

While ASBO and AASA identified four key areas of cost for an average district. These cost categories may not be exhaustive for each individual district but do have a great deal of commonality across school district operations in any part of the country.

Learn from the ASBO / AASA methodology below. What are the key "average" demographics (3,659 students, 8 buildings, 183 classrooms, 329 staff members, and 40 school buses). In the next three steps of the process you will be provided a tool for adjusting these average district costs specific to your district, utilizing a recommended 5Castbudget layout, you will make layout adjustments in 5Cast and prepare a FY 2021 COVID-19 adjusted budget. In the final step, this time using a 5Cast Plus layout, you will have the tool to monitor costs as the fiscal year unfolds. The intent is to provide a framework for identifying costs, calculating costs, budgeting costs, and monitoring cost.

WHAT WILL IT COST TO REOPEN SCHOOLS?

This document estimates some of the expenses school districts may incur in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and as they plan to reopen for the 2020–2021 school year. These calculations assume the statistics of an average* school district with 3,659 students, 8 school buildings, 183 classrooms, 329 staff members, and 40 school buses (transporting at 25% capacity, or 915 students, to comply with recommended social distancing guidelines).



ADHERING TO HEALTH MONITORING & CLEANING/ DISINFECTING PROTOCOLS

- Hand sanitizers for students in classrooms
\$39,517
- Disinfectant wipes for classrooms
(four/day per classroom)
\$16,833
- No-touch thermometer
(one per school)
\$640
- Oximeter
(one per school)
\$360
- Electrostatic disinfectant sprayers
\$33,600
- Deep cleaning of school after a confirmed case
\$26,000



HIRING STAFF TO IMPLEMENT HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

- Additional custodial staff for increased cleaning/disinfecting of schools and buses to prevent spread
\$448,000
- Ensuring at least one FT/PT nurse in every public school
\$400,000
- Ensuring one aide per bus to screen student temperatures before boarding
\$384,000



PROVIDING PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- Gloves for custodial staff
(five pairs/day for two custodians per school)
\$1,440
- Daily disposable masks for in-school staff
\$44,415
- Disposable masks for students who do not bring masks from home
(est. 30% of students)
\$148,190



PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION & CHILD CARE

- Resume before/after school childcare programs
(with social distancing and cleaning protocols)
\$168,750
- Fog machines and cleaner for buses
(7 machines)
\$55,860
- Hand sanitizer for buses
\$10,534

TOTAL ADDITIONAL EXPENSES AN AVERAGE* DISTRICT MAY INCUR TO REOPEN: \$1,778,139

*Costs will vary by district depending on many factors, including regional/market price as economy of scale (i.e., larger districts may have access to lower unit costs because they can buy in higher volumes), and the availability of labor and goods necessary to comply with recommended social distancing and cleaning protocols. Model assumes 25% transportation capacity to adhere to social distancing guidelines. (Bus fleets would need to quadruple in size to safely transport 100% of students under COVID-19 circumstances, which is financially unfeasible for districts.)

This list of costs is not intended to be exhaustive but illustrates how the overall cost of school operations will substantially increase to safely reopen as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on K–12 education, please contact [ASBO International](#) & [AASA](#).

External References:
"Now What? Navigating K-12 Reopening, A Collaborative Planning Process?" National Council on School Facilities, Working Document, May 2020.
"School Bus Driver Pay Rises as Shortage Worsens," Thomas McMahon, *School Bus Fleet Magazine*, November 2018.
"Total School Districts, Student Enrollment by State and Metro Area," Governing The Future of States and Localities, eRepublic. Accessed June 2020.



Davenport School District

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ASBO Original Estimates for District of 550

ADHERING TO HEALTH MONITORING & CLEANING/ DISINFECTING PROTOCOLS	HIRING STAFF TO IMPLEMENT HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS	PROVIDING PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)	PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION & CHILD CARE
Hand Sanitizers for students in classrooms \$15,657	Additional custodial staff for increased cleaning/disinfecting of schools and buses to prevent spread \$158,784	Gloves for custodial staff (five pairs/day for two custodians per school) \$540	Resume before/after school childcare programs (with social distancing and cleaning protocols) \$63,281
Disinfectant wipes for classrooms (four/day per classroom) \$6,670	Ensuring at least one FT/PF nurse in every public school \$150,000	Daily disposable masks for in-school staff \$18,151	Fog machines and cleaner for buses (7 machines) \$19,569
No-touch thermometers (one per school) \$240	Ensuring one aide per bus to screen student temperatures before boarding \$144,000	Disposable masks for students who do not bring masks from home (est. 30% of students) \$22,275	Hand sanitizer for buses \$4,520
Oximeter (one per school) \$135			
Electrostatic disinfectant sprayers \$12,600			
Deep cleaning of school after a confirmed case \$9,750			
Total additional expenses our district might incur to reopen: \$626,172			



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District Adjusted Estimates

ADHERING TO HEALTH MONITORING & CLEANING/ DISINFECTING PROTOCOLS	HIRING STAFF TO IMPLEMENT HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS	PROVIDING PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)	PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION & CHILD CARE
Hand Sanitizers for students in classrooms \$15,657	Additional custodial staff for increased cleaning/disinfecting of schools and buses to prevent spread \$58,784	Gloves for custodial staff (five pairs/day for two custodians per school) \$540	Resume before/after school childcare programs (with social distancing and cleaning protocols) \$63,281
Disinfectant wipes for classrooms (four/day per classroom) \$6,670	Ensuring at least one FT/PF nurse in every public school \$0	Daily disposable masks for in-school staff \$43,151	Fog machines and cleaner for buses (7 machines) \$4,569
No-touch thermometers (one per school) \$1,240	Ensuring one aide per bus to screen student temperatures before boarding \$59,000	Disposable masks for students who do not bring masks from home (est. 30% of students) \$72,275	Hand sanitizer for buses \$2,520
Oximeter (one per school) \$135			
Electrostatic disinfectant sprayers \$12,600			
Deep cleaning of school after a confirmed case \$9,750			
Total additional expenses our district might incur to reopen: \$350,172			