



COMMISSIONER'S GUIDANCE ON INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS

Rule 11, Prekindergarten

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Matthew L. Blomstedt".

Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

01/12/2021

Commissioner's Guidance on Instructional Hours: Rule 11

Rule 11

Topic Summary: Prekindergarten Instructional Hours Guidance

Issue Date: January 12, 2021

Expiration Date: June 30, 2021

Due to the complexities of calculating instructional hours for prekindergarten classrooms, it has been determined that remote learning in prekindergarten classrooms qualifies the same as in-person classes for instructional hours. Remote learning may not be synchronous learning for prekindergarten and may not take as much time as in-person class. It would be inappropriate to expect preschoolers to attend to a distance learning schedule that is as long as an in-person preschool session; therefore, instructional hours cannot be measured the same way.

Schools should use judgement to determine the number of hours they are providing which must at minimum be a similar educational experience as required to meet the Rule 11 instructional hour requirements (at least 12 hours per week and/or 450 instructional hours per year). These hours should be reflected at the end of year, as is usual, through the End Of Year Consolidated Data Collection (CDC): Days in Session/Instructional Hours due June 30.