

Guidance for COVID-19 Remote Learning Flexibilities

On Jan. 14, Gov. Andy Beshear signed [Senate Bill \(SB\) 25](#) into law. SB 25 contains important provisions related to the educational response to the COVID-19 pandemic, specifically, provisions related to remote learning. As SB 25 contained an emergency clause, it is now effective.

Section 12 of SB 25 extends flexibility for school districts to use temporary remote learning due to significant absences of students or staff related to COVID-19. Districts can use up to 10 temporary remote learning days between Jan. 1 through June 30, 2022, to assign students at a school, grade, classroom or student group level to remote learning.

During temporary remote instruction, students must receive the minimum daily instruction provided in [KRS 158.060](#). During the 10 temporary remote instruction days, a district may not assign every student in the district to remote learning unless all students in the district are in a single facility.

Per SB 25, Section, 12(3), “Remote instruction may be provided to each school in a school district, including to a particular grade, classroom or group of students within the school, for up to 10 days per school under this section. **A school district shall not temporarily assign every student in the district to remote instruction under this section** unless all students in the school district are located in a single school facility.”

Remote learning days provided by SB 25 are separate and distinct from the 10 non-traditional instruction (NTI) days annually granted to districts under [KRS 158.070\(9\)](#).

Districts should continue to record the use of NTI days in Infinite Campus following the usual protocols. Specific guidance for recording COVID-19 remote learning days pursuant to SB 25 were released to district finance officers during their regularly scheduled meeting on Jan. 20.

Senate Bill 1 (2021) Section 7 Requirements

SB 25 did not impact the requirements of [Section 7 of SB 1](#) from the 2021 extraordinary session that required certified and designated classified staff to perform work duties on site during an NTI day, except for employees quarantined due to COVID-19 who can perform duties remotely. The following is the language from SB 1 of the 2021 extraordinary session:

“When a school district utilizes a student attendance day under an approved nontraditional instruction plan due to COVID-19, or utilizes remote instruction under Section 5 of this Act, all certified staff and any classified staff designated by the district shall be required to perform work duties on-site during the student attendance day, except for employees quarantined due to COVID-19 who the district determines can fulfill their job duties remotely.”

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Finally, Sections 13 and 14 of SB 25 extend flexibilities for school districts to re-employ retirees, both certified and classified, through June 30, 2022.

Questions may be emailed to Covid19@education.ky.gov.

Additional COVID-19 guidance can be found on the [Kentucky Department of Education's website](#).