



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: Wyoming Area School District

Initial Effective Date: September 1, 2021

Date of Last Review: July 30, 2020

Date of Last Revision: April 2021

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? Wyoming Area School District will continue to perform daily cleanings and monthly Micro-sure Sanitization of all school building. Food Service Department will continue with limited breakfast and lunch options. For example, self-serve options were removed and individually wrapped items will continue. We will continue monitoring the CDC recommendations and assessing what will work best for our school community. District decision regarding the wearing of masks will take place by the 3rd week of August.

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 district will continue to provide students with a cyber-platform for those families who are still not comfortable with the brick and mortar. Through the support of LIU 18, student mental health along with Social and Emotional needs will continued to be addressed through our guidance departments and related services. Food Service Department will continue with limited breakfast and lunch options.

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 <u>masks</u> ;	We are currently in discussion with our Board of Education as for following CDC recommendations as well as making adjustments according to the needs as the LEA. The determination of mask requirements will be determined by the 3 rd week of August.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding) ;	We are currently discussing with our Board of Education the problems that social distancing of 3 or 6 feet will create, due to our plan consisting of full return and not offering a hybrid model.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u> ;	Signs will be posted throughout the buildings reminding all staff and students to wash hands for a minimum of 20 seconds and sneezing/coughing into elbows.
d. <u>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation</u> ;	Our Kindergarten Center is currently receiving an HVAC system with an ionizer installed into every classroom unit. The three other buildings have been previously outfitted with ionizers in their HVAC systems. Filters will continue to be checked and replaced as needed. A desert air system is being installed in the pool area of the Secondary Center.
e. <u>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine</u> , in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	The same protocols will continue for contact tracing leading to quarantine. Administration will contact our local and or PA Department of Health Agencies. We then provide them with the details of contact tracing. We will then take action in accordance to the agencies recommendations. All of this documentation will continue to be tracked by the LEA and the Department of Health.
f. <u>Diagnostic and screening testing</u> ;	In the event of direct exposure to the COVID virus, a person would have to quarantine immediately. A test will be taken 5 days after the initial exposure date. If the test is negative, the person can return the following day. If the test is positive, the student or staff member will be reported to the PA Department of Health and proper procedures will be followed pertaining to quarantine. The student or staff member will quarantine for 10 days following the date of exposure.
g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u> ;	When the district is aware of different vaccination appointment, we will send an email to the school community along with posting it to our website.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	Equity will continue to be established and practiced for all students no matter their gender, race, disability, homelessness status, etc. Accommodations aligned to IEP's will be followed.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	State health officials well be notified when contract tracing has occurred. Protocol will then be followed accordingly.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for Wyoming Area School District reviewed and approved the ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan on July 29, 2021.

Affirmed on: **July 29, 2021**

By: 

(Signature of Board President)

Phil Campenni
Board President

The WA Board Meeting will be held August 24, 2021. The 21-22 Health and Safety Plan will be presented then.

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.