

# Fall ABE Program Planning Discussion

## Welcome!

We'll begin at 1:30.

Everyone is currently muted to reduce background noise.

If you are having any tech issues, chat to Karla Vien.

Link to the slides and handouts will be posted on the MNABE website.

## Before We Begin

**Please introduce yourself in the chat and share one thing you're doing to take care of yourself and those around you.**

# Recording Today's Session

Does anyone have concerns about recording today's session? If not, we will record and will post the recording and chat log on [www.mnabe.org](http://www.mnabe.org) under "State ABE Presentations"



# Fall ABE Program Planning Discussion

Wednesday, August 12, 2020  
1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

A scenic autumn forest path with vibrant orange and red foliage. The path is covered in fallen leaves, and the trees on either side are in full autumn color. The scene is captured in a soft, painterly style.

# Facilitators

**Astrid Liden  
Jodi Versaw  
Julie Dincau  
Brad Hasskamp**



# Agenda

- 1. Introductions**
- 2. Review of Guidance & Key Advice**
- 3. Poll: Checking in on Fall Plans**
- 4. Exploring Issues**
- 5. Questions**

# Caution

We are here to facilitate the conversation. We may be able to answer questions about the guidance. The details of interpreting and implementing the guidance will need to be worked out with your organization or district.







# Guidance

- Safe Learning Plan
- MDH 2020-2021 Planning Guide for Schools
- MDE 2020-21 School Year Planning Guidance
- Governor's Executive Order 20-82

# To see our breakdown of the MDE and MDH guidance

## Minnesota Adult Basic Education

- Home

- About ABE in MN

- ABE delivery system

- ABE instruction

- ABE content standards

- Career pathways

- Distance learning

[Home](#) / [Materials from Recent State ABE Presentations](#)

### Materials from Recent State ABE Presentations

#### COVID-19 Updates and Discussion Webinar

Tuesday, August 4, 2020 Discussion Webinar materials

- [Recording](#)
- [Slides](#)

We walked through the updated guidance in our COVID-19 and ABE Updates Webinar on August 4, 2020.

Go to [www.mnabe.org](http://www.mnabe.org) and click on “State ABE Presentations.”



# Safe Learning Plan for 2020-21: Components



# Learning Model Parameters

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Number of cases per 10,000 over 14 days, by county of residence	Learning Model
0-9	In-person learning for all students
10-19	In-person learning for elementary students; hybrid learning for secondary students
20-29	Hybrid learning for all students
30-49	Hybrid learning for elementary students; distance learning for secondary students
50+	Distance learning for all students

# Local Factors: Requirements for In-Person & Hybrid Learning

## Required for In-Person and Hybrid Learning

- ☐ Masking Policy
- ☐ PPE for direct support student services
- ☐ Build routines of hygiene education & practices
- ☐ Daily cleaning and frequent cleaning of high touch surfaces throughout the day
- ☐ Building level COVID-19 program coordinator, with optional student counterpart
- ☐ Limiting nonessential visitors/volunteers/external groups
- ☐ Discontinue large gatherings/activities that do not allow for social distancing
- ☐ Monitoring and excluding for illness

## Required for Hybrid Learning

- ☐ Social distancing of 6 feet at all times in school buildings
- ☐ School facilities at 50% capacity
- ☐ Transportation at 50% capacity
- ☐ Sufficient staffing levels to meet the requirements of the model



# Key Advice for ABE Programs

- Work with your organization's/district's leadership to determine a plan for ABE programming.
- Work to be a voice for your ABE program, staff and students with your larger organization. Advocate for access to masks, face shields, COVID testing, and other supplies for cleaning and PPE.
- It is allowable to spend state and federal ABE funds on masks, cleaning supplies and any other supplies necessary to comply with MDH guidance for in-person programming.
- Have a plan to address roles for staff that identify as high risk.
- ABE is free to choose a more restrictive model than the local district. If you want to pursue a less restrictive model, do so cautiously and with support from leadership.
- Develop hybrid and distance learning models even if you are going to offer in-person instruction this fall. Build models that will serve as many students as possible with high quality education options (not just now but for the future).

Poll: What  
learning model(s)  
are you planning on  
using in  
September?

## Options

- Distance only (no in-person instruction offered)
- Hybrid
- In-person
- Undecided

*(Note: All programs should have some distance education option available.)*

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# Fall ABE Planning Issues





# Issue: Face masks/shields & COVID tests


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“The count for face masks and face shields and teacher COVID saliva tests available from the state includes only K-12 students and staff.”

We encourage you to talk with your district and organizational leadership to ask if you can get face masks/shields and/or COVID saliva tests provided through the district/organization or some other source.

Reminder: If you choose to provide face coverings, you may use your ABE funds to purchase them.

# Discussion: Face masks/shields & COVID tests

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- A pair of blue nitrile gloves is shown holding a white surgical mask with green trim. The mask is being held up, and the gloves are positioned on either side of it. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.
- Have you had conversations with your district/organizational leadership about this?
  - How successful have you been at obtaining face masks, face shields and/or tests through them?

# Issue: Programs covering multiple counties



If a district is in more than one county, must use the higher COVID case numbers as a guideline.

*Note: ABE consortium is not a district*

Discussion:

- Is this a factor in your consortium? If so, how are your ABE programs thinking of this issue as a consortium or site-by-site in a consortium?



# Issue: Shared ABE Space



- A. How are you **working with your partner organization** around use of the space (e.g. school district, college, correctional facilities, CareerForce)?
- B. Is the organization proposing **other practices or rules** for potential in-person programming?
- C. In shared spaces, when and how will **screening and cleaning** happen?

