - o Education Stabilization Fund II State Educational Agency
 - o American Rescue Plan Outlying Areas State Educational Agency

What are the grantee's technical assistance needs related to these challenges?

GDOE RESPONSE:

- ♣ Provide guidance or technical assistance on how other States or Insular Areas are managing efficient and timely procurement processes.
- A streamlined process for fulfilling the administrative requirements associated with the repurposing of fixed assets to support remote learning, and the unpredictable COVID-19 pandemic conditions is needed.
- A streamlined process for fulfilling the administrative reporting requirements (Federal financial reporting, quarterly and annual performance report) is needed. GDOE is seeking administrative relief from the burden of meeting concurrent report deadlines for the following:
 - o Consolidated Grant
 - o Education Stabilization Fund State Educational Agency
 - o Education Stabilization Fund II State Educational Agency
 - o American Rescue Plan Outlying Areas State Educational Agency

Q4 ESF Quarterly Report Public Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1810-0757. The expiration date is December 2, 2021. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is required to obtain or retain benefit 2 CFR 200.327 and 2 CFR 200.328. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate, suggestions for improving this individual collection, or if you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual form, application or survey, please contact Joanne Osborne, Rural, Insular, and Native Achievement Programs, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave. SW, Rm. 3E306, Washington, DC 20202 or email joanne.osborne@ed.gov directly.

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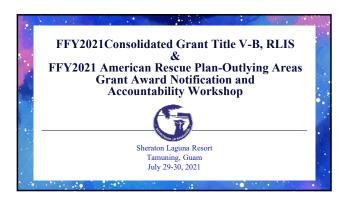
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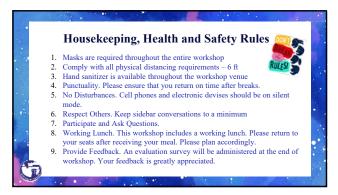


QUARTER 4 PROGRESS UPDATE | Appendix A: Supporting Documents ESF-SEA | ESF II-SEA | ARP-OA-SEA

- ARP-OA SEA Grant Award Notification Workshop Supporting Documents
- EO 2021-21
- Guam News Articles
- Evidence of Activities

To the United States Department of Education Office of Elementary and Secondary Education Rural, Insular, and Native Achievement Programs Washington, D.C. 20202-6400





