



West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources School Clothing Allowance Safety Guidance

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Children and Families, has transitioned the School Clothing Allowance Program from paper vouchers to electronic benefits transfer (EBT) cards and checks. EBT cards will function in the same manner as a debit card; a check may be deposited or cashed. This change is to allow families to shop online from the safety of their homes.

If you choose to shop for your child's back to school clothing or piece goods in a store, remember to protect yourself while shopping. The following guidance is provided by the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, Division of Viral Diseases. Guidance is also available at www.coronavirus.wv.gov or by calling the 24/7 West Virginia Coronavirus Hotline, 1-800-887-4304.

- Stay home if sick, have tested positive for COVID-19 or have been required to quarantine.
- Use online services and contactless pick-up options when available.
- Face coverings are required in public settings (including retail establishments) and when around people who don't live in your household, especially when other [social distancing](#) measures are difficult to maintain according to Governor Jim Justice's Executive Order No. 50-20.
- Use social distancing (stay at least 6 feet away from others).
- Use hand sanitizer after leaving stores.
- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds when you get home.
- Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- When you do have to visit in person, go during hours when fewer people will be there (for example, early morning or late night). If you or a family member is considered high risk, please take advantage of special shopping times if provided by the retail store.
- Take one child at a time if possible.
- Disinfect the shopping cart. Use disinfecting wipes if available.
- Only touch products that you plan to purchase.
- If possible, use touchless payment (pay without touching money, a card, or a keypad). If you must handle money, a card, or use a keypad, use hand sanitizer immediately following.

Content source: [National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases \(NCIRD\)](#), [Division of Viral Diseases](#)