



ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan Guidance & Template

Section 2001(i)(1) of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires each local education agency (LEA) that receives funding under the ARP Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund to develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website a *Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan*, hereinafter referred to as a *Health and Safety Plan*.

Based on ARP requirements, 90 percent of ARP ESSER funds will be distributed to school districts and charter schools based on their relative share of Title I-A funding in FY 2020-2021. **Given Federally required timelines, LEAs eligible to apply for and receive this portion of the ARP ESSER funding must submit a Health and Safety Plan that meets ARP Act requirements to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) by Friday, July 30, 2021, regardless of when the LEA submits its ARP ESSER application.**

Each LEA must create a Health and Safety Plan that addresses how it will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff, and which will serve as local guidelines for all instructional and non-instructional school activities during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. The Health and Safety Plan should be tailored to the unique needs of each LEA and its schools and must take into account public comment related to the development of, and subsequent revisions to, the Health and Safety Plan.

The ARP Act and U.S. Department of Education rules require Health and Safety plans include the following components:

1. How the LEA will, to the greatest extent practicable, implement prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning;
2. How the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services;
3. How the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC:

- a. Universal and correct wearing of masks;
- b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);
- c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;
- d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;
- e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with State and local health departments;
- f. Diagnostic and screening testing;
- g. Efforts to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to school communities;
- h. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and
- i. Coordination with state and local health officials.

The LEA's Health and Safety Plan must be approved by its governing body and posted on the LEA's publicly available website by July 30, 2021.* The ARP Act requires LEAs to post their Health and Safety Plans online in a language that parents/caregivers can understand, or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to an individual with limited English proficiency, be orally translated. The plan also must be provided in an alternative format accessible, upon request, by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Each LEA will upload in the eGrants system its updated Health and Safety Plan and webpage URL where the plan is located on the LEA's publicly available website.

The ARP Act requires LEAs to review their Health and Safety Plans at least every six months during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. LEAs also must review and update their plans whenever there are significant changes to the CDC recommendations for K-12 schools. Like the development of the plan, all revisions must be informed by community input and reviewed and approved by the governing body prior to posting on the LEA's publicly available website.

LEAs may use the template to revise their current Health and Safety Plans to meet ARP requirements and ensure all stakeholders are fully informed of the LEA's plan to safely resume instructional and non-instructional school activities, including in-person learning, for the current school year. An LEA may use a different plan template or format provided it includes all the elements required by the ARP Act, as listed above.

* The July 30 deadline applies only to school districts and charter schools that received federal Title I-A funds in FY 2020-2021 and intend to apply for and receive ARP ESSER funding.

Additional Resources

LEAs are advised to review the following resources when developing their Health and Safety Plans:

- [CDC K-12 School Operational Strategy](#)
- [PDE Resources for School Communities During COVID-19](#)
- [PDE Roadmap for Education Leaders](#)
- [PDE Accelerated Learning Thorough an Integrated System of Support](#)
- [PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#)

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Radnor Township School District

Initial Effective Date: June 30, 2021

Date of Last Review: June 20, 2023

Date of Last Revision: November 14, 2023

1. How will the LEA, to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?

The Radnor Township School District (RTSD) implemented a Health and Safety Plan throughout the 2021-2022 school year using mitigation strategies from sources such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the PA Department of Health, CHOP PolicyLab, and Chester County Health Department. These strategies successfully supported the larger public health initiative to slow the spread of COVID-19 and to protect our community, especially those at increased risk for severe illness. RTSD also supported on-site vaccination and rapid testing clinics for our teachers, staff, and students.

RTSD will continue to closely monitor COVID-19 data and guidance locally, regionally, and nationally to inform our ongoing development and implementation of mitigation strategies. This information will assist the district when reviewing our mitigation strategies for effectiveness, and will be used to revise our Health and Safety Plan as necessary.

The District recognizes that additional considerations concerning mask wearing must be taken into account for medically fragile and other special needs students. For that reason, each child's IEP and 504 team must make an individualized determination as to what reasonable accommodations may be appropriate for each individual child in accordance with the requirements of IDEA, ADA, and Section 504.

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

Prior to the start of the 2021-2022 school year RTSD provided a virtual option, Radnor Cyber Academy, for families to consider. Programming for the summer of 2021 focused on enrichment and remediation of skill deficits for our students.

