

## Ohio Department of Health COVID-19 Supplemental Vision Screening Guidance Preschool/K-12 Schools

During the 2020-2021 school year, preschool/K-12 schools must ensure to comply with local Public Health Alert System guidelines, local advisories, and local school districts to determine when to initiate or resume vision screenings.

If a preschool and/or K-12 school have trouble conducting vision screenings according to this guidance, the school must notify ODH by utilizing the appropriate [2020-2021 COVID-19 Readiness Survey](#).

If the school is operating in a **100% VIRTUAL** or **HYBRID instruction model**, notify ODH of vision screening barriers using link <https://odhredcap.odh.ohio.gov/surveys/?s=4N7ARJF7CM>.

When	Mandatory	Recommended Best Practices
Before in-person vision screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School vision screening providers must ensure written policies are in place that minimally describe how school-based preschool and K-12 schools will comply with the following:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both the screener and child should ensure daily symptom assessment* is conducted before entering the school-based preschool and K-12 school to conduct the vision screening.</li> <li>• Review and follow policy to report screener or student who is suspected/confirmed of having COVID-19 infection, this information will help facilitate appropriate communication and/or contact tracing.</li> <li>• Implement all mandatory requirements for conducting screenings in the school, complying with public health orders, and any additional recommended best practices the school is using unless inability to screen has been reported to ODH.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Families of students unable to be screened due to remote learning should be encouraged to utilize the <a href="#">parent waiver</a> , <a href="#">Eye Specialist Report</a>, and/or <a href="#">Screening Results Documentation</a> and continue routine care through pediatric well-child visits.</li> <li>• Screeners suspected of having COVID-19 or exposed to COVID-19 should be encouraged to contact their health care provider.</li> <li>• School-based preschool and K-12 schools should consider daily temperature checks of screening staff and volunteers.</li> <li>• Schedule screener with staggered start/arrival time to reduce exposure.</li> <li>• Consider deep cleaning once/week.</li> </ul>

\*For example, fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea. Complete list located at CDC list of COVID-19 symptoms: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>.

When	Mandatory	Recommended Best Practices
Before in-person vision screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure staff have access to required face coverings and be trained in the use and disposal of face coverings.</li> <li>• If screening is being performed by a healthcare provider/nurse the PPE utilized should be based on the activity and those of vision screenings are considered moderate risk and require surgical face mask, gloves, and eye protection.</li> <li>• Both the screener and child should assure daily symptom assessment* is conducted before entering the school-based preschool and K-12 school to conduct the vision screening.</li> <li>• Address screeners who are in an at-risk group or who share a household with an individual in an at-risk group.</li> <li>• Ensure screeners who are symptomatic immediately notify their supervisor.</li> <li>• Ensure the school follows CDC guidance for any staff suspected or confirmed of having COVID: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html</a>.</li> <li>• If the screener(s) conducting the screening is symptomatic or has had close contact with a person with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, the screener should not enter school facilities or conduct screenings. If alternate screeners are not available, the screenings should be rescheduled. The screener should be given the CDC guidance for individual(s): <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html</a>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post visible and appropriate signage to communicate to the students that thorough sanitation procedures are in place and that screening will not be provided to students exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. Utilize the ODH Printable guidelines posters below:</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Clean Surfaces Poster</a></p> <p><a href="#">Cover Page Poster</a></p> <p><a href="#">Face Coverings Poster</a></p> <p><a href="#">Social Distance Poster</a></p> <p><a href="#">Symptoms Poster</a></p> <p><a href="#">Wash Hands Poster</a></p>

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When	Mandatory	Recommended Best Practices
Before in-person vision screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scheduled screening appointments are encouraged. Appointments should be scheduled such that there is an allowance for social distancing in the screening room and time for disinfecting between student screenings.</li> <li>The hands of both the screener and child should be washed/sanitized before each screening contact consistent with CDC guidance.</li> </ul>	
During the vision screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The screener must utilize appropriate facial covering or PPE during the visit. Students should wear cloth face coverings per State Health Orders.</li> <li>The screener must ensure a minimum of six feet between the student and screener except when necessary to complete a required component of the screening.</li> <li>Only individuals necessary to complete the screening should be in the room.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students coming to the school for screenings <b>are required to utilize</b> face coverings per state health orders, except for individuals who have trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face-covering without assistance.</li> <li>Consider scheduling screenings for students who have a <a href="#">underlying medical condition</a>.</li> <li>Physical barriers such as plexiglass or other surface is not recommended due to impact on vision screening results.</li> </ul>
Following the vision screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Screening staff must clean/disinfect any laptop, tablet, pens, occluders, or other equipment used by individuals during the screening visit.</li> <li>The hands of both the screener and child should be washed/sanitized after each screening contact consistent with CDC guidance.</li> <li>The screening staff must clean/dispose of face-covering at the end of each screening day. Face covering must be cleaned/ disposed of after each encounter with an individual who is later confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19, or whenever the mask becomes visibly soiled or wet such that it makes breathing difficult.</li> <li>The screening staff must follow their district policy when they learn of individuals with COVID-19 symptoms.</li> </ul>	

# Resources and Additional Information

## Public Health Advisory System

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/public-health-advisory-system/>

**Guidance based on community exposure, for individuals exposed to others with known or suspected/possible COVID-19** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html>

## CDC Cleaning/Disinfecting Information

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html>

## Responsible RestartOhio

For up-to-date information on sector-specific operating requirements, continued closures, and other resources related to the reopening of Ohio businesses, [click here](#).

The Ohio Department of Education and Ohio Department of Health in collaboration released a document "[Reset and Restart Education: Planning Guide for Ohio Schools and Districts.](#)"

The Ohio Department of Education has a dedicated webpage for Reset/Restart Education: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Reset-and-Restart>

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/using-ppe.html>

## Vendor Information

Here's the [webpage](#) that contains the information and lists of PPE vendors. The relevant parts of the page are posted below. See the DSA/DAS list at the bottom under Additional Resources.

## Ohio Emergency PPE Makers' Exchange

The [Ohio Emergency PPE Makers' Exchange](#), launched by the [Ohio Manufacturing Alliance to Fight COVID-19](#), is an online marketplace where organizations that need personal protective equipment (PPE) and related equipment can find a wide selection offered by Ohio manufacturers. This online exchange offers PPE and related equipment for health care workers, first responders, and small businesses. It's especially well-suited for organizations that may have lower-volume needs, such as nursing homes, police departments, and small business employers. The Alliance has screened to the best of its ability for only Ohio manufacturers, but it has not vetted each product and vendor. The Alliance also has created [this list of practical things](#) manufacturers need to be thinking about and do today to prepare for COVID-19.

## JobsOhio PPE Database

Several Ohio companies are working to increase the supply of in-demand medical PPE. [JobsOhio](#) has partnered with OMA, the Administration, and our Regional Network partners to assist. A list of manufacturers, distributors, and potential contract manufacturers to connect with these resources is available through JobsOhio's [Ohio Safe. Ohio Working](#) website.

## Additional Resources

In addition to the resources available via the Ohio Manufacturing Alliance and JobsOhio, the Ohio Development Services Agency and the Ohio Department of Administrative Services has compiled another [list of vendors providing various PPE is available here PDF](#).