

2019 Wisconsin Act 185 Survey Report on Virtual Instruction

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WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Carolyn Stanford Taylor, State Superintendent

What is Act 185?

2019 Wisconsin Act 185 is the State's legislative response to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting public health emergency

- Public health emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (March 12)
- [Order for Statewide School Closure](#) issued by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (March 13)
- [2019 AB 1038](#) introduced on April 13 and signed into law on April 15 as [2019 Act 185](#) (Act 185).
- Act 185 contains a requirement that all school districts report specified information about the impacts of school closures, referred to as the “Virtual Instruction Report” [Section 105 (3)]

Virtual Instruction Report

Under Act 185

- School boards are required to report to the Department of Public Instruction (DPI), **by November 1, 2020**
- Required information to be reported:
 - ✓ Delivery of virtual instruction to students by public schools during the period of school closures
 - ✓ Meals served to students during the school closures
 - ✓ Fiscal and staffing impacts of the public health emergency and school closures on school district operations
- DPI will be using the information from the school district reports to produce the required state report to the Legislature by January 1, 2021.
- The report will also be posted on DPI's website.

Virtual Instruction Report

Data Collection Tool

- DPI has developed a Qualtrics survey as the tool for collecting data required under Act 185 (i.e., the “Act 185 Survey”)
- Survey was recently sent to all school district administrators
- Survey includes additional questions intended to provide context for school district responses to the required data elements
- Gathering this contextual information will help provide a more comprehensive picture of the impacts of school closures resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic public health emergency

Act 185 Survey

Survey Logistics

- The Act 185 Survey can be accessed via a link embedded in the notification email sent to school district administrators
- Survey questions can be previewed on [DPI's 2018 Act 185 webpage](https://dpi.wi.gov/policy-budget/2019-act-185-survey) [<https://dpi.wi.gov/policy-budget/2019-act-185-survey>]

School districts are encouraged to preview the survey questions to determine how to delegate data collection among district staff

- Preview documents can be shared with district staff to facilitate gathering the information to respond to survey questions ([PDF](#) and Word versions)
- One individual in the school district should be designate the primary contact for the survey, to facilitate communication between school district and DPI

Act 185 Survey

Survey Questions

- Let's walk through the [PDF](#) version of the survey ...

Questions?

DPI's Act 185 Survey Web Page:

<https://dpi.wi.gov/policy-budget/2019-act-185-survey>

Text of 2019 Act 185 – Section 105: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2019/related/acts/185/105>

[See paragraph (3), “*Virtual Instruction; Reports and Guidance*”]

Summary of 2019 Act 185 (Legislative Fiscal Bureau Summary):

http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lfb/misc/120_summary_of_provisions_of_2019_wisconsin_act_185_4_20_20.pdf

DPI Contacts

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