



# 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: West Perry School District

Initial Effective Date: August 10, 2020

Date of Last Review: **January 10, 2022**

Date of Last Revision: **January 10, 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?**

To the greatest extent possible, the West Perry School District will implement CDC and Department of Health guidelines to ensure the health and safety of the students and staff.

**The following universal precautions will be implemented:**

- Hand washing and hand sanitizing
  - Cough and sneeze etiquette
  - Ventilation upgrades and maintenance
  - Maximum physical distancing
  - Home symptom monitoring
  - Universal masking while on district buses and vans
  - Students exhibiting symptoms will be excluded from school based on CDC and DOH Guidelines
  - Contact tracing and isolation/exclusion
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 primary goal of the West Perry Health and Safety Plan is to ensure in-person learning for students. Parents, students, teachers, and administrators agree that in-person instruction is vital to the educational, social, and mental health of all students. Positivity rates within the schools will be used to monitor community spread.. As these levels rise, and school closures draw near, increased mitigation measures will be implemented in an effort to maintain in-person learning.

Data	Mitigation Threshold	Closure Threshold
COVID-19 Positivity	3.5%	5%

Once these thresholds are met, interim mitigation measures will be implemented at

the school for a period of ten (10) school days after which these mitigation efforts will expire, or will be extended in 5 day increments.

**Interim School Mitigation Measures**

At 2.5% positivity parents and staff in the affected classroom or school will be asked to participate in voluntary masking.

At 3.5% positivity the following additional measures will be implemented:

- Universal masking the affected classroom or school. Students with 504 plans will continue to be exempted.
- Modified cafeteria seating will be implemented to the greatest extent possible. This will vary by school
- Elimination of school visitors and volunteers
- Limited sports spectators and participants at extracurricular events for the affected school.

Because elementary students are more contained to one or two classrooms than secondary students are, classroom closures, rather than school closures, may be used if positive cases or absence rates are isolated to specific rooms.

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 <a href="#">masks</a> ;	The wearing of facial coverings is optional for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals during the school day. Per federal guidelines, facial coverings will need to be worn by all individuals while on school district transportation. These guidelines are subject to change based on the changing requirements from the CDC, PA DOH and the PDE. Students and staff may be required to wear facial coverings if they are required as an interim mitigation measure, or to reduce quarantine time.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for <a href="#">physical distancing</a> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	The District will continue to enforce social distancing recommendations from the DOH and CDC to the greatest extent possible. A distance of 6 feet is ideal when times when facial coverings are optional.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
c. <a href="#">Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</a> ;	Hand washing and hand sanitizing stations have been added to ensure all classrooms and common areas have at least one sanitizing station. Students will be trained in proper cough and sneeze etiquette.
d. <a href="#">Cleaning</a> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <a href="#">ventilation</a> ;	All heating and ventilation units (HVAC) are being retrofitted with bipolar ionization attachments. In addition, air filters in all units are changed three times a year instead of twice. Electrostatic sprayers for disinfectant will be used in classrooms and will be used in hallways following a provided cleaning schedule. All high touch areas will be cleaned throughout the day by staff.
e. <a href="#">Contact tracing</a> in combination with <a href="#">isolation</a> and <a href="#">quarantine</a> , in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	Students, staff, and educators who have been in close contact with someone in their home who has COVID-19 must quarantine unless they are fully vaccinated or have tested positive for and recovered from COVID-19 in the prior 3 months. Quarantine will be determined by current DOH guidance. If a fully vaccinated or recently recovered person shows symptoms after exposure they also must quarantine per DOH guidance.
f. <a href="#">Diagnostic</a> and screening testing;	Rapid tests will be available for staff members who have been identified as a close contact of a positive case.
g. Efforts to provide <a href="#">vaccinations to school communities</a> ;	School District will only coordinate with local health care providers to provide space in district schools if vaccination clinics are offered in our area. These clinics would only occur after school hours and by parental action.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	Upon presentation of a doctor's note, reasonable and sufficient accommodations for transportation and schedules will be made for vulnerable students. Temperature checks will be conducted when necessary by the school nurse. Classrooms of the most vulnerable students will be disinfected daily.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	Specific to COVID-19 and the effects of the pandemic, the district will coordinate with the PA Department of Health for support and necessary recommendations.

## Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **West Perry School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **January 10, 2022**.

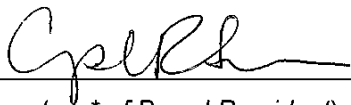
The plan was approved by a vote of:

  6   Yes

  3   No

Affirmed on: **January 10, 2022**

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature\* of Board President)

Crystal R. Summers

\_\_\_\_\_  
(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.