Guidance for Overnight Field Trips

District/school staff, volunteers and students must follow applicable CDPH’s K-12 guidance and Cal/OSHA Employee Temporary Standards on overnight field trips.

How do we travel safely to and from a field trip?

Students and staff should follow all CDC travel guidance. In general, if students and staff are riding in a vehicle together:

- Masks are strongly recommended. Some districts and school may require masks while traveling.
- Keep windows open as much as possible. Turn the fan on high and set it to outdoor air.
- Encourage participants and staff who carpool to ride with the same people each time travel occurs.

If students take a school trip off-campus, should students wear mask indoors if the location they are visiting does not recommend masking?

Per CDPH guidance, face masks are strongly recommended. Some districts and school may require masks on field trips.

Can an exposed student who is staying in school as part of “test and stay”/modified quarantine go on a field trip?

Students who are in standard, home-based quarantine cannot go on field trips. Schools and districts can set policies that outline whether exposed students who are remaining in school can attend field trips.

Can unvaccinated students go on overnight field trips?

Schools and districts can set policies that require students to be vaccinated in order to participate in overnight trips. If unvaccinated students participate in overnight trips outside the Bay Area, they should follow CDC travel guidance for quarantine and testing upon return.

Should unvaccinated and vaccinated students be separated when making sleeping room assignments?

Schools and districts can choose to separate students based on vaccination status. Students and families may wish to request that vaccinated students share a room with other vaccinated students.

What are other considerations for sleeping arrangements?

Persons not from the same household should sleep in separate rooms or in consistent groups (i.e. same roommates each night) when feasible. Socializing with other school groups is strongly discouraged.
Should we test students before and after the field trip?

Schools and districts can choose to test students before, during or after overnight field trips.

What do we do if students develop symptoms of COVID-19 while on the field trip?

Schools should develop a protocol for isolating and testing students who develop symptoms of COVID-19 during an overnight trip. Schools should also have a protocol in place for returning a student who tests positive for COVID-19 home safely.

Who should quarantine or test after travel?

Students and staff who travel outside the Bay Area should follow CDC recommendations for quarantine and testing after travel.