



Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief 3.0 (ESSER 3.0) Fund under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, enacted on March 11, 2021. ARP ESSER Funding provides a total of nearly \$122 billion to states and local educational agencies (LEAs) to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation’s students. In addition to ARP ESSER Funding, ARP includes \$3 billion for special education, \$850 million for the Outlying Areas, \$2.75 billion to support non-public schools, and additional funding for homeless children and youth, Tribal educational agencies, Native Hawaiians, and Alaska Natives.

LEAs must develop and make publicly available a **Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan that meets the following requirements within 30 days of receiving ARP ESSER allocation.** If an LEA developed a plan before ARP was enacted that does not address the requirements, the LEA must revise its plan no later than six months after it last reviewed its plan. All plans must be developed with meaningful public consultation with stakeholder groups (i.e., families, students, teachers, principals, school and district administrators, school leaders, other educators, school staff, advocacy organizations representing student groups). The consultation process must include an opportunity for input and meaning consideration of that input. ARP ESSER plans need to be published in an understandable and uniform format; to the extent practicable, written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable, orally translated; and upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent.

Note: **LEAs need to update the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan at least every six months** through the life of the grant. Additionally, LEAs must seek public input on any of these revisions and must take that input into account. All revisions must include a rationale of why the revisions were made.

Please see the WDE’s District Plan [Checklist](#) as an additional resource.

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Carbon County School District 1
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Crb1.net/esser





PART ONE: SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION PLAN:

1. Describe to the extent to which the LEA has adopted policies and a description of any such policies on each of the following health and safety strategies.

Universal and correct wearing of masks:

CCSD1 required masks for all students and staff, in accordance with our state approved smartstart re-entry plan, during the 2020-21 school year. In consultation with county public health officials, those requirements were lifted in June of 2021 and remain lifted at this point. CCSD1 does continue to recommend the wearing of masks.

Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding)

CCSD1, in consultation with county public health officials and in accordance with our smartstart re-entry plan, are keeping students distanced 6 ft. from themselves and from staff where facilities accommodate. This applies to all types of situations within our schools (classrooms, gyms, cafeterias, etc...).

Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

CCSD1 has hand sanitizing stations at all student and staff entries as well as in all classrooms. Staff assist students in using this service on a regular basis.

Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation

CCSD1 maintenance and operations division has revisited cleaning techniques and strategies and are compliant with all recommended health and safety protocols. Filters in ventilation systems are changed on a regular basis.

Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine

CCSD1 personnel require all Covid19 positive individuals (students or staff) to stay in isolation during the time recommended by health officials. We also do contact tracing with school personnel to determine close contacts of known Covid19 positive individuals and require them to quarantine for an amount of time consistent with local health recommendations.

Diagnostic and screening testing

CCSD1 has acquired testing machines and supplies and test any students or staff needing this service.

Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible

CCSD1 has worked with local public health agencies and provided vaccine clinics for staff and students.

Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.

CCSD1 has worked with all students and their families as well as all staff with respect to the needs of individuals who may have individual health needs.

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PART ONE: SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION PLAN:

2. Describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services including but not limited to services to address the students’ academic needs, and students’ and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

CCSD1 has been open for in-person instruction district wide since August of 2020. We have worked with individual students and families to provide virtual based opportunities should such be recommended or required due to health considerations. We have provided extra in day intervention support as well as extended day and extended school year opportunities to try and address learning gaps. We have formed a mental health team to support identifying students and staff in need of this service and have developed an Employee Assistance Program to support our staff. We have also applied for, and been granted, a grant to provide student support for substance abuse and mental health needs due to the needs in our community and our relatively low ability to provide local support for these needs. CCSD1 has also advertised and made it well known that all students can eat free breakfast and lunch at the present time.

3. The State requires a description of the process by which the LEA will collaborate with local health officials to monitor student health metrics throughout the school year. Provide that description below.

As CCSD1 put together our smartstart re-entry plan prior to the start of the 2020-21 school year we put together a committee with broad representation (medical, teachers, admin, community out reach partners, etc...), held a number of meetings, and then published the document and provided training to all staff. Parents were also communicated with about the protocols and students were provided training upon their return to in-person instruction. CCSD1 has had ongoing interactions with public health officials from that point until the present. They have advised on a variety of topics and continue to be a strong and valued partner as we continue to be able to keep our schools open.

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PART TWO: CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS

1. Describe how the LEA will, in planning for the use of ARP ESSER funds, engaged in meaningful consultation with stakeholders, including, but not limited to:

- students
- families
- school and district administrators (including special education administrators)
- teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions.
- tribes
- civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations)
- stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children and youth in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students.

CCSD1 set up an ESSER expenditure committee which had parent, Board, teacher, building admin and central office admin representation. This group identified a wide variety of needs related to closing learning gaps and promoting student and staff health. Ideas were prioritized and a timeline was developed for implementing initiatives.

2. Provide an overview of how the public stakeholder input was considered in the development of the LEA's Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan?

Again, in the summer of 2020 when CCSD1 was working to develop their smartstart re-entry plan a committee was formed consisting of public health officials, community outreach partners, parents, teachers, building admin, support division admin and central office admin. This group considered the template which had been developed at the state level along with pertinent local input. This partnership allowed CCSD1 to reopen schools safely and contributed to CCSD1 being able to remain continuously open since August of 2020.

To facilitate transparency, the department will post the link to each school district's plan on its website. It will be the responsibility of the district to ensure its link remains valid.