



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: **Coudersport Area School District**

Initial Effective Date: 7.30.21

Date of Last Review: The board will review, discuss and vote at our business meeting on August 9, 2021. The board reviewed and amended the plan on 9.27.21. The board reviewed and amended the plan on 10.11.21. The board reviewed and amended the plan on 12.16.21.

Date of Last Revision: ~~7.15.21~~ ~~9.27.21~~ ~~10.11.21~~ ~~12.16.21~~ ~~8.8.22~~ ~~2.13.23~~ ~~8.14.23~~ 2.12.24

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 administration and school board will continue to use guidance from the CDC as a resource to make appropriate decisions for our school and our community. We were open for in-person learning safely for all but 4 days in 2020-21 and were open for in-person learning for all of 2021-22. We expect to remain open for in-person instruction for all of 2022-23.

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 district plans to be open for in-person instruction during the 2022-23 school year and will be able to offer the full scope of services available to support students' academic needs and the social, emotional, mental health, and other needs of our students and staff. Examples include but are not limited to our remediation and enrichment programs, our current counseling positions and programs, and working with local mental health organizations to add more full time mental health professionals in our schools.

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>Masking will be optional for students and staff</p> <p>The district will ensure that mask shaming of any kind is not tolerated.</p> <p>Anyone who wants to report mask shaming of any kind can do so by referencing board policy 248 - HERE</p>

<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>To the maximum extent practical, student desks will be arranged with 3 feet of space between them. The district will not limit or restrict valuable learning opportunities i.e. group work, centers, remediation, enrichment, etc.</p>
<p>c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</p>	<p>Students will be encouraged to wash hands on a regular basis (i.e., as they enter/exit the building and/or classrooms). Students will also be encouraged to cover coughs and sneezes appropriately.</p> <p>Signs with proper handwashing and hygiene practices will be posted at strategic places in the school.</p>
<p>d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;</p>	<p>Ventilation systems will be run full-time to increase the supply of outside air in the buildings to provide for ventilation and air circulation.</p> <p>Custodial staff will follow the regular daily cleaning schedule and provide additional attention to high touch surfaces/areas (i.e., door handles, handrails, countertops, restrooms, etc.) as often as practical.</p> <p>Cafeteria staff will follow the regular daily cleaning schedule, provide additional attention to high touch surfaces (i.e., cooler handles, cafeteria tables, etc.) as often as practical, and ensure the availability of hand sanitizer at all times. Additionally, cafeteria staff will enter student breakfast/lunch account numbers to eliminate the need for each student to touch the keypads.</p>
<p>e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>The superintendent and school nurses will implement protocols for isolation and quarantine utilizing least restrictive practices and with the PA DOH as a resource.</p> <p>All language concerning quarantines is at the discretion of administration and the school board who will continue to utilize the DOH recommendations as a resource to determine what is best for our school and our community.</p> <p>Current Exclusion Practices</p>
<p>f. Diagnostic and screening testing;</p>	<p>Students will have their temperatures checked when they visit the nurses station or are believed to be ill. Students with temperatures of 100.4 degrees or higher, or who display symptoms consistent with the CASD symptom screening tool may be quarantined until they can be sent home.</p> <p>School staff will conduct self-monitoring checks (including temperature checks) before reporting to work each day. Any staff member with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, or who display symptoms consistent with the CASD</p>

	<p>symptom screening tool may not be permitted to enter the school building.</p> <p>Parents will be educated on and asked to look for symptoms of COVID-19. Parents will be asked to keep their children home if they have temperatures of 100.4 degrees or higher and/or display other concerning symptoms according to the symptoms checklist provided by the district.</p>
<p>g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</p>	<p>The district believes that vaccinations are a personal choice for students and their families. The district is working with our local healthcare provider to make sure students and families are aware of available vaccine clinics.</p>
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>As necessary, nurses will work to make sure Individual Action Plans are created for students with special health needs that put them at a higher risk for severe illness from the COVID virus.</p>
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p>The district will continue to work with local health officials and the PA DOH and use those individuals as a resource to make sure the administration and board makes appropriate decisions for our school, our students, and our community that place our students and staff in the least restrictive environment.</p>

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Coudersport Area School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **August 9, 2021, September 27, 2021, December 16, 2021, August 8, 2022, February 13, 2023, August 14, 2023, February 12, 2024.**

The plan was approved by a vote of:

Aug. 9 - 9; Sept. 27 - 6; Dec. 16 - 5; Aug. 8 - 6; Feb 13 - 9; Aug 14 - 9 Yes; Feb 12 - 9

Aug. 9 - 0; Sept. 27 - 3; Dec. 16 - 4; Aug. 8 - 1; Feb 13 - 0; Aug 14 - 0 No; Feb 12 - 0

***August 8, 2022 - 1 Abstention**

Affirmed on: ~~August 9, 2021 September 27, 2021 December 16, 2021 August 8, 2022 February 13, 2023, August 14, 2023, February 12, 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.