



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*.

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 CSIU Health and Safety Plan outlines the Intermediate Unit's processes and procedures in response to prevent, mitigate, and respond to COVID-19 with the goal of providing in-person learning to the greatest extent possible for the 2022-2023 school year. The CSIU understands that if there are cases of COVID-19 in the community there are no strategies to eliminate transmission risk within a school population. As a result, the CSIU may reference PDE's and PA Department of Health guidance related to closure of a classroom or school building due to COVID-19 transmission rates based on the level of regional/local community spread,

The CSIU Health and Safety Plan will be monitored and may be revised at the discretion of the Executive Director or designee to ensure compliance with federal, state, county, or local mandates/orders or other considerations applicable to CSIU programming or services and submitted for approval to the CSIU Board of Directors, if necessary.

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit

Initial Effective Date: **August 18, 2022**

Date of Last Review: **August 16, 2023**

Date of Last Revision: **August 16, 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 CSIU provided in-person instruction for the majority of the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years and all of the 2022-2023 school year by following the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC and the PA DOH. The CSIU will continue to offer in-person instruction for the 2023-2024 school year. The CSIU will do our best to provide for the health and safety of all students and staff knowing that we want to provide in-person instruction to the greatest extent possible. The chart below outlines the specific measures that will be taken to provide for the health and safety of students and staff.

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?

The CSIU will provide in-person instruction to the greatest extent possible. The CSIU will continue to provide one-to-one electronic devices and utilize a learning management system to the greatest extent possible so that instruction can seamlessly continue even if moved to a virtual format. Educators at the CSIU will stay connected and aware of students' academic and social emotional needs in both the in-person and virtual environments knowing that we will be in-person to the greatest extent possible.

The CSIU works with students' home districts to ensure that all students have access to health and food service in both in-person and remote instructional settings.

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 ;	The CSIU will comply with all federal or state orders/requirements regarding masks.

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	<p>Programs/Services provided in districts, non-public, state facilities, or community/business settings will follow the masking protocols of the entity where the program/service is provided unless needs of a program/service are best served with different protocols.</p>
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>The CSIU will follow the PA DOH and PDE's guidance regarding physical distancing to the greatest extent possible.</p>
<p>c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</p>	<p>The CSIU will promote handwashing and respiratory etiquette in all programs through age-appropriate lessons and signage as well as built-in times for handwashing.</p> <p>Staff and students will be encouraged to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water. If soap and water are not available the use of hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol will be encouraged.</p>
<p>d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;</p>	<p>The CSIU will follow the CDC and PA DOH's guidelines for cleaning facilities.</p> <p>The CSIU will work with all building landlords to ensure proper ventilation and encourage upgrades when necessary.</p> <p>The CSIU will work with transportation contractors to ensure proper sanitization of vehicles and adequate ventilation is maintained.</p>
<p>e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>The CSIU will rely on the PA Department of Health to complete the investigation/contact tracing regarding positive cases.</p> <p>The CSIU will inform students and staff about the symptoms of COVID-19 and will ask that all employees and students stay home if they are exhibiting any symptoms.</p> <p>Students and staff members are required to report a positive case to their immediate supervisor within 24 hours of the diagnosis.</p>
<p>f. Diagnostic and screening testing;</p>	<p>The CSIU will comply with all federal or state orders/requirements regarding</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	screening, testing, isolation, or quarantining of staff and students.
g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities ;	<p>The CSIU will encourage staff and students to obtain the vaccination. The CSIU will comply with federal/state vaccination requirements linked to program offerings and services.</p> <p>The CSIU will continue to remain in close contact with Geisinger Medical Center and Evangelical Hospital and will communicate any vaccination or health information effectively and efficiently to our local districts.</p>
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	The CSIU will follow all students' IEPs and adjust the health and safety plan to meet the unique needs of each individual student as appropriate.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	The CSIU will continue our positive relationships with our local health care providers at Geisinger Medical Center and Evangelical Hospital as well as our work with the PA Department of Health.