

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

Addendum Guidance

LEAs are required to update the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan every six months through **Sept. 30, 2023**. Each time, LEAs must seek public input on the plan and any revisions and must take such input into account. The purpose of the plan is to keep stakeholders informed.

Every LEA should complete the addendum and upload in the LEA document library and post to the LEA's website (February 1 and August 27). 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.

Please consider the following when completing the addendum:

- Ensure the LEA used multiple models of engagement offered to stakeholders. Examples may include surveys, in-person or virtual committee meetings, town hall meetings, or other inclusive engagement opportunities.
- LEAs should engage all applicable groups noted in meaningful consultation during the crafting of the plan.
- The number of stakeholders engaged should represent the composition of students. For example, if students with disabilities make up 15 percent of students, then 10-20 percent of respondents should represent this subgroup.
- Ensure the stakeholder engagement happened prior to the development/revision of the plan.
- The LEA must engage the health department in the development of the plan. This is not the same as providing the health department with COVID-19 numbers.
- Plans must explicitly address every bullet point in Question 3 regarding district policies and strategies.
- Plans require local board approval and public posting.
- LEAs must update the *Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan* at least every six months through Sept. 30, 2023, seek public input on the plan and any revisions and take such input into account. All revisions must include an explanation and rationale of why the revisions were made.
- All revisions must include an explanation and rationale, with meaningful public consultation, and in an understandable format. The American Rescue Plan (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.

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

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, was enacted on March 11, 2021. Funding provided to states and local educational agencies (LEAs) help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students.

In the fall of 2021, LEAs developed and made publicly available a Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan. All plans were developed with meaningful public consultation with stakeholder groups. LEAs are required to update the plan every six months through September 30, 2023 and must seek public input on the plan and any revisions and must take such input into account. LEAs also must review and update their plans whenever there are significant changes to the CDC recommendations for K-12 schools and to ensure the plan is current. 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.

The following information is intended to update stakeholders and address the requirement.

LEA Name: Marion County

Date: January 31, 2022

1. Describe how the LEA engaged in meaningful consultation with stakeholders in development of the revised plan.

During the month of January 2022, the district will gather information and feedback from stakeholders in several ways. The district will present the Safe Return to In-Person instruction and Continuity of Services Plan to stakeholders at a variety of meetings. Discussion and questions will be encouraged throughout the presentation and at the conclusion stakeholders will be asked to complete a survey. Information and feedback will also be gathered through interviews that will focus on engaging special populations in the process. At the end of the interviews stakeholders will be asked to complete a survey. The district will also gain stakeholder feedback through posting the plan on social media and other websites and requesting the completion of a survey.

2. Describe how the LEA engaged the health department in the development of the revised plan.

During the month of December 2021, the Director of Marion County Schools Health Services shared the proposed Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan with the health department. Individuals from the health department provided feedback and guidance concerning the plan.

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

<i>Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies</i>
<i>Not updated, maintained previous plan</i>
<i>Physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)</i>
<i>Not updated, maintained previous plan</i>
<i>Hand washing and respiratory etiquette</i>
<i>Not updated, maintained previous plan</i>
<i>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities including improving ventilation</i>
<i>Not updated, maintained previous plan</i>
<i>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine</i>
<i>Marion County Schools followed the Governor's guidance concerning isolation and quarantine. The district will work with the health department and local health officials to contact trace but the school system will not isolate or quarantine individuals.</i>
<i>Diagnostic and screening testing</i>
<i>Not updated, maintained previous plan</i>
<i>Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible</i>
<i>Marion County Schools provided an opportunity to receive the booster on-site during the month of December 2021 for educators and other staff members.</i>
<i>Universal and correct wearing of masks</i>
<i>Not updated, maintained previous plan</i>

4. Provide a current description as to how the LEA is ensuring 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.

If a state of emergency is declared by the Governor of Tennessee and schools are closed, the Marion County School System will meet the students' academic needs by providing synchronous virtual instruction. The synchronous virtual instruction will be provided by using ZOOM and electronic programs. The district will provide devices and Internet access for students that need them. Student and staff emotional and mental

health will be served through counseling services provided by the school or other licensed providers. Other needs will be served by providing breakfast and lunch during the closure through feeding sites that are accessible throughout the county.