

Date: October 1, 2020

Subject: Official Message from the State Director of Special Education

As we work together to address ongoing concerns related to COVID-19 and the impact on schools, communities, families, and students, we want to ensure that school communities across the state are connected with up-to-date guidance and information.

This notice is to alert you that, on September 30, 2020, the California Department of Education (CDE) posted updated guidance on CDE's "Special Education Guidance for COVID-19" webpage. The new guidance addresses several topics, including:

- Providing In-Person Specialized Supports and Services to Students with Disabilities
- Distance Learning
- New Requirements for the Description of How the Individualized Education Program Will be Provided Under Emergency Conditions
- Special Education Assessments
- Supporting Social-Emotional Wellness
- Updated Resources

The guidance can be reviewed on the CDE website at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/specialedcovid19guidance.asp>.

Should there be any questions related to this information, please contact SEDinfo@cde.ca.gov or the appropriate Focused Monitoring and Technical Assistance (FMTA) Consultant using the contact information provided on the California Department of Education FMTA Consultant Assignments by Region web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se/qa/fmtacncnt.asp>.

Thank you for your enduring commitment to serving our students.

Sincerely,

Heather Calomese, Director
Special Education Division