



# 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: Troy Area School District

**Initial Effective Date:** June 15, 2021

**Date of Last Review:** August 25, 2021

**Date of Last Revision:** August 25, 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 Troy Area School District will continue to implement, to the maximum extent possible, prevention and mitigation efforts, and develop policies and procedures that are aligned with the health and safety guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the Pennsylvania Department of Education to ensure a safe reopening of schools for any summer programming and re-entry into school for the 2021-2022 school year. The plan is to continue operating five days per week for in-person instructional learning, unless we are required to pivot to remote instructional learning through the direction of the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

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 Troy Area School District will continue to monitor the allocations of resources to students and families while the students are in school and within the community. The district will use ESSER funds to address the unfinished learning needs of our students both academically and socially/emotionally. The district will continue to provide meal support for our students in the same fashion of the previous school year if we would have to pivot to remote learning due to the pandemic. Additional resources will be added to the budget over the next three years to address the effects that the pandemic has had on students within our district.

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 <u>masks</u> ;	<i>As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Troy Area School District will abide by, to the maximum extent possible, the current recommendations for schools as issued by the</i>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>Center for Disease Control, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and other applicable laws and regulations.</p> <p><b>As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. The Troy Area School District will require all students and bus drivers (when present on the bus) to wear face coverings to and from school and to all athletic/extracurricular events, and field trips. The district will require that all students, visitors, and staff wear masks as recommended by CDC and DOH while inside the school buildings to include indoor sports and extra-curricular activities.</b></p>
<p>b. <u>Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Troy Area School District will abide by, to the maximum extent possible, the current recommendations for schools as issued by the Center for Disease Control, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and other applicable laws and regulations.</p>
<p>c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u>;</p>	<p>As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Troy Area School District will abide by, to the maximum extent possible, the current recommendations for schools as issued by the Center for Disease Control, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and other applicable laws and regulations.</p>
<p>d. <u>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation</u>;</p>	<p>As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Troy Area School District will abide by, to the maximum extent possible, the current recommendations for schools as issued by the Center for Disease Control, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and other applicable laws and regulations.</p>
<p>e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation and quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Troy Area School District will abide by, to the maximum extent possible, the current recommendations for schools as issued by the Center for Disease Control, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and other applicable laws and regulations.</p>
<p>f. <u>Diagnostic and screening testing</u>;</p>	<p>As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Troy Area School District will abide by, to the maximum extent possible, the current recommendations for schools as issued by the Center for Disease Control, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Pennsylvania</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<i>Department of Education, and other applicable laws and regulations.</i>
g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u> ;	The district is considering offering a vaccination site this summer for students, families, faculty & staff if the opportunity arises from any of the surrounding clinics.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	<i>As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Troy Area School District will abide by, to the maximum extent possible, the current recommendations for schools as issued by the Center for Disease Control, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and other applicable laws and regulations.</i>
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	<i>As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Troy Area School District will abide by, to the maximum extent possible, the current recommendations for schools as issued by the Center for Disease Control, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and other applicable laws and regulations.</i>

## Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for Troy Area School District reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on August 25, 2021.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

7 Yes  
1 No

Affirmed on: August 25, 2021

By:

Sheryl Angove  
(Signature\* of Board President)

SHERYL ANGOVE  
(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.