

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



## District Name

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Email

Website

Phone

Address

City

State Zip Code

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# Introduction

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plans (ARP) Act was signed into law. In it, the U.S. Department of Education is providing an additional \$121.9 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III Fund). This legislation will award grants to state educational agencies (SEAs) for providing local educational agencies (LEAs) with emergency relief funds to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools across the nation.

South Carolina will receive \$2,112,051,487 in ESSER III funds from the Act, with 90 percent being awarded to school districts with amounts determined in proportion to the amount of Title I, Part A funds they received in summer 2020 from funds under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The remaining funds will be used for state-level activities to address issues caused by COVID-19.



This plan describes how the LEA or district will provide the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services for all schools, including those that have already returned to in-person instruction. This report template complies with all reporting requirements of the ARP Act (Public Law 117-2), the [ESSER III grant](#) terms, conditions, and assurances (CFDA Number 84.425U), and the interim final rule established by the U.S. Department of Education, [86 FR 21195](#).

# Maintaining Health and Safety

## Overview

A district's plan must include how it will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and LEA staff, and the extent to which it has adopted policies or practices and a description of any such policies or practices, on each of the CDC's safety recommendations including: universal and correct wearing of masks; modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding); hand washing and respiratory etiquette; cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation; contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the state, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments; diagnostic and screening testing; efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible; appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies or practices; and coordination with state and local health officials.

## Description of maintaining health and safety

## Policies or Practices Regarding CDC Recommendations

### **Universal and correct wearing of masks**

Description of Policies or Practices, if applicable

### **Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)**

Description of Policies or Practices, if applicable

### **Handwashing and respiratory etiquette**

Description of Policies or Practices, if applicable

**Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation**

Description of Policies or Practices, if applicable

**Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine**

Description of Policies or Practices, if applicable

**Diagnostic and screening testing**

Description of Policies or Practices, if applicable

**Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible**  
Description of Policies or Practices, if applicable

**Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and practices**  
Description of Policies or Practices, if applicable

**Coordination with state and local health officials**  
Description of Policies or Practices, if applicable

# Continuity of Services

## Overview

Districts must describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

## District response on continuity of services



# Periodic Review

## Overview

Districts are required to review and, as appropriate, revise their Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan at least every six months through September 30, 2023, including seeking public input and taking such input into account in determining whether to revise the plan and, if revisions are determined necessary, on the revisions it makes to its plan.

If a district developed a plan prior to enactment of the ARP Act that was made publicly available and was developed with public comment, but does not address each of the required aspects of safety established in the ARP Act, the district must, as part of the required periodic review, revise its plan consistent with the ARP Act requirements no later than six months after it last reviewed its plan.

## District response on ensuring periodic updates to its plan

# Public Input

## Overview

The ARP Act requires that school districts make their Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan available to the public online and that the plans be in an understandable and uniform format; to the extent practicable, are written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable, orally translated; and upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent.

Before making its plan publicly available, school districts must seek public comment on the plan and develop the plan after taking into account public comment.

## District response on public input in development of its plan

A public input survey was posted with the plan from June 1-22, 2022. Input and feedback was reviewed prior to posting the final version of the plan on June 23, 2022.