



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: Northern Tier Career Center

Initial Effective Date: 8/18/2021

Date of Last Review: 8/17/2023

Date of Last Revision: 01/18/2024

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 Northern Tier Career Center will continue to implement, where feasible and possible, prevention and mitigation efforts that are aligned with the health and safety guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the Pennsylvania Department of Education in order to ensure a safe reopening of school for any summer programming and reentry into school for the 2023-2024 school year. The Center will collaborate with home districts and department of health personnel that are made available to the district as a resource to ensure current knowledge and application of CDC practices, where possible.

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 Northern Tier Career Center will continue to monitor the allocation of resources to students and families while the students are in school and within the community. The Center will use ARP ESSER funds to address the unfinished learning needs of our students both academically and socially/emotionally and have developed summer academic enrichment programs to address learning gaps.

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 ;	As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Northern Tier Career Center will allow students and staff to voluntarily wear masks at any time. The Center will collaborate with state department of health officials, as needed, to determine any large-scale need for universal wearing of face masks and will

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	enforce any state mandated orders pertaining to face masks.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Northern Tier Career Center will promote physical distancing where possible.
c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ;	As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Northern Tier Career Center will promote proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette by continuing to display signs/education materials. The Center staff will promote proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette, and encourage all other employee groups to promote proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette when practicable and appropriate.
d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation ;	As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Northern Tier Career Center will continue to assess and replace HVAC filters when necessary. The school will provide cleaning and sanitizing solutions and materials to classrooms and employees for cleaning as needed and provide routine cleaning of facilities/classrooms by employees. The Center had the I Waves Air Purifier System installed in all units.
e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine , in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Northern Tier Career Center will abide by, where possible, any contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine requirements issued by the Center for Disease Control/Pennsylvania Department of Health/Pennsylvania Department of Education.
f. Diagnostic and screening testing;	As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Northern Tier Career Center will promote diagnostic and symptom screening by parents/students/employees who are symptomatic or have suspicion of COVID-19 exposure prior to arriving at the school campus and school buildings.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities ';	The Northern Tier Career Center may consider offering a vaccination site to allow students, families, and the surrounding community to be able to receive a vaccination if warranted or contacted by the state department of health.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Northern Tier Career Center will provide reasonable accommodations, as appropriate, to students with disabilities with respect to health and safety strategies.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Northern Tier Career Center will participate in collaborative efforts with local and state health officials who desire coordination related to responses to the pandemic, when contacted directly.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Northern Tier Career Center** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **January 18, 2024**.

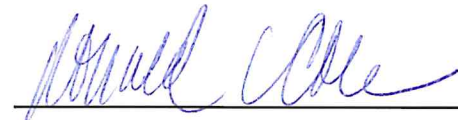
The plan was approved by a vote of:

7 Yes

X No

Affirmed on: **January 18, 2024**

By:



(Signature* of Board President)

Ron Cole

(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.