Pursuant to IC 20-30-2, all public and accredited nonpublic schools must conduct at least 180 instructional days during a given school year. Public schools that do not conduct at least 180 instructional days during a school year shall have the subsequent August tuition support distribution reduced to reflect the actual amount of instructional days provided unless the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) grants a waiver from this tuition support penalty. IDOE may grant a waiver of a particular amount of cancelled days so long as the school submits a waiver request to IDOE, and the cancellations are due to extraordinary circumstances.

For the 2019-2020 school year, IDOE will implement the following in regard to waiver requests:

- Public schools do not need to submit a waiver request for two-hour delays and two-hour early releases that are in response to an incident that could jeopardize the safety of students. Days where a school must implement a two-hour delay or two-hour early release count as full instructional days.

- Waivers will only be granted if there is an unexpected extraordinary event that impacts less than the entire student population of a school corporation. IDOE will approve such waiver requests due to the challenges resulting from having a corporation make up a day for only part of the corporation.

- IDOE will utilize the “two-for-one” policy that has been put into effect the last two school years. School corporations are still expected to make up the first five canceled days using the make-up days originally built into the calendar. After the fifth canceled day, IDOE will waive one day for every two additional canceled days. After the fifth canceled day, school corporations will receive waivers for odd numbered cancellations, e.g., canceled days 7, 9, 11, etc. Corporations are still expected to make up all days not waived pursuant to IC 20-30-2-4. As an example, a school corporation that has canceled seven days would need to reschedule six of the days and would be eligible for a waiver for the seventh day. If the school corporation would then need to cancel two additional days, only one of the additional days would need to be made-up, the other would be eligible for a waiver. Keep in mind that the make-up days must be conducted on a day other than the original cancelled day. For example, if January 14, 2020 is cancelled due to excessive snowfall and made up on February 17, 2020, that day would count toward the five days. If, January 14, 2020 was originally scheduled to be an in-classroom day and was made an eLearning day due to excessive snowfall, that day would not count because the original instructional day was not cancelled.

- For nonpublic schools:
  o Since nonpublic schools do not receive tuition support, a waiver from the tuition support reduction penalty is not necessary. However, it is strongly suggested that accredited nonpublic schools still conduct 180 instructional days.
All Requests for instructional day requests should be submitted electronically at https://form.jotform.com/82175824139966.

Please contact schoolaccountability@doe.in.gov if there are any questions regarding instructional day requirements or waiver requests.