



*In the Event of Bad Weather or an Emergency  
Situation ...  
Here's How to Check School Status*

Occasionally inclement weather or other safety or health conditions require FCPS to cancel, delay or otherwise change school routines or schedules. Typically, cancellation and delay decisions are made by 5 AM that day and announced soon after. If weather becomes a factor after school is in session, a decision to close early is made, whenever possible, by 10 AM that day. Very rarely, FCPS may be required to take student safety precautions immediately, with little or no notice. Although we notify numerous regional news outlets, we encourage parents and guardians to use the following sources for the most accurate news.

***For the fastest, most reliable school status information, check:***

***[Facebook FCPSMaryland](#)***

***[Twitter @FCPSMaryland](#)***

***Internet [www.fcps.org](http://www.fcps.org)***

***FindOutFirst email; add your mobile phone for texts: [www.fcps.org/fof](http://www.fcps.org/fof)***

***FCPS Television on Comcast Cable Channel 18 and online [www.fcps.org/tv](http://www.fcps.org/tv)***

***Delay Schedule for Half-Day Pre-K\**** On days when school opens 2 hours late, pre-k\* students attend 1½-hour sessions. Breakfast is served. Morning sessions start 2 hours late with the rest of the students at the school and dismiss 1 hour later than usual. Afternoon sessions start 1 hour later than usual and dismiss at the regular time. When school is delayed 3 hours, morning pre-k is canceled.

***Delay Schedule for CTC*** On days when school opens 2 hours late, morning Career & Technology Center classes start 2 hours late and dismiss about 1 hour later than usual. The afternoon session starts 40 minutes later than usual and dismisses at the regular time.

***Early Dismissal*** When schools close 2 hours early due to bad weather, morning pre-k\* students remain at school for dismissal with full-day students. Lunches are served. Afternoon pre-k\* and CTC programs are canceled; CTC students remain at their home schools. Flexible Evening High and Heather Ridge Twilight programs are canceled.

***Evening Activities*** School- and FCPS-sponsored afterschool/evening activities (sports, plays, BOE meetings, etc.) and evening instructional programs (such as Flexible Evening HS & the Twilight Program) are generally canceled on days when school is canceled or closes early.

*\*PreK references in this document do not apply to charter schools.*

*Note: The 2018-19 school calendar shows June 21 as the last day of school for students. This includes 8 days allotted for snow or other emergencies. If we don't use all 8 days, the year will be shortened by the number of unused days. If more days are required to meet the minimum 180 school days, make-up days will be added. The 2-hour early dismissal for students will occur the last day of school.*

*Additional info is online in Regulation 400-2: <https://apps.fcps.org/legal/doc.php?number=400-02>*