



# ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan Guidance & Template

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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: Greenwood School District

**Initial Effective Date: August 12, 2021**

**Date of Last Review: August 11, 2021**

**Date of Last Revision: January 10, 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? To the greatest extent practicable, the Greenwood School District will support prevention and mitigation policies by keeping with its own past practices combined with the prevailing guidance from State and Federal governmental entities, authorities and organizations. The Greenwood School District will continue to observe cleaning, sanitizing and hygiene protocols with respect to its buildings, equipment and vehicles. The Greenwood School District will continue to monitor Federal, State and Local regulations.
  
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 Greenwood School District will use the state approved emergency plan to ensure continuity of services for all students and staff.
  
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> ;	Face masks are optional for students and staff. The District will continue to monitor recommendations set for by PA DOH and CDC.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	As implemented in the past, common areas, cafeteria spaces, the gymnasium, auditorium and classrooms were utilized to maximize social distancing associated with PA DOH and CDC guidelines. Should social distancing be reinstated as an expectation, the Greenwood School District will, to the greatest extent practicable, comply with this regulation.
c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u> ;	Hand washing and sanitizing stations have been added to ensure all classrooms and common areas have this hygiene resource

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ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	available to students and staff. The Greenwood School District will continue to educate all staff and students on proper respiratory etiquette.
d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u> ;	<p>The Greenwood School District plans to implement the same strategies used during the 2020-2021 school year, in line with PA DOH and CDC guidance, and will continue to update the strategies as federal, state and local regulations change. A highlight of the strategies are as follows:</p> <p>The Custodial Staff will adhere to routine cleaning and sanitizing of all areas. Additional attention will be given to high touch areas as well as areas that are not routinely disinfect.</p> <p>HVAC filters will be monitored and changed on a regularly scheduled basis.</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;	Discontinue contact tracing. Should contact tracing and quarantine requirements be reinstated, the District will, to the greatest extent possible comply.
f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;	The Greenwood School District will continue to provide resources to families related to health screening and/or diagnostic testing.
g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u> ;	The Greenwood School District will remain vigilant regarding regular communication with our community through numerous district resources.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	The Greenwood School District will provide appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities based on student needs and IEP/504 team recommendations. Appropriate and practicable accommodations for individuals requiring assistance with respect to prevailing health conditions will be assessed and solutions developed by the appropriate school building and/or District team.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	The Greenwood School District will continue to work closely with Federal, State and Local health officials in an effort to provide a safe and healthy school environment for our students and staff.

## Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for Greenwood School District reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on January 10, 2024.


The plan was approved by a vote of:

8 Yes

0 No

Affirmed on: January 10, 2024

By:



(Signature\* of Board President)



(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.

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