



Board Approved 12.12.23

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: WEST YORK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Initial Effective Date: June 15, 2021

Date of Last Review: December 7, 2023

Date of Last Revision: December 7, 2023

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?
 - a. The West York Area School District will incorporate the guidelines from the PA Department of Health and the PA Department of Education to the greatest extent practicable to support the mitigation and prevention of COVID-19. Cleaning and disinfection protocols are detailed below for the 2023-24 school year.
 - b. We will continue to provide antibacterial wipes and hand cleaners in all buildings and classrooms.
 - c. As appropriate, we will routinely reinforce the importance of incorporating the state and Federal guidelines in all areas. We will use age-appropriate wall-hung posters and announcements reminding students, faculty, and visitors to monitor symptoms, maintain proper hygiene standards, and how to inform the District should they get a diagnosis of COVID-19.
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?
 - a. The District will work individually with students and staff to address academic, social emotional, mental health, and other needs. Additionally, all students will have the ability to attend our completely on-line model of instruction through the West York Cyber Academy (WYCA).
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 <u>masks</u>;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The District does not require individuals to wear face masks on school property. The District will be supportive of students, staff, and visitors who choose to wear masks while on school property.
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom/learning space and furniture reduction/spacing to support separation among students/staff to support social distancing where practicable. • Use of plexiglass dividers where applicable (office entry, public entry locations, etc.) • Continued use of grouping students and staff into cohorts and pods – to the extent possible.
<p>c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u>;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after using the bathroom, before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol when handwashing is not possible. • Provide education/signage regarding hygiene practices for students and staff including the manner and frequency of hand-washing and other best practices for sanitation.
<p>d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;</p>	<p>The District will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disinfect, and ventilate-learning spaces, surfaces, and any other areas used by students throughout the student day. • Use of foggers and sanitation sprayers in large areas when possible and pay extra attention to high-touch surfaces. • Keep classroom doors open to hallways/corridors as practicable and at the direction of the teacher.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monitor air handler circulation for ventilation efficiencies. ● Provide building staff with sanitizing kits that include spray bottles, microfiber cloths, hand sanitizers, and cleaning frequency procedures for high touchpoints as requested. ● Have students and staff bring individual water bottles in place of drinking fountain bubblers; provide access to bottle fillers and/or sink faucets for water access.
<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>	<p>Logs and records of all visitors that enter the building, their reason for being there, the location in the building they visit.</p> <p>The District encourages students, staff, and visitors to monitor for symptoms of illness and stay home when sick.</p> <p>The District will continue to work in collaboration with state and local health departments.</p>
<p>f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;</p>	<p>West York encourages parents and guardians to monitor their child(s) health and keep them home when sick. Staff members are encouraged to do the same.</p>
<p>g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u>;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The District will continue to work with local health agencies to offer opportunities for vaccinations. ● The District will help to publicize vaccination opportunities within the local community.
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● IEP teams will continue to meet to determine appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities.
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The District will continue to coordinate with state and local health officials when necessary. ● In addition, the District will review and consider revisions to the mitigation measures outlined above in this plan to take into account updated DOH directives and CDC guidance to respond to changing local conditions related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for the **West York Area School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on December 12, 2023.

The plan was approved by a vote of: 6-0

Yes

No

Affirmed on: December 12, 2023

By:

(Signature* of Board President)



Lynn M. Kohler

(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 is needed.