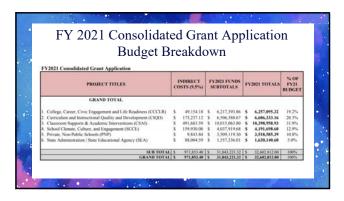


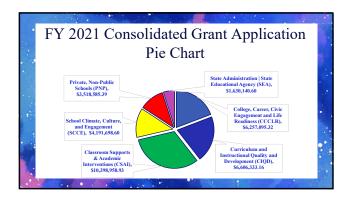


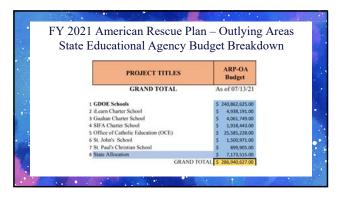


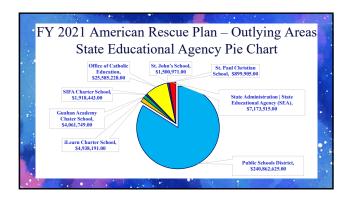










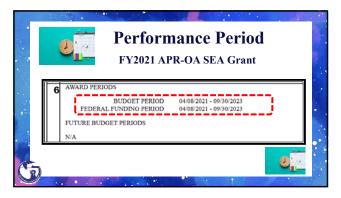


















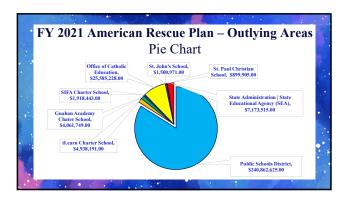






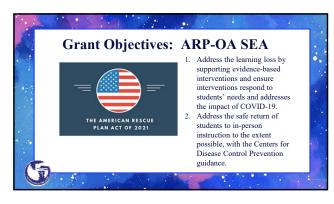


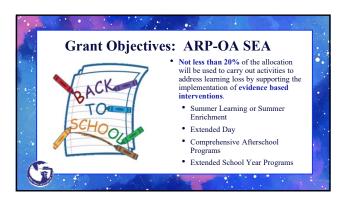


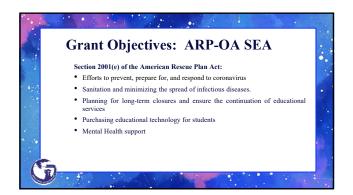


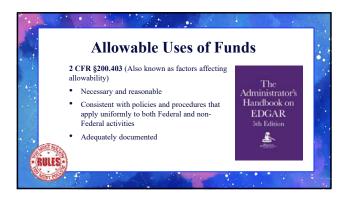


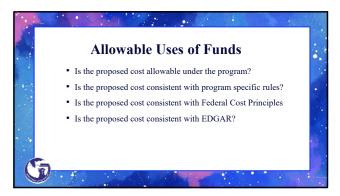






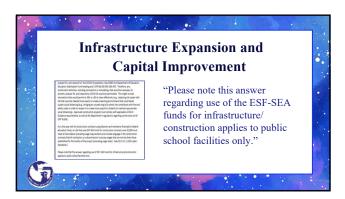




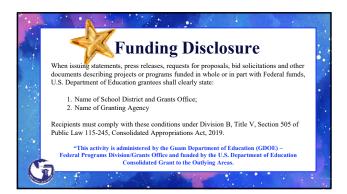














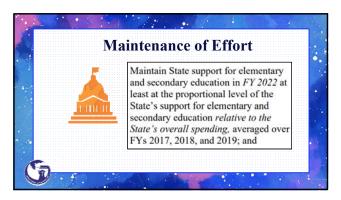


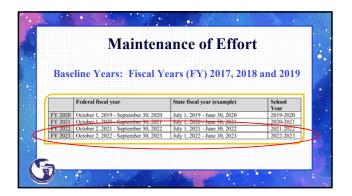






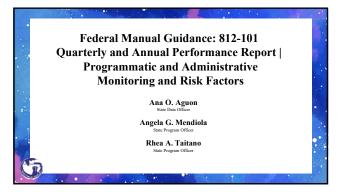


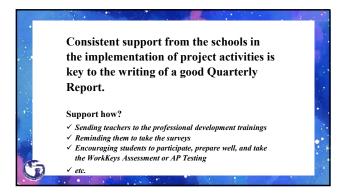


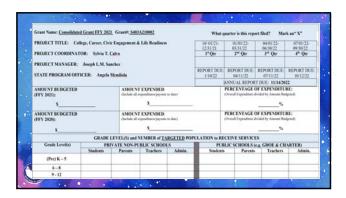


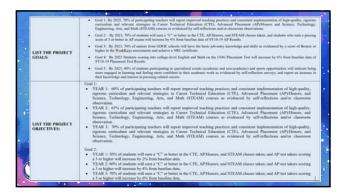


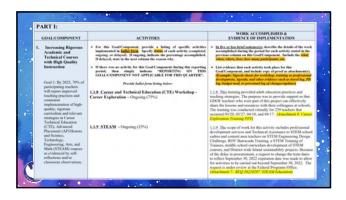


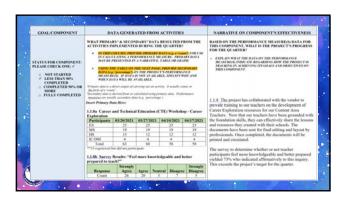


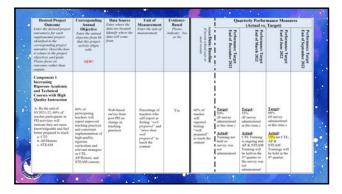




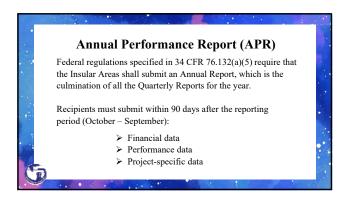




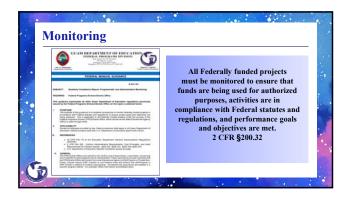




Quarter	Months Covered	Due Date	•
st Quarter	Oct. – Dec.	January 10, 2022	Monday
d Quarter	Jan. – Mar.	April 11, 2022	Monday
rd Quarter	Apr. – June	July 11, 2022	Monday
th Quarter	July – Sept.	October 10, 2022	Monday



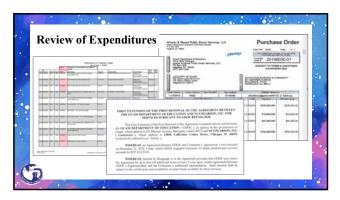


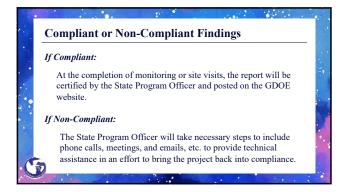


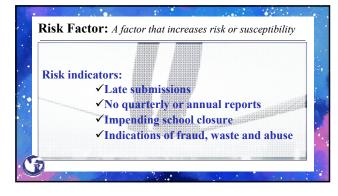




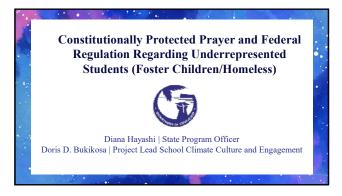


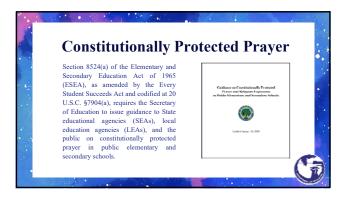


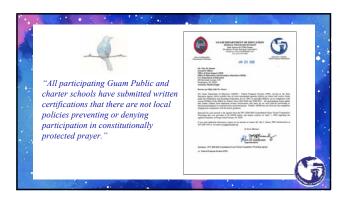




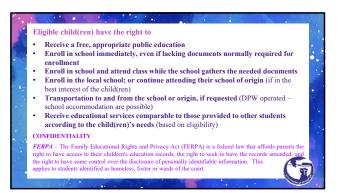


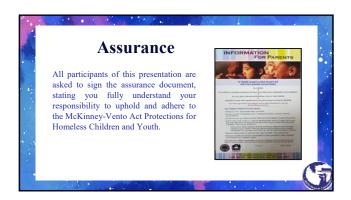












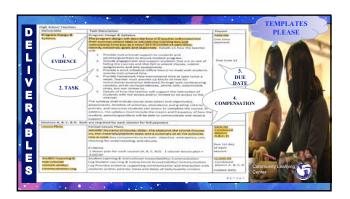


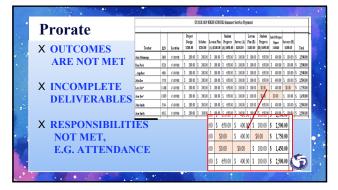


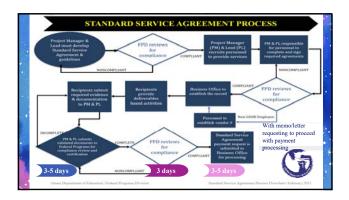




CONSOLIDATED GRANT PROJECT	OUTCOME-BASED PROJECT ACTIVITY
#I - COLLEGE, CAREER, CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND LIFE READINESS (CCCLR)	FOR ELIGIBLE COACHES TO PROMOTE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMIC SPECIAL EVENTS
#2 - CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL QUALITY AND DEVELOPMENT	FOR ELIGIBLE TEACHERS TO PROVIDE SCHOOL BASED SUPPORT TO NEW TEACHERS IN THEIR 1 ST – 3 RD YEAR TEACHING
#3 - CLASSROOM SUPPORTS AND ACADEMIC INTERVENTIONS	FOR ELIGIBLE TEACHERS TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE LESSONS/ACTIVITIES BEFORE (ASPIRE/EARLY BIRD) AND AFTER SCHOOL FOR INSTRUCTION, REMEDIATION AND ENRICHMENT
#4 – SCHOOL CLIMATE, CULTURE & ENGAGEMENT	FOR ELIGIBLE COACHES AND COORDINATORS TO FACILITATE INTRAMURAL SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES, PROMOTING HEALTHIER LIFESTYLES









