

How States are Addressing Learning Loss

Nearly one year after schools across the nation shut down in response to the coronavirus pandemic, policymakers and educators are looking at how to address one of the most consequential educational impacts of the pandemic: learning loss. According to a [study](#) published by McKinsey & Company, the average student is “likely to lose five to nine months of learning by the end of this school year,” with students of color being more acutely impacted. In response, policymakers at both the federal and state levels are taking action.

President Biden’s American Rescue Plan requires state education agencies (SEAs) and local education agencies (LEAs) to use a portion of their relief funding to address learning loss. Furthermore, more than 15 states have introduced legislation that attempts to mitigate or remedy learning loss. For example, in California [SB 723](#) has been introduced in the attempt to establish a tutoring program that will reduce learning loss. In addition to tutoring programs, decision makers across the country are looking at summer school and extending the school year to address learning loss. MWC has compiled a chart of how all 50 states are planning to address learning loss (either through legislation or other actions). This is an evolving issue as the federal money set aside for learning loss will help bolster the states’ ability to address learning loss, and MWC will update this chart as necessary.

State	2021 Legislation	Learning Loss Plans/Actions/ Statements
Alabama		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize that 'catch-up' will not be able to happen during normal school hours and all schools are encouraged to partner with community organizations to create new opportunities for summer and after school programs Chairman of the Senate Education Budget Committee Arthur Orr believes that summer school, extended school days, and tutoring will be ways in which Alabama school districts address learning loss State Superintendent of Education Dr Eric Mackey said LEAs will use money from ESSER II fund for summer school, before and after school tutoring, Saturday school programs, and other programs to help close the learning gap <p style="text-align: right;">Source; Source; Source</p>
Alaska		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All students will have the option to return to in-person education by March 15, but elementary students are prioritized Increase funding for public homeschooling The Department of Education will establish summer camps to boost reading, math and coding skills and to create an

		<p>apprenticeship program that will allow high school students to earn credit while working for local businesses</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Arizona	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$389 Million in the Governor's budget has been allocated to fund summer school, one-on-one tutoring and other reactive programs. The programs proposed will send half of the state's students to summer school for approximately 50 hours. <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Arkansas		
California	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start returning to in-person learning by March • Implement after school and summer school programs to help make up for the time lost • Expand high-quality transitional kindergarten programs • Legislation has been introduced that would establish a tutoring program to help address learning loss. <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Colorado	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colorado Governor Polis is encouraging the state legislators to pass legislation to address the issue • 28 school districts, education leaders, and community organizations sent a letter to Gov. Polis and Education Commissioner Katy Anthes calling for summer school and summer community-based programs to help with learning loss • Legislation has been introduced that directs the Department of Education "to identify educational products, strategies, and services that have demonstrated effectiveness in identifying and reversing student learning loss that has been caused by the suspension of in-person learning" <p style="text-align: right;">Source; Source</p>
Connecticut	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecticut Governor Lamont's budget would require LEAs to identify students that have experienced learning loss and develop a program to get them caught up. Republican House Minority Leader Vincent Candelora does not support this approach and said he hoped the Gov. would offer specific summertime programs to help address learning loss. Notably, the Gov.'s budget also freezes state education funds and instead proposes to use federal coronavirus funds. • Legislation has been introduced that would require the Department of Education to identify and provide individualized support for students whose attendance and participation dropped in the 2020-2021 school year • Legislation has been introduced that would require the state to identify and mitigate learning loss and require summer learning programs among other ways to address "issues created by the covid-19 pandemic on public education" <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>

Delaware		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor Carney said that “learning recover” is one of his biggest priorities. His Secretary of Education said the federal coronavirus relief money will help with “accelerated learning plans.” <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Florida	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Florida made it a priority for schools to reopen and most of them have been open for some time now A bill has been introduced appropriating funding for the City of Delray Beach – Learning Los Recovery <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Georgia		
Hawaii	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community groups are soliciting aid from teachers to compile electronic resources for lesson plans that will be accessible to students, parents and teachers Increasing available tutoring Expanding student connectivity Legislation has been introduced to implement afterschool programs to combat learning loss <p style="text-align: right;">Source; Source</p>
Idaho		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almost all Idaho districts are offering in-person or partially in-person education. The Governor plans to continue to invest in schools, literacy, and broadband connectivity. <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Illinois		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools are considering extending the school year The IL Education Superintendent Carmen Ayala is encouraging LEAs to using federal stimulus money to consider longer schools years and summer learning programs <p style="text-align: right;">Source; Source</p>
Indiana	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are plans to implement an Enrichment and Summer Education Program Legislation was introduced to create a learning recover grant program <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Iowa	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor Reynolds wants to work towards making open enrollment applicable in all districts to address the issue that some schools were in-person and some were solely remote Legislation was introduced to create a learning recovery task force <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Kansas		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The state department of education is review assessments and gauging learning loss. The Witchita school district is considering bringing back students earlier in the 2021-2022 school year or hold a summer STEM program. <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Kentucky		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On February 19, 2021, the Kentucky Department of Education provided guidance on how to use funds LEAs received from

