



Regional Enrichment Centers (RECs) Overview

What is a Regional Enrichment Center (REC)?

A REC is a safe, enriching place created by the New York City Department of Education designed to alleviate the need for childcare during the city's COVID-19 response.

The approximately 100 RECs will each offer remote instruction, 3 hot meals a day, and childcare, along with art, music, and physical education. RECs include early childcare centers in addition to K-12 sites, and will be located in every school district.

The first tier of outreach will be to health care providers, first responders, and key transit workers. As we move forward we will seek to include additional other essential service providers and children in shelter.

In the best interest of our medically fragile students, we do not recommend they attend REC sites and are working with the Department of Health to ensure they have continuous medical services.

When will they open?

RECs will open for operation on Monday, March 23, 2020.

How can I enroll my child?

The DOE will be reaching out to first responders, transit and healthcare worker unions and partner organizations/agencies to help enroll their children through an easily accessible online form. A response will be generated back to the family with the offered site and we will prioritize geographical proximity to their residence.

What will a typical day look like?

Hours of Operation: 7:30 am – 6:00 pm

Tentative Program schedule:

- Morning: Remote Learning Opportunities
- Afternoon
 - Arts
 - PE & Sports (3-6pm)

How will you keep RECs safe?

The health and safety of staff members and students remains our highest priority. All social distancing protocols will be followed at RECs, including maintaining 6 feet of distance between people and limiting classrooms to less than 12 students. Anyone who is sick should stay home. Sites will be regularly cleaned and disinfected.

Who will be staffing these sites?

REC centers will be operated by dedicated DOE staff, as well as staff from our partners at dozens of Community-Based Organizations. We are grateful to the numerous DOE employees who have already offered to help staff these sites.