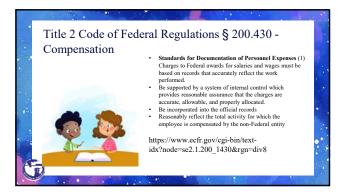


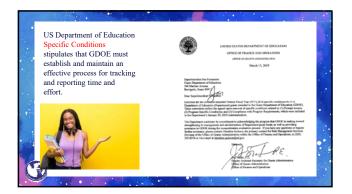




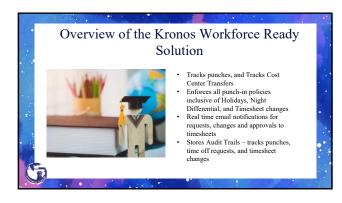


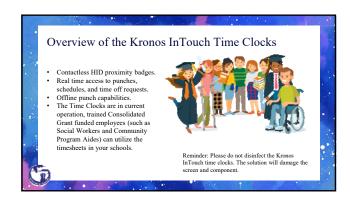






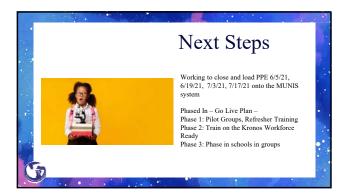


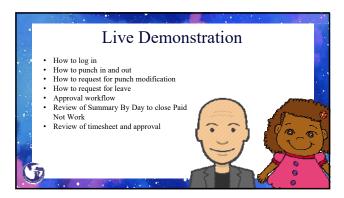










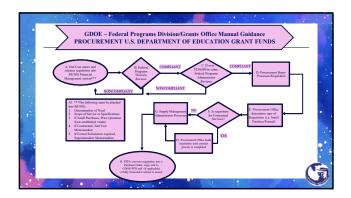


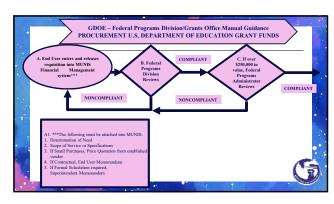


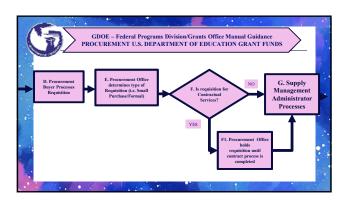


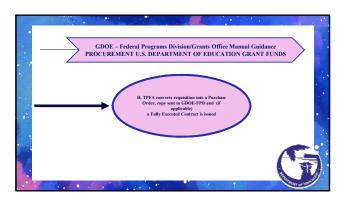




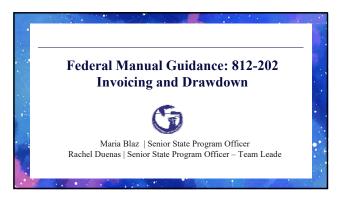


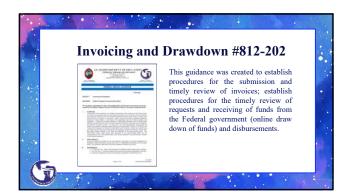


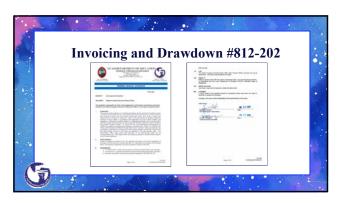


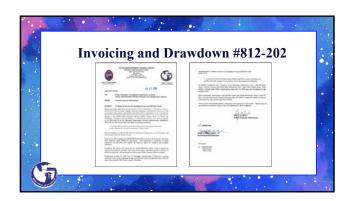


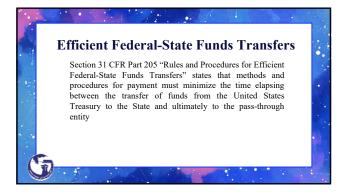


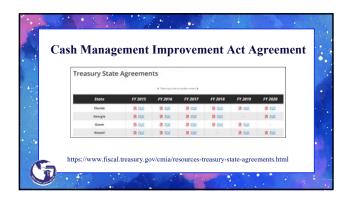


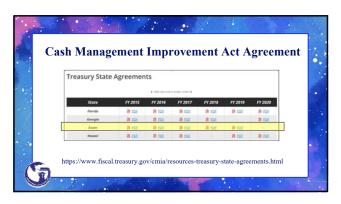


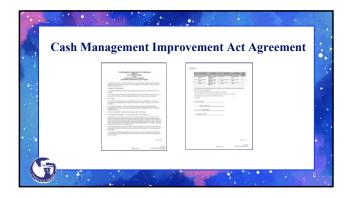




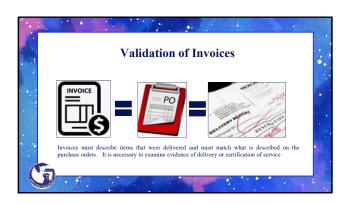




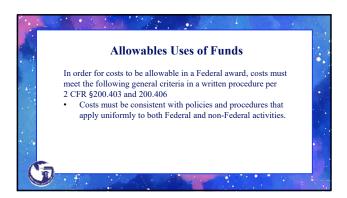


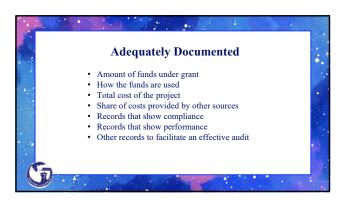




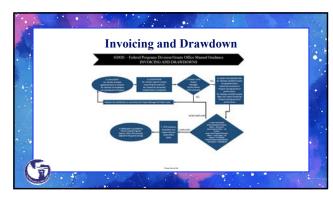


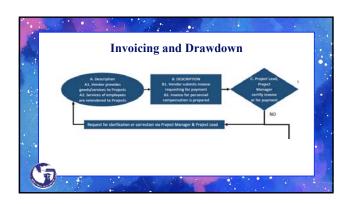


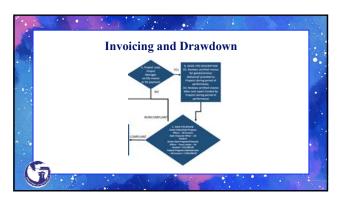


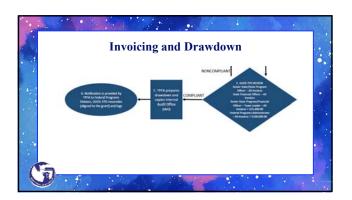


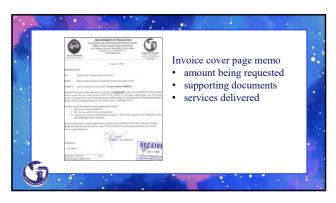


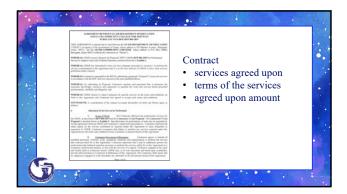


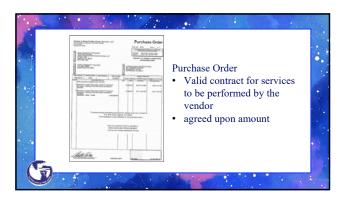


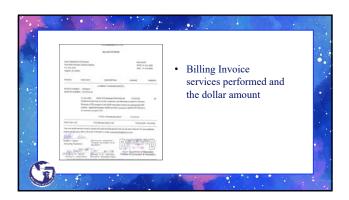


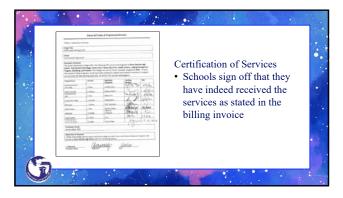




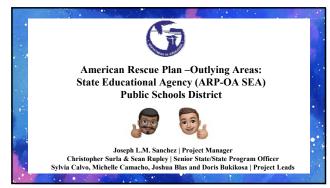








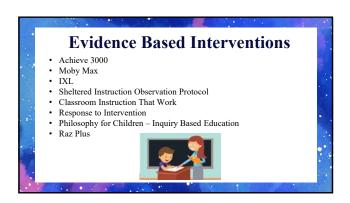


























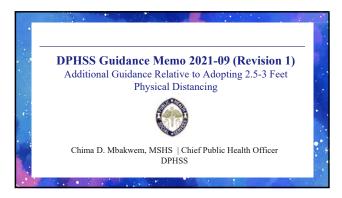


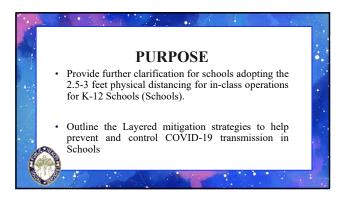








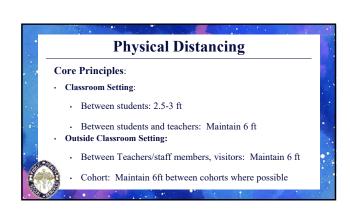




Layered Mitigation Strategies Universal and Correct Use of Masks Physical Distancing Cleaning and Disinfecting Ventilation Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette Screening Testing Staying Home When Sick and Getting Tested Testing and Contact Tracing in combination with Isolation and Quarantine COVID-19 Vaccination



Universal and Correct Use of Masks Core Principles: Must be worn at all times Require consistent and correct use of well-fitting face masks Must cover both nose and mouth at the same times Face shields may be used in addition to a face mask Exceptions: Certain settings or activities, such as while eating or drinking Certain populations with certain medical conditions disabilities * School policy should promote correct and consistent mask use *



Cleaning and Disinfecting

Core Principles:

- · Develop/Utilize Cleaning Checklist--dates, times, name of cleaner
- · Conduct daily cleaning and disinfecting of facilities
 - · Classrooms, workspaces, toilets
- High Touch Areas/settings should be cleaned and disinfected more frequently and/or as needed
 - · Sinks, stairway rails, keyboards, telephones doorknobs

Ventilation

Core Principles:

- Consider using portable high efficiency particulate air fan or similar filtration systems to enhance air cleaning
- · Ensure ventilation systems operate properly
- Take steps to minimize air from blowing from one person directly to another individual

