



ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan

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 Plans – Any district receiving ARP ESSER funds must have an updated Health and Safety Plan in place until the end of the ESSER Funds (though September 2024). It is required to review your plan every six months with your school board for auditing purposes through the end of the ESSER funds.

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **Trinity Area School District**

Initial Effective Date: June 17, 2021

Date of Last Review: March 11, 2024

Date of Last Revision: June 15, 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 LEA will identify the most current recommendations from the Governor of the Commonwealth, PDE, PA DOH, and the CDC, and plan accordingly. Plans will be presented to the governing Board for feedback and approval, if required and when changes are necessary. Facilities and practices will be adapted to the extent possible to ensure that appropriate prevention and mitigation processes are followed. Every effort will be made to provide the best educational practices and student experiences in a safe, healthy educational environment.
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? Models of education, including a virtual model, will be adapted to the needs of the students as appropriate. The TASD will provide in-person and remote learning options (limited, partial/hybrid or full-time cyber school model). Social, emotional, mental health and other needs will be monitored and addressed by school health providers, social workers, and other mental health or behavioral specialists as needed. All resources will be exhausted to provide an effective educational experience for all students. Food services will be provided using various models as appropriate to the situation, including making meals available for all students throughout the 2023-2024 school year as necessary. Trinity has successfully employed a 1-to-1 technology, K-12 in regard to teaching remotely and establishing universal connectivity. The FID days and other remote instructional days have been extremely successful.
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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Universal and correct wearing of masks; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LEA will identify the latest mandates from the Governor of the Commonwealth, PDE, PA DOH, and the CDC. The guidelines will change as the mandates change. Ensure that any policy regarding face coverings or any other parts of the health and safety plans are sensitive to the needs of students and staff with medical issues. Appropriate accommodations in compliance with federal and state laws should be made for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and procedures. The wearing of masks or face coverings will be optional for all Trinity Area students and staff unless mandated by the PA Secretary of Health, Governor, or other governing authority.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding); 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LEA will identify the latest recommendations from the Governor of the Commonwealth, PDE, PA DOH, and the CDC. The guidelines will change as the directives and recommendations change. Determine the maximum capacity for each room. Turn desks in the same direction. Balance class numbers as much as possible – remove unused desks and furniture in classrooms; maximize social distancing (to the extent practicable). The LEA will arrange physical space and physical distancing. Human interaction will be structured to maintain appropriate social distancing.

· Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;

- The LEA will identify the latest recommendations from the Governor of the Commonwealth, PDE, PA DOH, and the CDC. The guidelines will change as the directives and recommendations change.
- Daily cleaning of schools with soap and water to decrease how much of the virus is on surfaces and objects, which reduces the risk of exposure. Apply to frequently touched surfaces and objects including door handles, sink handles, and drinking fountains.
- Disinfecting schools and transportation vehicles daily using EPA- approved disinfectants against COVID-19 to reduce the risk.
- Follow standard protocols to clean surfaces.
- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible.
 - Verify filters are installed correctly.
 - Develop schedule for frequency of filter replacement, and note type of filters to be utilized.
 - See Filtration Upgrades.
 - Adjusting to maximize outdoor air or disabling operation of DCV if it will not adversely impact operation of overall system
- Mechanical systems should operate in occupied mode for a minimum period of one week prior to students returning to school (may be completed at same time as teachers start returning to building) while assuring the outside air dampers are open.
- Maintain proper indoor air temperature and humidity for human comfort, reduce potential for spread of airborne pathogens and limit potential for mold growth in building structure and finishes (Refer to ASHRAE Standard 55)

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The LEA will identify the latest recommendations from the Governor of the Commonwealth, PDE, PA DOH, and the CDC. The guidelines will change as the mandates change. · Work with school administrators and school nurses to identify an isolation room or area to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms. · School nurses and other healthcare providers should use Standard and Transmission- Based Precautions when caring for sick people. · Establish procedures for safely transporting anyone who is sick either to home or a healthcare facility. · Fill out and submit the Weekly Aggregate Case Template or other mandated reporting mechanism as directed by PDE and/or the PADOH. · Send out notifications to parents, staff, and students with the appropriate information as needed. · Develop policies and procedures based on CDC guidelines. Ensure that staff and students meet all requirements before returning to school safely. · The LEA will no longer require non-symptomatic, healthy students and staff members to quarantine.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Parents are asked to continue health screens prior to sending students to school and to notify our school nurses if your child presents with symptoms, and/or a person in your household is getting tested or has tested positive, and your child is not fully vaccinated. · Check for signs and symptoms of students and staff daily upon arrival. · Consider a process to address privacy concerns of monitoring practices and the potential stigma associated with monitoring and confirmed exposure or cases. · Develop a system for home/self- screening and reporting procedures.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage staff to stay home if they are sick and encourage parents to keep sick children home.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with community health centers and hospitals either to provide on-site vaccinations or brochures and other information as to when and where staff and students can receive vaccinations at their sites.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that any policy regarding face coverings or any other parts of the health and safety plans should be sensitive to the needs of students and staff with medical issues. Appropriate accommodations in compliance with federal and state laws should be made for students and staff with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and procedures.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination with state and local health officials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LEA will work together with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Governor's Joint Task Force, PA DOH, CDC, PDE, and community health agencies and County Emergency Management Agencies to coordinate resources in accordance with their health and safety plan. LEA will follow all mandated protocols.

Trinity Area School District
231 Park Avenue Washington, PA 15301



Board Affirmation Statement

As required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the Board of Education for the **(Name of LEA Entity)** Trinity Area School District reviewed and approved the Flexible Instructional Day Program at the following Board Meeting, held on **(date)** June 1, 2023. The application was approved by a vote of 8 **(yes)** and 0 **(no)**.

Affirmed on this 1st day of June, 2023

By: Jennifer Morgan **(Signature of Board President)**

Jennifer Morgan **(Print Name of Board President)**

Trinity Area School District

Board of Education