



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. 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: Upper St. Clair SD**Initial Effective Date: 6/28/21, Revised 8/18/21, 1/10/22, 1/24/22****Date of Last Review: 7/12/22, 8/26/22****Date of Last Revision: 8/26/22 with Board vote 9/20/22**

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 School District reviews local/state/federal guidance. The School District will maintain proper cleaning, disinfecting, and ventilation strategies. Those individuals who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 are encouraged to stay home until well. Individuals who are diagnosed with COVID-19 should follow state and federal isolation recommendations. The School District will encourage and provide for the hand hygiene of all students, staff, and visitors. The School District will continue to consult local health officials for health and safety recommendations.

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 School District will provide instructional and non-instructional staff to ensure all students have access to quality learning opportunities and services as determined by the students' individualized education program or individual service agreements. The School District will continue to provide reasonable accommodations to ensure access to in-person instruction.

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
<p>a. Universal and correct wearing of masks;</p>	<p>The District reviews local/state/federal guidelines regarding face coverings.</p> <p>Face coverings are recommended, but not required, for students, staff, volunteers, and visitors when Allegheny County is identified as being in a High Community Level.</p> <p>Face coverings are recommended for individuals returning from isolation through Day 10 of the isolation period</p>

	<p>unless a negative testing protocol has been completed.</p> <p>The District will comply with any local, state, and/or federal requirements for face coverings/masks, as applicable.</p>
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>District reviews local/state/federal guidelines.</p> <p>Modifications for physical distancing will be considered as a reasonable accommodation, when necessary.</p>
<p>c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</u></p>	<p>District reviews local/state/federal guidelines.</p> <p>Students and staff are encouraged to sanitize/wash their hands regularly, especially before and after eating, using the restroom, and sneezing/coughing.</p> <p>Current hand sanitizers and soap dispensers have been replaced with touchless equipment, the number of sanitizers within the district has been increased.</p>
<p>d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;</p>	<p>District reviews local/state/federal guidelines.</p> <p>Cleaning: Daily cleaning by custodial staff</p> <p>Nutrition centers utilize a timed cleaning schedule in all food preparation areas.</p> <p>Cleaning supplies are provided for use by school staff as desired.</p> <p>Ventilation: MERV 13, 14, and 15 filters in HVAC units are used. Air turnover rates have been adjusted to exceed ASHRAE standards and increase outside airflow into the buildings. Change all filters. Run exhaust fans continuously during winter months.</p>

e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u> , in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	<p>District reviews local/state/federal guidelines.</p> <p>District follows directives from ACHD/DOH regarding isolation and other disease control measures.</p> <p>Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 or those who are known to have been exposed to COVID-19 and are now symptomatic should follow state and federal isolation recommendations.</p>
f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;	Students and staff are made aware of symptoms of COVID-19 and are encouraged to monitor their health.
g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u> ;	School nurses provide information to any family seeking access to vaccination.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	The School District will review additional mitigation options for staff members and students who are at higher risk for severe illness, including necessary accommodations under the ADA, Section 504, or the IDEA.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	The School District will continue to seek consultation as needed from local health officials.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Upper St. Clair School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **September 20, 2022**.

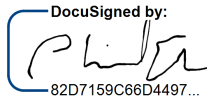
The plan was approved by a vote of:

Yes 7

No 0

Affirmed on: **September 20, 2022**

By:

DocuSigned by:

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(Signature of Board President)*

Phillip J. Elias

(Print Name of Board President)

*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.