Handwashing and Respiratory

Core Principles:

- · Practice handwashing and respiratory etiquette
 - · covering coughs and sneezes
- Reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol when unable to wash hands

Screening Testing

Core Principles:

- · Each School will develop/implement Screening testing plan
- DPHSS recommends screening testing for unvaccinated students, teachers, and staff
 - · Recommend weekly screening testing--Teachers/staff



Screen/test 25% of their student/teachers/staffs every quarter and 100% by the end of the school year

Testing/Contact Tracing with Isolation/Quarantine

Core Principles: Testing & Contact Tracing

- · Probable or Positive Test--Students/Teachers/Staff:
 - · Inform School; Stay home
 - · DPHSS's notification of Parents/Legal Guardian
 - DPHSS & School's collaboration-Contact tracing, school closure

Testing/Contact Tracing with Isolation/Quarantine

Core Principles: Testing & Contact Tracing

- · Probable or Positive Test--Students/Teachers/Staff:
 - · Identification of Close Contacts and Testing
 - · Teachers/Staff will follow school leave policy
 - Non identified Contacts—Return to normal operations



Testing/Contact Tracing with Isolation/Quarantine

Core Principles: Isolation/Quarantine

- · Asymptomatic--Students/Teachers/Staff:
 - · Back to school/work 10 days after first positive test date
- Symptomatic--Students/Teachers/Staff:
 - · Back to school/work 10 days after first positive test
 - · 24 hours fever free (without use of fever-reducing meds)
 - And other symptoms have improved

Staying Home When Sick/Getting Tested Core Principles:

- · If you are sick:
 - · Stay home, except to seek medical care.
 - · Monitor for COVID-19 symptoms
 - · Get tested if COVID-19 symptoms present
 - Look for emergency COVID-19 warning signs; seek emergency medical care

Promoting COVID-19 Vaccination

Core Principle:

- Establish new, modify existing policies that promote vaccination
- · Share vaccine information among students, teachers and staff
 - Consider using current/former students/local leaders, local leaders, as promoters
 - Social Media is a great platform to maximize promotion effort

Food Service and School Meals

Core Principle:

- · Cafeteria: Maintain 6 ft physical distance between cohorts
 - when moving through the food service line and while eating (especially indoors)
- Classrooms: Meal should be taken in classroom when unable to maintain recommended distance



Utilize single use items and packaged meals when possible

Sports and Extracurricular Activities

Core Principle:

- Athletes/Coaches: Must wear face mask when not actively participating in athletic activity
 - Maintain 6 ft physical distance from others when not on the field of play; when engaged in play/activity, whenever possible
 - If unable to wear a mask, consider conducting the activity in a location with greater ventilation and air exchange, outdoors versus indoors, and where it is possible to maintain physical distance from others.

