



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: Indiana County Technology Center

Initial Effective Date: June 22, 2021

Date of Last Review: June 28, 2022

Date of Last Revision: August 24, 2021, December 21, 2021

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 Indiana County Technology Center will follow the most up-to-date guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This Health and Safety Plan reflects currently endorsed public health best practices. The science and public health conditions surrounding COVID-19 are continually evolving. This guidance will be updated as necessary when new information becomes available. DOH will continue to monitor community transmission rates and other surveillance metrics and may, in close coordination with the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), issue guidance related to targeted school closure as part of a wider public health mitigation strategy.

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 Indiana County Technology Center will examine the PDE Resources for School Communities during COVID-19, PDE Roadmap for Education Leaders, and PDE Accelerated Learning Through an Integrated System of Support. The Administrative Team will be the main team who ensures that students, comprehensively, are considered. This team will involve additional stakeholders, including those from the community, in their efforts. Various Instructional delivery scenarios will be established that best fit with the health and safety of the students and staff being the priority while engaging all students in learning. We have committed to support social and emotional wellness for our students' successes. Effective instruction will be monitored to determine if appropriate instruction, assessment, engagement, and attendance is occurring. The community will be informed of our safety measures through not only this plan, but through other forms of social media and various communications. Faculty and staff have been and will continue to receive high-quality professional development so that they can identify, collaborate, and plan their support of students, families, community members and each other.

District leaders have been learning to integrate systems of support through the professional development offered through PDE. [PDE Roadmap for Education](#)

Leaders provided the basis for planning the 2020-2021 school year and beyond. In reflecting on our the successes and challenges that we faced, we will adjust and continue to improve on how to make instruction more engaging and effective for all students. In the spring of 2021, PDE also provided leaders with additional professional development opportunities in the form of Accelerated Learning Through an Integrated System of Support. Through this learning, we were provided a systematic process of continuous improvement to make key decisions for our faculty, staff, students, families, and community members. With a focus on high quality academics, we are able to determine the changes needed for the new school year and beyond. We are able to foster supportive learning environments by learning more about equitable, trauma-informed principles when determining safe and inclusive learning spaces while supporting students and staff through CASEL-standards supported social and emotional learning systems. Through communicating and engaging our stakeholders, we expect to provide continuous improvement in order to accelerate the learning for students. These supports support evidence-based academic, behavioral, social, and emotional needs of our students.

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 ;	<p>The Indiana County Technology Center will adhere to the regulations set by PDE, Orders from the DOH and consider the recommendations from the CDC for meeting the universal and correct wearing of masks.</p> <p>Additional resources are as follows:</p> <p>https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/PublicHealthGuidance/Pages/default.aspx</p> <p>https://www.health.pa.gov/Documents/First%20Amendment%20to%20Updated%20Order%20of%20the%20Secretary%20Requiring%20Universal%20Face%20Coverings%20Clean%2031621.pdf</p> <p>https://www.governor.pa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/20201117-SOH-Universal-Face-Coverings-Order-Update.pdf</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2F</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>oronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fcommunity%2Fschools-childcare%2Fschools.html</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/cloth-face-cover.html</p>
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>The Indiana County Technology Center will adhere to the regulations set by PDE and consider the recommendations from the CDC for modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing.</p> <p>Additional resources are as follows: https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/PublicHealthGuidance/Pages/default.aspx</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fcommunity%2Fschools-childcare%2Fschools.html</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/social-distancing.html</p>
<p>c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</p>	<p>The Indiana County Technology Center will follow the recommendations set by PDE and the CDC on handwashing and respiratory etiquette.</p> <p>Additional resources are as follows: https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/PublicHealthGuidance/Pages/default.aspx</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fcommunity%2Fschools-childcare%2Fschools.html</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;</p>	<p>The Indiana County Technology Center will follow the recommendations set by PDE and the CDC on cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities including improving ventilation.</p> <p>Additional resources are as follows: https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/PublicHealthGuidance/Pages/default.aspx</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/clean-disinfect/index.html</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/ventilation.html</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fcommunity%2Fschools-childcare%2Fschools.html</p>
<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>The Indiana County Technology Center will follow the recommendations set by PDE and CDC on contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine protocols in collaboration with the State and local health departments.</p> <p>Additional resources are as follows: https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/PublicHealthGuidance/Pages/default.aspx</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fcommunity%2Fschools-childcare%2Fschools.html</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-resources.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fphp%2Fopen-america%2Fcontact-tracing-resources.html</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/isolation.html</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html</p>
<p>f. Diagnostic and screening testing;</p>	<p>The Indiana County Technology Center will follow the CDC’s guidance on the appropriate use of diagnostic and screening testing.</p> <p>Additional resources are as follows: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/pooling-procedures.html</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fcommunity%2Fschools-childcare%2Fschools.html</p>
<p>g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</p>	<p>The Indiana County Technology Center will follow the guidance from PDE and consider the recommendations from the CDC on providing vaccinations to school communities.</p> <p>Additional resources are as follows: https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/PublicHealthGuidance/Pages/default.aspx</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/toolkits/schools-childcare.html</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fcommunity%2Fschools-childcare%2Fschools.html</p>
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety</p>	<p>The Indiana County Technology Center will follow the recommendations set by PDE as established through their publication of Public Health Guidance for School Communities under the subsection entitled Individuals with Disabilities or Other Chronic Conditions as follows: https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/PublicHealthGuidance/Pages/default.aspx</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
policies; and	
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	<p>The Indiana County Technology Center will coordinate with state and local DOH officials.</p> <p>Additional resources are:</p> <p>https://www.health.pa.gov</p> <p>https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/school/Pages/School%20Health.aspx</p>

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Indiana County Technology Center** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **June 28, 2022**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

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No

Affirmed on: **June 28, 2022**

By:



(Signature* of Board President)

Mr. Gregg Sacco

(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.