



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 Thorough an Integrated System of Support](#)
- [PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#)

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **The School at McGuire Memorial, Beaver County**

Initial Effective Date: 8/2/2021

Date of Last Review: 9/15/2022

Date of Last Revision: 9/15/2022

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?

Update 9/15/2022:

Using the CDC guidelines from Aug. 11, 2022 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-childcare-guidance.html>), The School will continue to utilize universal precautions to mitigate the spread of infectious disease. We will also continue to use individual air purifiers throughout the building. The School will revert to pre-covid strategies for classroom design/ furniture arrangement, community-based instruction and educational activities. As per CDC, closing school and/or classrooms due to exposure is generally no longer necessary. Isolation is still required for individuals who test positive however, quarantine is NOT required for individuals who have been exposed and are symptom-free. (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/isolation.html>)

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?

Update 9/15/22 – The school will:

- continue to monitor student progress
- maintain virtual platforms within the building
- monitor student and staff social, emotional, mental health and other needs
- continue to provide food services and in-school nursing services

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.

a. Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u>;	<i>Update 9/15/22 - the mask mandate has been lifted for most individuals. Staff must continue to wear a mask for 5 days after returning from COVID diagnosis.</i>
b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	<i>Update 9/15/22 – Classroom design and furniture arrangement has returned to pre-covid status.</i>
a. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u>;	<i>Update 9/15/22 - Handwashing recommendations/practices will continue as outlined in this section. Appropriate and frequent handwashing will continue to be reinforced regardless of COVID status. Lessons on respiratory etiquette will continue to be implemented regardless of COVID status. Training for universal precautions will be provided to all staff and an emphasis on universal precautions will continue regardless of COVID status. Hand sanitizer will continue to be available.</i>
a. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;	<i>Update 9/15/22 - Cleaning recommendations and practices will continue as outlined in this section. Staff will continue to clean materials and surfaces throughout the day as needed. Thorough daily cleaning and disinfecting of the facility will occur after school by a contracted service provider.</i>
a. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	<i>Update 9/15/22 - Protocol established in 12.13.21 update remains appropriate. CDC Guidelines for Isolation and Precautions for People with COVID (8.11.22) have been adopted.</i>
a. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;	<i>Update 9/15/22 – Symptomatic staff will test on their own and report results to the chief school administrator.</i>
g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u>;	<i>Update 9/15/22 – New staff are required to be vaccinated or secure an exemption. Current staff and students are encouraged to stay up-to-date on COVID vaccinations.</i>

<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>Update 9/15/22 - no changes <i>The School at McGuire Memorial – Beaver County is a special education facility. Accommodations for our students have been considered and incorporated into all COVID policies and procedures.</i></p>
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p>Update 9/15/22 – schools are encouraged but no longer required to report positive cases to DOH.</p>

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **The School at McGuire Memorial** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **8/2/21**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

_____ **Yes**

_____ **No**

Affirmed on: **(INSERT DATE: MONTH, DAY, YEAR)**

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.

THE SCHOOL AT MCGUIRE MEMORIAL

Health and Safety Plan Review

Review Date: 9/15/22

Reviewed by: Kim Lieb
Isaiah Foust
Ana Gonzalez
Rachel Davis
Damon Krynicki