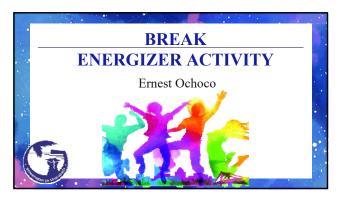
Transportation

Core Principle:

Schools in collaboration with the Department of Public Works, or other transportation providers, must adhere to the following:

- Seating arrangements based on maximum capacity that accommodates the capacity limitations of the school buses.
- Ensure physical distance between students and personnel on school buses, when possible.
- Open windows to improve ventilation when it does not create a safety hazard.
- School buses must be cleaned and disinfected prior to picking up students and upon completion of each route.





LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

Via Hand Delivery

and E-mail: speaker@guamlegislature.org

August 27, 2021

HONORABLE THERESE M. TERLAJE

Speaker, I Mina'trentai Sais Na Liheslaturan Guåhan 36th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

RE: Executive Order No. 2021-21

Hafa Adai Madame Speaker:

Pursuant to Public Law 34-16, transmitted herewith is the following Executive Order:

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2021-21: RELATIVE TO SUSPENDING IN-PERSON LEARNING AND AMENDING SOCIAL GATHERING RESTRICTIONS

Thank you.

Senseremente,

LESIME A. TRAVIS
Legal Counsel

Enclosure:

Executive Order No. 2021-21

cc via email:

Maga'hagan Guahan

Sigundo Maga'lahen Guahan

Hon. F. Philip Carbullido, Chief Justice of Guam

Compiler of Law Central Files Cabinet Members

> RICARDO J. BORDALLO GOVERNOR'S COMPLEX 513 W. Marine Corps Drive Hagâtña, Guam 96910 governor.guam.gov | (671) 472-8931



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2021-21

RELATIVE TO SUSPENDING IN-PERSON LEARNING AND AMENDING SOCIAL GATHERING RESTRICTIONS

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2020, I, Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, *I Maga'hågan Guåhan*, Governor of Guam, acting pursuant to the power provided by the Organic Act of Guam and the laws of Guam, declared a public health emergency in the island of Guam due to dangers posed by the 2019 novel coronavirus ("COVID-19"); and

WHEREAS, Guam's healthcare system is fragile, and our people have enhanced comorbidity factors when compared to other U.S. and international jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, on November 2, 2020, our COVID-19 hospitalizations in Guam peaked, with One Hundred Two (102) individuals hospitalized for conditions related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, our original threshold for COVID-19 hospitalizations at the Guam Memorial Hospital ("GMH") was twenty-seven (27) beds, and the drastic rise in cases resulted in overflow COVID-19 patients being treated at the Guam Regional Medical City ("GRMC") and the Naval Hospital Guam, and BLU-MED response tents were set up outside GMH to assist in the response effort; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the availability of these additional resources, the most scarce resource in Guam's response was, and continues to be, our human resources. With medical personnel stretched to their limits, GMH engaged the services of traveling nurses at significant cost; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Health and Social Services ("DPHSS") further received additional support from Guam Department of Education ("GDOE") school health counselors; the Guam National Guard has contributed substantially to multiple facets of our COVID response, including vaccination, testing and quarantine; and our local clinics have assisted in caring for non-COVID patients and in providing testing options for our people; and

WHEREAS, the efforts of our medical personnel are nothing short of heroic. They have served our community at great personal risk to themselves and their families, they have risen to meet an unprecedented challenge, and we owe them a debt of gratitude that can never be repaid; and

WHEREAS, many of these resources, which were critical in our response effort, that carried our island forward until vaccines became available, are no longer available for our use today; and

Guam Department of Education | Education Stabilization Fund - State Educational Agency



WHEREAS, traveling nurses are no longer available to service Guam due to the rampant spread of the virus in the mainland United States have returned to their posts at our schools, and many of our National Guardsmen have likewise resumed their other duties; and

WHEREAS, while I share in the frustration and the fatigue that many of you are experiencing as a result of this pandemic, which has disrupted our lives for a prolonged period of time, I also recognize that my frustration and fatigue cannot compare to the mental and physical exhaustion experienced by our medical personnel; and

WHEREAS, at the time of this writing there are thirty-three (33) patients hospitalized with COVID-19, including five (5) in intensive care and one (1) on a ventilator; and

WHEREAS, our health care workers are tired and overextended. In recent days, I have spoken with many of them, including doctors at GMH and GRMC, and it is clear that while they continue to perform their duties to the best of their ability, we need to do more as a community to help alleviate the strain on medical personnel, who work diligently to keep our community healthy; and

WHEREAS, despite the proliferation of misinformation and hesitancy surrounding COVID-19 vaccines, without question, these vaccines save lives and keep people out of the hospital; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 vaccines are widely available in Guam. They are safe, effective, and popular, with over 108,000 of our people having voluntarily received the vaccine; and

WHEREAS, of the 145 lives our island has lost to COVID-19, 144 were unvaccinated, and despite the fact that majority of our island is vaccinated, nearly eighty percent (80%) of individuals hospitalized in Guam today are unvaccinated; and

WHEREAS, unvaccinated people in Guam are 32 times more likely to be hospitalized with COVID-19 than those who are fully vaccinated; and

WHEREAS, our hospitals administer care to individuals hospitalized for COVID-19 regardless of their vaccination status or their personal doubts about the science surrounding the vaccine or the near uniform opinion of the medical community recommending vaccinations; and



WHEREAS, on August 14, 2020, pursuant to Executive Order No. 2020-27, I mandated the closure of schools for in-person learning. In-person learning has a demonstrable impact on the physical and mental well-being of our children, but our children under the age of twelve (12) are unvaccinated, and it is our responsibility to protect them, as we have taken steps to protect all unvaccinated members of our community. While it is true that there is no evidence of a cluster in a school setting, we simply cannot wait for that inevitability before we act. And so, with the concurrence of DPHSS and the Guam National Guard Surgeon Cell, in consultation with the GDOE and private school, and with a heavy heart, I am ordering the suspension of in-person learning in all K-12 institutions at this time; and

WHEREAS, a substantial number of our recent positive cases can be traced to social gatherings and congregate settings wherein mask use is compromised, including bars, weddings, boat cruises, and karaoke lounges; and

WHEREAS, on August 20, 2021, in Executive Order No. 2021-19, I ordered that unvaccinated individuals were not permitted to participate in social gatherings with individuals who are not members of their household, but permitted vaccinated individuals to continue to participate in social gatherings of up to 100 persons; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the fact that vaccinated individuals are far less likely to require hospitalization even if they contract COVID-19, with the concurrence of DPHSS and the Guam National Guard Surgeon Cell, in recognition of the fact that breakthrough cases among vaccinated individuals still occur, and because vaccinated individuals may still transmit the virus, it is necessary at this time to reduce the number of vaccinated individuals that may participate in social gatherings; and

WHEREAS, this additional measure is necessary to help our hospitals and our health care workers weather the current surge in hospitalizations among unvaccinated and vaccinated persons alike; and

WHEREAS, I encourage all eligible individuals to get vaccinated in order to protect our children and vulnerable populations.