For the 2021-2022 school year RTSD provided an instructional model that included full-time, in-person instruction each day. Families were also provided the option to enroll their children in Radnor Cyber Academy, a standards-aligned, fully-virtual

option facilitated by PA-certified instructors. The Board also voted on June 29, 2021 to approve the 520.1 Emergency Instructional Time Plan to provide flexibility to address student needs for virtual instruction as they arose during the 2021-2022 school year. Throughout the school year students who were required to quarantine or isolate were provided the opportunity to Zoom into class to receive instruction for the duration of their quarantine/isolation period.

RTSD increased the availability of counseling and mental health supports available to our students for the 2021-2022 school year via the expansion of our Lakeside Counseling Program. Lakeside provides clinical therapeutic counseling focused on coping strategies and emotional regulation based on individual student needs. Breakfasts and lunches also continued to be free of charge for students throughout the 2021-2022 school year, and virtual students continued to have the option to pick-up meals on a regular basis.

For the 2022-2023 school year RTSD will continue to ensure that all students receive an education that meets state and federal standards and have the necessary supports for success, including access to technology and connectivity. The administration will monitor and address academic, social, emotional, mental health and other needs of our students and employees as warranted.

3. Use the table below to explain how the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>a. Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u>;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radnor Township School District will permit visitors, students, and staff in grades K-12 to determine their masking status. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to implement mandatory masking at the Superintendent’s discretion. • RTSD supports anyone who wants to wear a mask. • Students, employees, and visiting guests, regardless of their vaccination status, or the case counts for an individual building, will not be required to mask while outside on district grounds. This applies to outdoor times during the instructional day, (i.e.: recess, P.E. classes, etc.) sports, extra- and co-curricular meetings,

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>activities, and events. Masking outdoors is always optional.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical and religious exemptions to masking guidelines may be submitted for review to the Co-Pandemic Coordinators using the proper form and required documentation found on the district website. • Students and employees participating in test-to-stay or mask-to-stay must wear masks at all times while indoors on school grounds. Mask exemptions cannot be applied to the optional test-to-stay or mask-to-stay programs. • RTSD will comply with any universal mask mandates set forth by the CDC, the Governor's office, and the PA Department of Health. • RTSD will have single use masks available for students and employees. The district will make every attempt possible to provide higher quality masks (i.e.: KN-95) for all students and employees.
<p>b. <u>Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students and employees will be afforded separation to the greatest extent feasible. • Administration will review guidance from the CDC, the PA Department of Health, and local health officials, and will make changes to established protocols as warranted.
<p>c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School nurses created age-appropriate public service announcement style videos to review best practices for hand washing and personal hygiene. These videos are posted on the RTSD website and YouTube channel. • Frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer will be encouraged.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage will be posted around the schools regarding handwashing and personal hygiene.
<p>d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTSD will use established cold and flu season cleaning protocols as needed. • Frequent inspections of buildings will take place by lead custodian and/or the Supervisor of Custodial Services to ensure appropriate cleaning protocols are in effect. • Roof vents and windows will be open on buses and other district vehicles, weather permitting, to increase fresh air circulation. • RTSD will continue to follow our Indoor Air Quality Management Plan, provide service and maintenance for our HVAC units as needed, and will continue to reach out to our HVAC/air quality consultant as necessary.
<p>e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTSD will comply with contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine mandates from State and local health departments. • RTSD utilize Test-to-Stay and Mask-to-Stay programs as required by local, state, or national health organizations. The Test-to-Stay program template is attached as an addendum to the Health and Safety plan.
<p>f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTSD will provide testing when available, practical, and permissible.
<p>g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u>;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTSD will advertise opportunities for the school community to get vaccinated when appropriate. • RTSD will work with the Delaware County Medical Counter Measures/Strategic National Stockpile team to help distribute vaccines to Radnor residents as necessary.
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTSD will consider accommodations for students with disabilities on a case-by-case

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
health and safety policies; and	basis. (ex: IEP team meeting, discussion with 504 coordinator, etc.)
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTSD will communicate and work with state and local health officials as necessary to ensure the health and well being of our students, employees and community members.

Administration will review guidance from the CDC and the PA Department of Health, and will make changes to established internal protocols as necessary.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Radnor Township School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **November 28, 2023**

The plan was approved by a vote of:

9 Yes

0 No

Affirmed on: NOV 29 2023 (date)

By:



(Signature* of Board President)

Amy Goldman

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.