

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs are designed with hands-on experiences in mind and providing these experiences is a major concern for Miami-Dade County Public Schools. Our goal is to continue providing all students equitable access to high quality CTE programs of study that provide the opportunity for students to earn dual enrollment credit, industry certifications, and work-based learning opportunities and is even more important during this time. Therefore, accessing and utilizing CTE facilities, equipment, and materials during a COVID-19 impacted school year will require additional protocols. CTE teachers must remain attentive to the alignment, appropriateness, and safety of the physical components of the program when considering the use of facilities and equipment at all times.

- Set up classroom and lab demonstrations on a 1-on-1 or in small groups so that students are not within 6 feet of each other.
- Set up desks so that students are not facing each other, instead facing ahead.
- Use signage, tape marks on the floor or place a desk or table between the demonstration area and the students to maintain social distancing.
- Lay out materials and supplies or they should be distributed by one person to students to ensure that the materials and supplies are handled by as few people as possible.
- Maintain social distancing at all times while students are gathering supplies and materials.
- Avoid sharing of equipment as much as possible.
- Wipe all shared equipment and machinery with a cleaning solution before and after each use.
- Sanitize equipment and machinery between each class session. This includes disinfection of high-touch surfaces (computer keyboards, mice) with EPA recommended disinfectants.
- Closing of school-based enterprises to outside clients may need to take place or social distancing and disinfection protocols will need to occur in order to stay open.
- Wearing of safety glasses are required in certain CTE subject areas and face masks can fog up glasses; therefore, face shields that cover the eyes, mouth, and nose may be feasible or adding a waterproof layer to safety glasses may work.
- Conduct classes or labs outside in the open air when weather permits. Learning that already takes place in the open air, such as in CTE Ag or Construction programs could likely continue.
- Include as much lab time as possible early in the school year in case schools need to pivot to a remote learning environment.

Sources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html>

<https://www.educationminnesota.org/EDMN/media/edmn-files/resources/AFT-K-12-Workplace-Checklist.pdf>

[High Quality CTE: Planning for a COVID-19 Impacted School Year, January 2020](#)

[COVID-19's Impact on CTE: Defining the Challenge and the Opportunity, June 2020](#)

[Safety Guide for Career and Technical Education, State of Washington, 2002](#). A Safety Resource Guide for All CTE subject areas. (dated, however a valuable resource that includes the safe use of tools)

[Colorado Laboratory and Safety Manual, 2011](#)

[Teacher Checklist for CTE Classrooms](#)