



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 Through an Integrated System of Support](#)
- [PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#)

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Canon-McMillan School District

Initial Effective Date: June 25, 2021

Date of Last Review: February 28, 2024

Date of Last Revision: March 4, 2024

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 school district will continually review and monitor guidance from PDE, PADOH, and CDC. The district has detailed in the table below the prevention and mitigation strategies that provide appropriate prevention given the current conditions. If conditions or guidance changes the district will update the Health and Safety plan as needed.

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?

All traditional academic and support services will be in place, including summer school credit recovery, summer programs, and extended school year services for eligible students will be provided. Students will be provided transportation to summer programming.

To support student social emotional and mental health K-4 will utilize Teamology, 9-12 will institute a CHILL Room and additional social work services will be added in K-12.

To support staff social emotional and mental health the district will utilize and promote Employee Assistance Program services.

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
a. Universal and correct wearing of masks ;	Masks are recommended for all staff, students and visitors inside school facilities, on buses, and vans when the community transmission level is high .
b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of	Individuals who elect to wear a mask can be provided an area where social distancing is

cohorts/podding);	available. This will allow them to remove the mask to eat or drink. Signage that encourages social distancing will be posted in common areas throughout school facilities and grounds when community transmission levels are high.
c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u> ;	Staff will review and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing, not touching your face, and covering coughs.
d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u> ;	High touch surfaces will be disinfected and cleaned routinely. MERV13 filters will be used and changed regularly in facility ventilation systems.
e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u> , in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	Will follow CDC recommendations for preventing the spread of respiratory viruses. https://www.cdc.gov/respiratory-viruses/prevention/precautions-when-sick.html Return to school when, for at least 24 hours, both are true: • Your symptoms are getting better overall and • You have not had a fever (and are not using fever-reducing medication). When you return to school, it is recommended you take added precautions over the next 5 days, such as steps for cleaner air, hygiene, masks, physical distancing, and/or testing when you will be around other people indoors.
f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;	Monitor students and staff for COVID-like Symptoms. Staff and students should stay home if they are sick.
g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u> ;	The district will make its facilities available for vaccine clinics and send notices to the school community regarding those clinics.

h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	The district will provide appropriate accommodations in compliance with federal and state laws for students and staff who have disabilities.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	The district will work with state and local agencies.