

Released July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020**Schools will re-open full-time in September 2020 – here's what you need to know****Today, the government announced that all publicly funded schools will re-open in September.**

- All publicly funded elementary schools will resume in September, in class, full-time, five days a week
  - Class sizes will remain at the mandated maximum levels in place before the COVID-19 outbreak
- Most secondary school students will split their time between the classroom and online learning
  - Secondary students in “designated boards” in areas with relatively high student populations (higher risk) will attend school on alternating days, in cohorts of 15 students
  - Schools with lower student populations (lower risk) will return to the classroom full-time
- Parents will be able to opt their children out of in-person classes, at their discretion. Children with special education needs who struggle with remote learning will be allowed to attend school daily
- Schools can offer clubs and organized sports if physical distancing is possible and spaces are cleaned and disinfected between each use

**Call a member of our team for advisory support to address employee concerns and accommodation strategies!****Personal Protective Equipment**

The provincial government has committed \$309 million to the education plan for PPE, staffing, cleaning supplies, health and safety training, lab testing capacity, additional public health nurses, mental health supports and students with special needs

- Students in Grades 4 through 12 will be required to wear a non-medical mask or cloth face covering while at school
- For younger learners, masks are recommended, but will be optional
- All educators and staff will be equipped with necessary PPE including medical masks

**Childcare**

Licensed child care centers will be permitted to operate at full capacity beginning September 1, 2020

- All child care staff will be required to wear masks at all times
- Screening measures will be established for staff and children entering the childcare facilities
- Parents and guardians have until August 31, 2020 to apply for Support for Families. Under this program, parents or guardians of children between 0-12 years old, or up to 21 years old for children and youth with special needs, are eligible for a one-time payment, per child, to purchase educational materials to support learning at home.

For more information on this program, visit [https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-support-families?\\_ga=2.241280898.1885658026.1596111480-1619342899.1541008156](https://www.ontario.ca/page/get-support-families?_ga=2.241280898.1885658026.1596111480-1619342899.1541008156)

For more information on Ontario's approach to reopening schools for the 2020-2021 school year, visit <https://www.ontario.ca/page/approach-reopening-schools-2020-2021-school-year>

**Register Today**

**HRPAR & Barrie Chamber of Commerce presents...**

**1-hour Free Zoom Webinar**  
**Top 5 strategies to ensure that your employees are and feel safe in your workplace**

Date: August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Time: 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

In times of crisis, it's essential to not lose sight of your human side or your company's cultural values. Instead, channel them into positive strategies and actions that will protect your employees' well-being and improve your workplace culture over the long term. Join us for an informative session on the top 5 strategies to ensure that your employees are and feel safe in your workplace.

To register, go to <http://barriechamber.chambermaster.com/events/details/free-workshop-top-5-strategies-to-ensure-that-your-employees-are-and-feel-safe-in-your-workplace-4957>



**Sector-specific Health & Safety Guidelines, Posters and Tip Sheets**  
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/resource-s-prevent-covid-19-workplace>

**Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS)**  
<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/subsidy/emergency-wage-subsidy.html>

**COVID-19 Self-Assessment**  
<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>

**When and How to Properly Wear a Mask**  
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/when-and-how-to-use-masks>

**How to Properly Wash Your Hands**  
[https://www.who.int/gpsc/clean\\_hand\\_s\\_protection/en/](https://www.who.int/gpsc/clean_hand_s_protection/en/)