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NOW THEREFORE, I, LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO, I Maga'hågan Guåhan, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam as amended, do hereby order:

- 1. SUSPENSION OF IN-PERSON LEARNING. Effective at 8:00AM on August 30, 2021, to preserve the health and safety of students, their families, school staff, and the public, pursuant to Section 3317, Article 3, Chapter 3 of Title 10, Guam Code Annotated, all public and private schools in Guam serving prekindergarten through 12th grade shall suspend in-person instruction and activities until amended by further executive order. The definition of habitual truancy pursuant to Article 4, Chapter 6, Title 17 of Guam Code Annotated is suspended. Student absences due to school closures and absences connected to the transmission of COVID-19 during the effect of this Executive Order shall not contribute to the calculation of habitual truancy. All athletics, after-school activities, inter-school activities and busing shall likewise be suspended during this time. Schools may open for faculty, staff and students, to facilitate distance learning and ensure operational continuity subject to applicable DPHSS Guidance and Directives. Schools will further be required to comply with applicable DPHSS guidelines.
- 2. SOCIAL GATHERINGS OR CONGREGATIONS. A "congregation" or "social gathering" is a meeting for a common and singular purpose of more than one (1) person where the individuals are not members of a single household. Effective at 8:00AM on August 30, 2021, social gatherings or congregations shall be limited to no more than ten (10) vaccinated persons indoors and twenty-five (25) vaccinated persons outdoors, unless otherwise provided herein or in applicable DPHSS guidance. Unvaccinated persons may not participate in social gatherings with individuals who are not members of their household. This section shall apply to all individuals twelve (12) years plus one (1) month of age.
 - PLACES OF WORSHIP. Places of worship may continue services, ceremonies, and operations as provided in Executive Order No. 2021-16, but must strictly comply with requirements provided in applicable DPHSS guidance, including mask-wearing requirements.
 - 2. For purposes of this section "vaccinated" means having received the first shot of a recommended series of vaccination with a vaccine authorized to prevent COVID-19 by the United States Food and Drug Administration, including by way of an emergency use authorization, or by the World Health Organization (WHO).



- 3. ENFORCEMENT. Individuals and businesses who fail to comply with applicable DPHSS Guidance Memoranda and Directives may be subject to fines pursuant to 10 G.C.A. §19802 and 26 GAR Chapter 4 Article 28, as well as any other penalties available under Guam law. DPHSS and affected agencies may enforce applicable enforcement statutes and regulations with the assistance of the Guam Police Department.
- 4. SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this Executive Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Order that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end, the provisions of this order are severable.
- 5. PRIOR ORDERS REMAIN IN EFFECT. All prior Executive Orders remain in full force and effect except to the extent they conflict with this Order.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam, this 27th day of August, 2021.

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO

Maga'hågan Guåhan Governor of Guam

Low Som M

Attested by:

ÍOSHUA F. TENORIO

Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan

Lieutenant Governor of Guam

https://mvariety.com/news/13-guam-public-schools-report-covid-19-cases/article_a26100e0-010e-11ec-8c48-431fb476e24b.html

13 Guam public schools report Covid-19 cases

Jolene Toves - For Variety Aug 20, 2021



School buses depart Untalan Middle School in Barrigada Guam on Friday afternoon. Photo by Haruo Simion/The Guam Daily Post

HAGÅTÑA (The Guam Daily Post) — The Guam Department of Education reported new cases at five schools Wednesday, raising the number of public schools with Covid-19 cases to 13.

Cleaning and sanitation were conducted and no public school will be closed because of Covid-19, according to JIC. The 37 new cases of Covid-19 that were confirmed Wednesday include five GDOE students — one case was reported at each of five affected schools. GDOE schools now have a total of 15 Covid-19 cases.

As of Aug. 17, a total of 106,108 or 77.85% of Guam's vaccine-eligible population age 12 years and older have been fully vaccinated, according to the Joint Information Center. This percentage includes 8,444 fully vaccinated residents between the ages of 12 to 17, as well as Guam's fully vaccinated adult population of 97,664.

In collaboration with the Department of Public Health and Social Services, GDOE has identified and notified teachers as well as parents of students who may have been in contact with the positive cases to schedule testing. Tested individuals will remain in quarantine until they are cleared by DPHSS to return to campus. Cleaning and disinfecting of areas of the campuses took place Wednesday to ensure schools are ready for regular hours of operation, according to JIC.

The following schools are affected:

- Adacao Elementary School, 1 case reported Wednesday, out of 390 students;
- Machananao Elementary School, 1 case reported Wednesday, out of 382 students;
- Agueda I. Johnston Middle School, 2 cases reported including 1 on Wednesday, out of 595 students;
- George Washington High School, 1 case reported Wednesday, out of 1,359 students;
- Okkodo High School, 1 case reported Wednesday, out of 1,395 students;

- Tiyan High School, 1 case reported Wednesday, out of 997 students;
- F.B. Leon Guerrero Middle School, 1 case reported out of 836 students;
- Finegayan Elementary School, 1 case reported out of 695 students;
- Harry S. Truman Elementary School, 1 case reported out of 296 students;
- Maria Ulloa Elementary School, 1 case reported out of 594 students;
- Upi Elementary School, 1 case reported out of 476 students;
- Vicente Benavente Middle School, 1 case reported out of 820 students; and
- L.P. Untalan Middle School, 2 cases were reported out of 806 students.

Quarantine

GDOE has confirmed that over 100 Untalan Middle School students were placed in quarantine in the first few days of school.

"At Untalan, it's more than a hundred students who are quarantined, and that's just a fact. Every school, we do have students who have been quarantined," said GDOE Superintendent Jon Fernandez.

As the number of positive cases increases in the community, he said, it's a given that the number of positive cases seen at the schools would also increase.

"It was evident as we approached the school year that we may see students or employees on campus who are identified as positives through the course of the school year. In those first days, we've been very transparent in reporting our cases and we were able to report the cases that we found at our schools," Fernandez said.

When GDOE initially received the reports, they worked closely with the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services on the response.

