



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 January 24, 2023.* 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 January 24 deadline applies only to school districts and charter schools that received federal Title I-A funds in FY 2022-2023 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: The School District of Jenkintown

Initial Effective Date: July 30, 2021

Date of Last Review: January 24, 2023

Date of Last Revision: January 24, 2023

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?



Part I: Guiding Questions

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 District’s Health and Safety Plan (HSP) will take into account recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH), and the Montgomery County Office of Public Health (MCOPH). As such, the plan will be revisited as recommendations change. Such changes will be communicated to The School District of Jenkintown community via One Call Now messages. The chart contained in this Health and Safety Plan outlines the actions the District will engage in to promote the health and safety of students, staff, and community members.

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 will provide in-person instruction 5 days per week unless an emergency declaration prevents in-person learning. Throughout the upcoming school year, the District will implement Responsive Classroom Morning Meetings and The Second Step program for certain grade levels, which are research-based social/emotional learning programs for elementary students. Counseling services will be provided for students at the secondary level as needed. Our counselors and school psychologist will provide support for students and families as necessary. Support will be provided to staff as needed. Finally, all meals served by the District are being provided at no charge to families for the duration of the 2022-2023 school year.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>a. Universal and correct wearing of masks;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The District shall consider the recommendations of the CDC, the PADOH, and the MCOPH. ● Masks - The District shall maintain the following expectations that align to CDC recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indoor Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Masks are optional for all students and staff, K-12 when Montgomery County is in low or medium spread according to CDC guidance. ○ Masks are strongly recommended for all students and staff, K-12 when Montgomery County is in high spread according to CDC guidance.

	<p>Outdoor Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Masks are optional outdoors during any level of transmission. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Should an individual qualify for a masking exception, all documentation must be provided to the school. ● The District will continue to monitor COVID-19 transmission rates. Should the District need to revise its masking expectations due to changing recommendations from the CDC, the PADOH, or the MCOPH, the District will communicate that information to the community via One Call Now. ● Masks are optional for athletes but are strongly recommended during periods of high spread. ● Masks are required on days 6-10 for individuals who return to school after a Covid positive result. This includes athletes.
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The District shall consider the recommendations of the CDC, the PADOH, and the MCOPH. ● Classrooms - The District shall continue to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maintain class size guidelines to the maximum extent possible. ● Cafeteria - The District shall continue to: Cafeteria tables and benches will be cleaned and sanitized between lunches. ● Large Group Spaces for Instruction - The District shall continue to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Frequently clean large group spaces.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Transportation - The District shall continue to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Limit seating to two (2) students per seat to the maximum extent feasible. Masking is optional during periods of low or medium spread. Masking is strongly recommended during high spread.● The District will continue to monitor COVID-19 positivity and incidence rates weekly. Should the District need to revise its distancing expectations, the District will communicate that information to the community via One Call Now.
<p>c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u>;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette - The District shall continue to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Provide direct, explicit instruction on proper hygiene, including but not necessarily limited to: handwashing, coughing/sneezing, etc., for students and staff.○ Provide access to soap/water and/or hand sanitizer throughout the day.● Visual Reminders - The District shall continue to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Post signs in visible places throughout each building including, but not necessarily limited to: classrooms, restrooms, hallways, gymnasiums, cafeterias, offices, etc.
<p>d. <u>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation</u>;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Cleaning - The District shall continue to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Procure products appropriate for effective cleaning and sanitizing buildings.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Provide training for all custodial and maintenance staff on proper cleaning and sanitation procedures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.○ Clean and disinfect all high-touch surfaces (desks, tables, water fountains, door handles, light switches, etc.) following posted EPA/CDC/manufacturer guidelines.○ Require all individuals to sanitize or wash hands on a frequent basis. (Hand sanitizer will be available in common areas, hallways, and in classrooms where sinks for handwashing are not available.)○ Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces on buses after each run, morning and afternoon.● Ventilation - The District shall continue to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Ensure each building has appropriate air circulation and ventilation.○ Require unit ventilators to run continually to ensure fresh air is circulated into buildings.○ Require air dampers to be open to promote airflow in all buildings.
<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Contact Tracing - The District shall continue to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Follow the CDC recommendations and will contract trace when required to do so.○ We encourage personal responsibility for self disclosure of illness.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Adhere to return-to-school guidance as directed by the MCOPH.● Isolation- The District shall continue to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Maintain an isolation area in the nurse’s office. The isolation area will have proper ventilation and proper air ventilation will be ensured outside of the isolation areas.○ Require individuals experiencing COVID-19 symptoms while in one of the District’s buildings to report immediately to the designated isolation location in the nurse’s office.○ Provide appropriate PPE to staff and students in the isolation location and to those interacting directly with such an individual (one who becomes sick in school or demonstrates a history of exposure) who reports to the quarantine area.○ Follow the MCOPH’s guidance regarding when students can return to school following having symptoms of COVID-19 or contracting the virus.● Collaboration with State and Local Health Departments<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Communicate with the Montgomery County Office of Public Health.
<p>f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Diagnostic and Screening Testing - The District shall continue to:<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Work collaboratively with the MCOPH on potential options for diagnostic and screening testing.

	<p>b. Test symptomatic students and staff if sufficient tests are available, in high spread only.</p>
<p>g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccinations - The District shall continue to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Inform the community of vaccination sites when applicable.
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodations for Students with Disabilities - The District shall continue to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Document individual student needs in students' IEPs or 504s. (Individual student needs will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.)
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination with State and Local Health Officials - The District shall continue to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Communicate with the MCOPH ○ Revise the HSP according to updated information from the CDC, the PADOH, and/or the MCOPH.
<p>J. Vaccination Requirements for Visitors and Volunteers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccination documentation will not be required at this time.



Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for The School District of Jenkintown reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on January 24, 2023.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

_____ **Yes**

_____ **No**

Affirmed on: **January 24, 2023**

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.