# Issue: Hybrid Programming Models

A person is holding a laptop in front of a bookshelf. The laptop screen displays the words "learning school" in a white, chalk-like font on a dark background, mimicking a chalkboard. The person's hand is visible on the left side of the laptop. The background is a blurred bookshelf filled with books.

learning  
school

- A. What **hybrid programming model(s)** are you planning/exploring?
- B. How will your hybrid programming be **structured**?

# Issue: Technology

- A. What strategies have you used (or do you plan to use) to serve **learners who have no or limited access to devices and/or internet?**
- B. Are you **lending technology** to students (or considering it) and how are you implementing this?
- C. What other **funding sources or partnerships** have you tapped for supporting technology and internet access for learners (e.g. districts, CARES Act funding)?



# Issue: Staffing

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- A. How are you thinking about plans or options for **staff that are at risk (or have household members who are at risk)**?
- B. How are your **unions** involved?
- C. How are you planning **hiring** and setting up roles or positions for fall?

The CDC considers the following individuals to be at **high risk** for severe illness due to COVID-19:

1. Are 65 years and older
2. Have underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well-controlled, including:
  - Chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
  - Serious heart conditions
  - Compromised immune system
  - Severe obesity (body mass index of 40 or higher)
  - Diabetes
  - Chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
  - Liver disease
  - Hemoglobin disorder



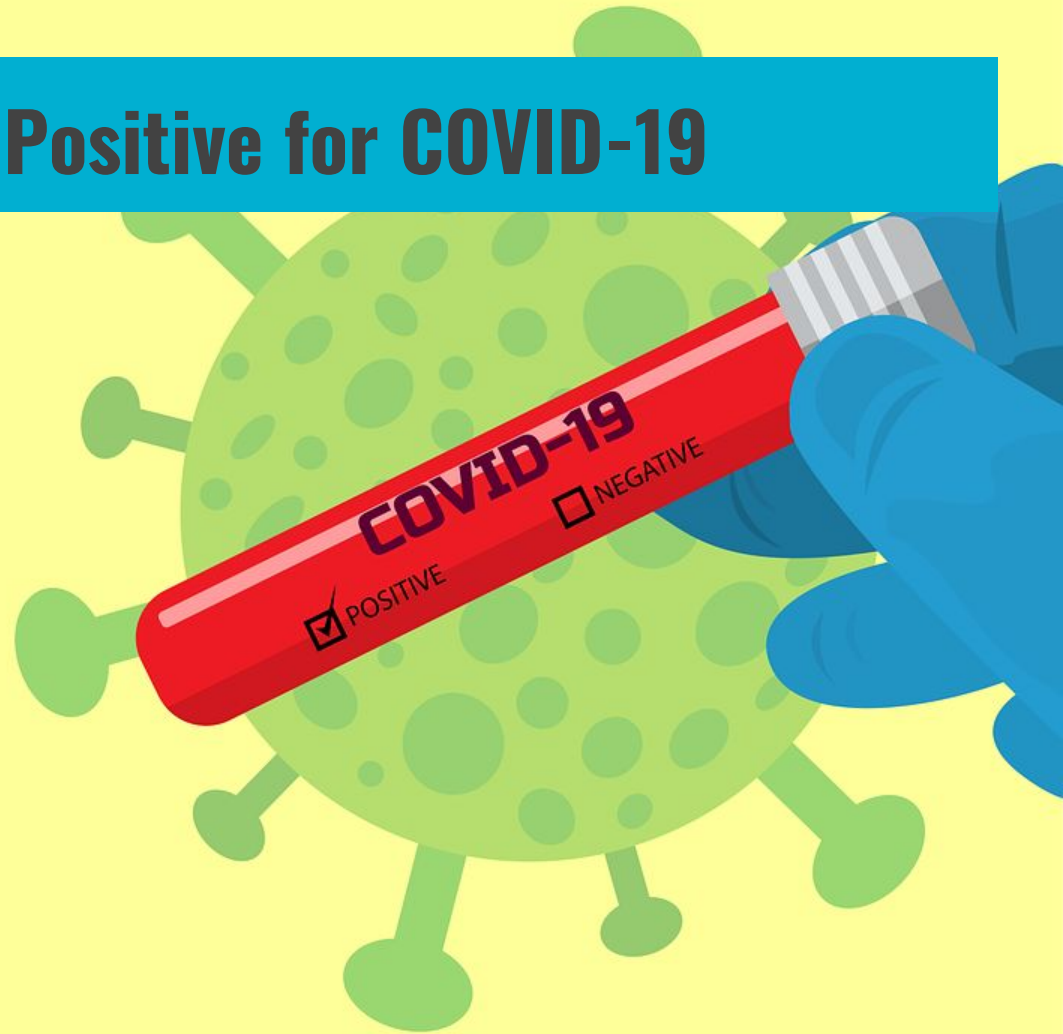
# Issue: Screening

- A. What procedures are you using to screen students, staff and visitors entering your ABE program space?
- B. How are you communicating your screening procedures to those entering the space?
- C. What screening resources can you share, including multilingual resources?



# Issue: If Someone Tests Positive for COVID-19

- A. A COVID-19 diagnosis is considered **private information**.
- B. In your **organization's plan**, are there expectations of you and your ABE program in preparing if a someone in the building does test positive for COVID-19?



## Issue: Revisiting Your Learning Model(s)

- A. How often is your **district/organization reviewing the data** and potentially making changes to their learning model(s), if known?
- B. When might your ABE program **revisit or change** the learning model(s) you are starting with in September?

# Issue: Staff & Student Well-being

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In what ways are you and your colleagues supporting each other and your students during this challenging time?





Other questions  
about fall program  
planning?



# Thank you!

## Next Steps?

- We encourage you to continue the discussion and share resources on the COVID-19 Schoology Group.
- The recording, slides and handouts will be posted on the MNABE website.