"Public Health has requested that we take what I would say is an overly cautious approach in these first weeks as we start to bring kids back," Fernandez said.

At the elementary level, entire classes were identified as contacts for quarantine and testing, including the teacher.

But at the secondary level, the broader approach to contact tracing is disruptive, as was seen at UMS, where students attend six to seven classes in a day.

"All of those classes were notified to go ahead and contact, quarantine and be tested including the teachers. It's very disruptive at the secondary level and it's the reason why we met with Public Health to really determine how we were going to proceed during these first weeks knowing that this approach is overly cautious in terms of trying to test," Fernandez said.

6-foot radius for close contacts

Fernandez said they will be adjusting going forward so that instead of looking at quarantining entire classes, the 6-foot radius would be used to identify the cluster of close contacts around the student.

Public Health will use class seating charts moving forward to identify a positive student's close contacts to limit effects on those who did not fall into the close contact category.

Without the results of the tests, GDOE can't determine if there was any spread of Covid-19 on the campus.

"Right now we don't have any indication of spread, what we have are initial reports of students that are positive and we are now in the midst of quarantining and testing contacts and then in a few days we should get the results so that we can then determine what's happening in our schools whether these protective measures are effective and then what to do going forward," Fernandez said.

To assist in the effort, GDOE and Public Health will be working together to train and authorize school nurses and other trained personnel to administer Covid-19 tests at schools as part of the rapid response. "That will help us get the testing schedule quickly and the results back quicker," Fernandez said.

Meanwhile students in quarantine are being afforded online learning opportunities while at home.

But, according to Fernandez, GDOE does not have the capacity to transfer student from face-to-face instruction to online learning.

"We understand that there are concerns and those concerns will probably fluctuate day-to-day but at this point we are allowing for them to switch at second semester. Simply because we don't have the teachers for online and we are already at capacity," Fernandez said.

https://www.postguam.com/news/local/islandwide-closure-of-face-to-face-learning-to-take-effect-on-monday-for-two-weeks/article_b7eb19e4-o6fb-11ec-8ae6-23oc7af5a661.html

Islandwide closure of face-to-face learning to take effect on Monday for two weeks

JOLENE TOVES | JOLENE@POSTGUAM.COM 27, 2021



RETURN TO CAMPUS: Students from John F. Kennedy High School exit their bus after school on Aug. 25. Schools were no learning two weeks ago but the governor is expecting to sign an executive order that would allow students to return to cam

On the eve before the Guam Department of Education was set to host a parents' input session on the COVID-19 situation islandwide, a decision has been made to close public and private schools for face-to-face learning.

https://www.postguam.com/news/local/islandwide-closure-of-face-to-face-learning-to-take-effect-on-monday-for-two-weeks/article b7eb19e4-06fb-11e...

This hasn't been confirmed by the Guam Department of Education or the governor's office but the Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce posted the information on its official website. The governor is a founding member of the women's chamber.

The governor is expected to deliver a special address later today.

Individual schools have also been informing their students' families about the pause in in-person learning.

School closures apply to both public, charter, and private schools. It will go into effect on Monday, Aug. 30.

The call to close schools islandwide for in-person learning came as a result of an increase in positive cases in the community.

On Aug. 26, 108 new cases of COVID-19 out of 1,349 tests performed were reported by the Joint Information Center. The island's COVID-19 Area Risk Score has increased dramatically from 7.7 to 25.2 in just a little over a week. It was also the third time in three days the positive cases hit the three-digit mark.

GDOE confirmed the same day that, more positive cases were identified, ten students and five employees.

To date, The JIC's school-level COVID-19 tracking data showed that 19 elementary schools, 7 middle schools and 5 high schools have identified positive cases since the start of the school year on Aug. 12. In total, 69 cases were identified out of a population of 19,034 students. According to GDOE the risk of exposure based on the schools' population in comparison to positive cases was 0.4%.

The school closures come after concerns from parents and the community called GDOE to take action in response to the rising community cases and keeping students safe.

GDOE on Sunday, engaged schools regarding the impending closure, teachers received communication to prepare for Operation Sin Kasu, which dictated their plan of action.

"To address possible scenarios "just in case" things change in the COVID-19 environment. All schools are involved in planning for these possible scenarios, which, at this time, include the possible shift to cohorts or a shift to 100% virtual." Superintendent Jon Fernandez previously said, "should there be a need to modify operations, all schools will be ready and prepared to execute their plans."

Daycare facilities and higher learning institutions such as the University of Guam and the Guam Community College will continue operations on Monday.

TAGS SCHOOL GDOE PRIVATE SCHOOL CLOSURE EDUCATION

JOLENE TOVES



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(/weather)

NEWS

Guidance released on latest executive order

Sunday, August 29th 2021, 9:46 AM ChST

By KUAM News



The Department of Public Health and Social Services has released guidelines for the governor's latest executive order. The governor's order bars those who are eligible for the vaccine but are unvaccinated from patronizing certain activities and businesses and reduced the number of participants for social gatherings.

Here's the Joint Information Center's breakdown.

Vaccination Requirements

- Covered Est
 - ablishments shall require individuals, including guests, patrons,
- performers, employees, volunteers, participants, and coaches who are twelve (12) years plus 1 month of age and older to show proof that they are vaccinated to enter their facilities or premises. Pursuant to Executive Order 2021-20, enforcement of this provision will commence on Monday, September 6, 2021.
- Organizers of contact sporting events must refuse to allow coaches and participants twelve (12) years plus one month of age and older who fail to show proof of vaccination status as provided herein from participating in any contact sports, trainings, or competitions. This does not apply to organized, non-contact sport activities or events.

https://www.k

n-latest-executive-order

- Individuals who do not provide proof of vaccination as required may not use indoor or outdoor portions of such facilities except to order, pick up, or pay for food or drink for take-out orders, provided such individual properly wears a face mask.
- Subject to exceptions listed in DPHSS Guidance Memo 2021-21, covered Establishments must ensure all employees who
 routinely work onsite provide proof that they are vaccinated before entering or working in any facility by September 27,
 2021.
- Individuals seeking a medical or religious exemption to vaccination shall submit an official request with supporting document(s) to publichealth@dphss.guam.gov, or delivered to Immunization Program of DPHSS, located in Castle Mall, Unit #9, 130 University Drive, Mangilao, Guam 96913, from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm., Monday through Friday except recognized Government of Guam holidays. Employee may continue to work while waiting for issuance of DPHSS exemption. Employees who receive medical or religious exemption shall be required to undergo a COVID-19 test once weekly.