		<p>the ESSER II fund. The guidance includes addressing learning loss</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Louisiana		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LA plans to resume statewide standardized testing in the spring to help determine the extent of the learning loss <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Maine		
Maryland	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hybrid In-person learning by March 1st Implement tutoring and summer learning programs Legislation has been introduced to require the Department of Legislative Services to contract with a consult to study and make recommendations regarding learning loss <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Massachusetts		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are plans to develop a weekly testing program for teachers, students & staff <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Michigan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are current conversations to consider the expansion of summer school and tutoring programs The superintendent is encouraging districts to go back to school, as long as COVID-19 cases remain low <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Minnesota	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand academic opportunities and mental health resources starting as early as summer 2021 through the following school year Legislation has been introduced to create and fund summer education programs and implement other actions to combat learning loss related to the pandemic <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Mississippi		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mississippi Department of Education is helping districts plan afterschool enrichment and summer learning opportunities <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Missouri		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Six-week summer school program for K-8 students There will be two summer school options offered for high school students later in the summer <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Montana		
Nebraska		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Several school districts around Omaha, NE plan to use tutors, summer programs, night school, and spring break programs to help address learning loss <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Nevada	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nevada is dealing with substantial budget cuts due to lost revenue from the pandemic. The state will be relying on CARES money to help support the education system, but how they plan to address gaps has not been stated. Legislation has been introduced that bill would authorize the board of trustees of each school district and the State Public Charter School Authority to submit to the Superintendent of

		Public Instruction a plan to address loss of learning that occurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic Source
New Hampshire		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School districts are using the CARES funding at their discretion to implement "robust" summer and fall programs to help remedy the learning lost over the past school year Source
New Jersey	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan to offer summer school and potentially to allow parents to request that their children repeat a grade, if necessary Legislation has been introduced to require the Commissioner of Education to prepare a learning loss report Legislation has been introduced that would establish a "Bridge Year Pilot Program" for students impacted by the pandemic Legislation has been introduced that would establish a learning loss grant program to help schools address learning loss Source
New Mexico	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-person hybrid learning resumed in February Legislation has been introduced that would require schools to extend the school calendar. Another bill would require schools to extend the length of the school day. Source
New York		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The New York Education Department has made a variety of resources available to parents and school districts, to help support learning and to combat chronic absenteeism Source
North Carolina	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have students return to in-person education as soon as safely possible Lawmakers are currently considering legislation that would fund remedial summer school Source
North Dakota		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State Superintendent Kirsten Baesler has suggested a number of proposals to address learning loss, including high-impact tutoring and adjustments to the school calendar Source
Ohio		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor DeWine has stated that he expects school districts to come up with plans to address academic learning loss by April 1st Governor DeWine anticipates "robust summer learning programs" to be implemented Source
Oklahoma		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On January 15th Learn Anywhere Oklahoma re-opened to allow Prek-12 students access to a variety of digital resources

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programs can be accessed and utilized by school districts in the coming Spring, Summer and Fall semesters <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Oregon	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department of Education in Oregon has put out clear guidelines stating that school districts may not hold any student back due to educational impacts as a result of closures due to COVID-19 School districts are being asked to develop a Credit- Earning Assurance plan, which "may include but are not limited to academic support courses, consolidated/combined content courses, personalized academic tutoring, summer school, online course offerings, peer tutoring, zero period learning opportunities, and/or project-based learning opportunities" Legislation has been introduced that requires each LEA to evaluate and report the instructional needs of students as relates to COVID-19 <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
Pennsylvania	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor Wolf is asking for a 12 percent increase in education funding in the state budget, in part to help address learning loss Acting Education Secretary Noe Ortega announced that PA is seeking a waiver to postpone standardized tests until the fall. The state department of education has suggested it will roll out tools to address learning loss in March Legislation has been introduced that requires the Joint State Government Commission to conduct a study on the academic impact of COVID-19 <p style="text-align: right;">Source; Source</p>
Rhode Island		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Rhode Island Department of Education assembled a learning loss task force. The Learning, Equity and Accelerated Pathway Take Force will release recommendations on March 16. <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
South Carolina		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The South Carolina Department of Education completed a study to get a better understanding of learning loss and will provide the results to the LEAs. LEAs will be required to create an academic recover plan. <p style="text-align: right;">Source</p>
South Dakota		
Tennessee	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor Lee encouraged school systems to offer tutoring, after-school camps, summer learning camps and screening tools Governor Lee called a special legislative session to address learning loss in reading and math The legislature in TN introduced numerous bills to address learning loss. Enacted legislation requires LEAs to implement a program of after-school learning mini-camps, learning loss

		bridge camps, and summer learning camps to address learning loss. Source
Texas		
Utah		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Utah State Board of Education has asked lawmakers for \$260 million to address learning loss by providing summer and after-school programs as well as social-emotional instruction Source
Vermont		
Virginia	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor Northam wants in-person learning opportunities for students in place by March 15th The Northam Administration is also working to provide resources to local school districts so that they may extend the school year into the summer The Virginia Department of Education is putting together a workgroup on learning loss, which will include discussion on flexible school calendars The Virginia budget includes funding to address learning loss Source
Washington	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The state superintendent has stated that school districts must submit a reopening plan by March 1st, with information on how they are going to address learning loss, if they want to receive the federal stimulus money A bill introduced in the legislature calls for using federal money to extend the school year for several LEAs Source
West Virginia		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beginning in January, K-8th grade schools must offer a minimum of 2 days a week of in-person education State Superintendent Clayton Burch said the state is looking at four to six week long learning loss programs in the summer. He said they would also look at enhancing existing remediation programs. Source ; Source
Wisconsin		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deputy State Superintendent Mike Thompson said that state is looking at various strategies, including tutoring, after-school programming, and extended summer school Source
Wyoming		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Superintendent Craig Hoekstra said the state will use COVID-19 relief money to offer summer programs. He is also working school administrators to evaluate the needs of students related to learning loss Source