



Please Note: ECHO Education is committed to the safety of all students, parents, educators, and ECHO Education staff that travel with them on educational excursions and will update this page with information as necessary. Our sympathies go out to those affected by the current pandemic.

ECHO Education has been closely monitoring the progress of, warnings issued, and news reported on the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). We are following the advice and warnings issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as statewide health officials. Out of an abundance of caution, we issue here our company statement to: **1) inform participants** who are currently scheduled to attend an ECHO Education program of precautions and policies impacted by current health concerns, and **2) share our plan** regarding program-related alterations.

The CDC describes COVID-19 as a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. Symptoms include fever, cough and difficulty breathing. The CDC reports there are currently several cases of the virus in the United States.

INFORMATION FOR STUDENT, CHAPERONE, AND EDUCATOR PARTICIPANTS

1. Preventing the spread of germs, as issued by the CDC

- a. Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- b. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue then throw the tissue in the trash.
- c. Avoid touching your face, including your mouth and eyes.
- d. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- e. Stay home when you are sick, except to receive medical care.
- f. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

2. Activated Procedures, Including Postponement, in Response to Recommended CDC Preventative Actions

- a. Due to state and national health official's suggestions that people do not gather in groups of 10 or more, ECHO Education is postponing programs that were previously scheduled through April 15, 2020. Please read below for more information regarding program alterations.

3. Regarding Program Alterations Regarding Continued and/or Resumed Operation

- a. ECHO Education will *not* lead a group on tours from a city or to a city with a confirmed COVID-19 case. Operation in and travel to cities with such designation will resume after seven (7) days following an all-clear.
- b. Options following the cancellation, rescheduling, or change of program choice due to COVID-19 will be presented to, communicated with, and decided alongside the Administrator and Lead Teacher of the campus/contracted party. The school Administrator and Lead Teacher will be responsible for

communicating any changes to the teachers, parent chaperones, and parents of student participants who are registered to attend the scheduled ECHO Education program.

c. Should a student fall ill during the course of any continued as scheduled and/or rescheduled program, **they will be removed from the program, and a parent/legal guardian/or approved designated party will be required to come pick the student up immediately.** A teacher or the Administrator will be *required* to wait with the student until a parent or legal guardian arrives to pick them up. **Please note:** *This is already an existing requirement listed as a policy note in the initial contract agreed to between ECHO Education and the School; its enforcement will be expedited due to current health concerns.*

d. Should any adult (ECHO Education staff member, teacher, parent chaperone) fall ill during the course of any continued as scheduled and/or rescheduled program, they will be removed from the program, and will need to find transportation home.

e. ECHO Education will be supplying a mandatory letter to all contracted parties to distribute to registered participants of continued as scheduled and/or rescheduled programs. The document will require notification of any travel that has occurred to Level 3 countries. NO participant, including ECHO Education staff, school Teachers, Administrators, Students, and Parent/Adult Chaperones, will be permitted to participate on the day of their program without a signed copy of the document. (ECHO Education will send a PDF copy of the document to the contracted Lead Teacher for copying and distribution.) *This signed document will be required for any participant traveling on programs previously scheduled and/or rescheduled in the remaining months of the 2019/2020 season.*

INFORMTION FOR PARTNERING EDUCATORS AND ADMINISTRATORS

1. Operational Edits due to Declared State of Emergency in state of Texas

a. Definition of “Communal Transmission”- Communal Transmission of any virus refers to patients contracting the virus when the confirmed case(s):

1. have not traveled to or from countries designated as travel warning Level 2 or Level 3 by the CDC.
2. have not been in contact with a person confirmed to have previously had the virus/disease.

b. It is of utmost importance that any student, parent, teacher, or administrator that has displayed signs of *any* illness be prohibited from attending presently scheduled and/or rescheduled program. *Specific signs of COVID-19/Coronavirus illness include: fever, cough, and shortness of breath.*

c. Call ECHO Education COO, Ashley Rountree, to cover program alteration options and procedures.

d. At this time, ECHO Education will do their part to support state-mandated social-distancing by **postponing all scheduled programs through April 15, 2020. Programs are tentatively scheduled to resume on April 16, 2020.**

Please feel welcome to contact ECHO Education with any questions you may have. Contact information as well as further information from the CDC can be found on the following page. Thank you.

FURTHER RESOURCES ISSUED FROM THE CDC

**Right-Click any of the links below to learn more about the Coronavirus/COVID-19 Disease.*

Information for Travel: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>

Coronavirus confirmed in US: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>

Guidance for schools: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-for-schools.html>

Stop the Spread of Germs: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/stop-the-spread-of-germs.pdf>

ECHO EDUCATION CONTACT INFORMATION REGARDING COVID-19 DISEASE/CORONAVIRUS

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