Congregations and Social Gatherings

- Congregations and social gatherings shall be limited to no more than ten (10) vaccinated persons for indoor activities, and no more than twenty-five (25) vaccinated persons for outdoor activities. This includes guests, participants, coaches, patrons, performers, volunteers, or employees.
- There shall be no more than ten (10) vaccinated persons per group or table indoors, and no more than twenty-five (25) vaccinated persons per group or table outdoors.
- Each table shall be separated by a minimum of six (6) feet physical distance. When it is difficult to maintain a six (6) feet distance between groups or tables, physical barriers, which separate each group, must be installed. The top horizontal edge height of physical barriers must not be less than the top of the head of the tallest person of the group.
- Organizers of events, such as sporting events, concerts, outreach activities, night markets, fiestas, food truck rallies, and
 other similar events are responsible for implementing and enforcing the minimum requirements set forth in applicable
 DPHSS Guidance Memorandum and this document.
- Unvaccinated individuals twelve (12) years plus one month of age and older may not participate in social gatherings with individuals who are not members of their household.
- Children under twelve (12) years and one month of age may attend social gatherings.
- A party/group of individuals numbering 11 or more for indoors, or 26 or more for outdoors, shall not attend or participate in the same event by claiming to be separate party/group to circumvent Executive Order 2021-21 or this Memorandum.

In-Person Learning

- All public and private schools serving pre-kindergarten through 12th grade shall be suspended for in-person instruction
 and activities, except to conduct activities that support distance learning, such as curbside pick-up, delivery of materials
 and documents, use of facilities by students, faculty and staff to facilitate distance learning, and teachers utilizing their
 classrooms to conduct virtual classes, provided that they adhere to minimum requirements set forth in DPHSS Guidance
 Memorandum 2021-19 (Revision 2) regarding social distancing, wearing of masks, etc, and the requirements in this
 Memorandum pertaining to congregation and social gatherings.
- All athletics, after-school activities, inter-school activities, and busing shall be suspended.

You can read the complete guidelines here:

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SUPPORT OUR MISSION





LOGIN

CORONAVIRUS

Guam's DODEA schools stay open, public schools go remote amid coronavirus surge

BY ALEX WILSON • STARS AND STRIPES • SEPTEMBER 1, 2021



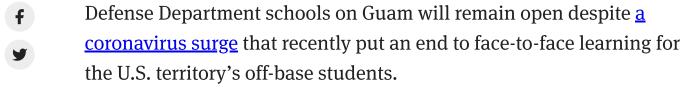
DODEA-Pacific's "Return to School Plan 2021" outlines the agency's coronavirus mitigation efforts, which include vaccinations, masks, social distancing and sanitation procedures. (Pixabay) https://www.stripes.com/covid/2021-09-01/guam-dodea-schools-coronavirus-covid-19-2738273.html



~ 3 min



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Military children will continue learning in classrooms, at least while the island's military health protection condition remains at Bravo,

according to Joint Region Marianas and the Department of Defense Education Activity - Pacific Far East.

Bravo indicates the virus has a moderate risk of spreading.

"Across our country, our region, and the Pacific theater, cases of COVID-19 are climbing," Rear Adm. Benjamin Nicholson, commander of Joint Region Marianas, said in a news release Wednesday. "My team and I are closely monitoring the infection rate in the local DOD community and the DODEA-Guam schools and are prepared to implement more stringent mitigation measures should the need arise."

U.S. bases in the region had 126 active cases of COVID-19, the coronavirus respiratory disease, as of Wednesday, with 84% of active-duty military personnel fully vaccinated, according to an email to Stars and Stripes from joint region spokeswoman Lt. Cmdr. Katie Koenig. The region includes Naval Base Guam and Andersen Air Force Base.

A DODEA spokesperson did not immediately respond to an emailed request for comment Wednesday.

DODEA-Pacific's "Return to School Plan 2021" outlines the agency's coronavirus mitigation efforts, which include vaccinations, masks, social distancing and sanitation procedures.

Schools would close and students would be taught by remote learning if the health protection condition level is raised to Charlie, one level below the most extreme condition, Delta, according to the school plan.

While DODEA schools will stay open, the remainder of the island's schools are turning to remote learning in response to rising COVID-19 cases. Guam Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero by executive order Friday mandated that all classes, from prekindergarten to 12th grade, must refrain from in-person education.

Guerrero said coronavirus cases increased by 300% and 35 people were hospitalized in the two weeks prior to Aug. 26.

The island had confirmed 10,740 COVID-19 infections and 150 deaths during the pandemic, according to Guam's Joint Information Center.

There were 181 cases and one death announced on Wednesday evening.

"I am receiving messages and calls concerning the fears and anxieties that our parents, teachers, and students are facing because of the increase in positive cases," Guerrero said in a televised statement Friday. "I recognize that our children's education is critical, but my concern for their protection comes first."

Guam has vaccinated 80% of its eligible population, or more than 108,000 people, Guerrero wrote in last week's executive order. She said the highly contagious delta variant, however, is complicating efforts to beat back the virus' continuin

"Despite our community's best efforts to get vaccinated, the delta variant has proven to be a new and different enemy — it is not like the COVID of 2019 or 2020," she said in her address.

"It is far more contagious and more harmful. While the vaccine won't prevent you from getting or spreading the virus, it will help keep you out of the hospital."

ALEX WILSON





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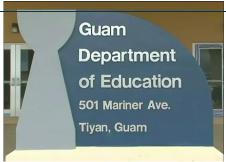
NEWS

More than a thousand GDOE students haven't shown up for class since start of school year



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(/weather)



Over a thousand students remain unaccounted for attending classes in person and online since the start of the school year.

Recently, the Guam Department of Education reported that a thousand students have not shown up to classes for both models of learning whether it's remote learning or face-to-face instruction since School Year 2021-2022 began.

According to GDOE Deputy Superintendent of Community Learning and Accountability Erika Cruz, the agency is working to address that issue with the help of School Resource Officers and social

"And so we have deployed our SRO's a few of our social workers, have now been assigned to the Department of Public Health and Social Services to assist," she said. "So you know there is a handful of social workers that we are currently working with and then working with our SRO's to communicate."

Since the suspension of in-person instruction two weeks ago, it's unclear whether the numbers have gone up.

Cruz adds that she will provide an update at the next media meeting on the accurate number of no-show students this school year so far.

KUAM News archives show that in October of last year, there were nearly three thousand students unaccounted for.