



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: **Green Tree School**

Initial Effective Date: 07/29/2020

Date of Last Review: 07/29/2021

Date of Last Revision: 07/29/2021

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?

Green Tree School followed guidance and recommendations related to safe school reopening from the CDC, PDE, and the Pennsylvania Department of Public Health throughout the 2020-2021 school year. We plan to implement the revised guidance from these organizations to support full in-person instruction in the 2021-2022 school year. Layers of mitigation efforts that Green Tree School will employ include universal masking, social distancing, enhanced cleaning & ventilation, increased use of outdoor space for instruction & activities, diagnostic screenings to identify potential sources of asymptomatic spread, and continued vigilance with hand-washing and other respiratory etiquette.

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?

Green Tree School will be returning to a full in-person instructional model in the 2021-2022 school year. Students receiving specially designed instruction and related services through an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) will continue to receive academic and behavioral supports outlined in their IEPs. Green Tree School will continue to provide counseling and mental health supports in school, as well as collaboration with community-based providers. Green Tree School participates in the National School Lunch Program and will continue to provide free breakfast and lunch to all students. Meal service will be modified, as needed, to implement social distancing guidelines as required during eating and drinking.

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
<p>a. Universal and correct wearing of masks;</p>	<p>Green Tree School will continue to follow CDC and PA Department of Health guidance on use of masks. For the 2021-2022 SY, face covering will continue to be required for all students and all staff with these exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When eating or drinking and spaced 6 feet or more apart • If unable to wear a face covering due to medical condition or disability. <p>Continued training & professional development will be provided to support students and staff with correct mask wearing.</p>
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>Green Tree School will continue to follow CDC and PA Department of Health guidance on physical distancing requirements in schools to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Modifications for the 2021-2022 SY will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom space will be configured to allow for 3ft of separation between student desks, to the maximum extent feasible • Safety plastic barriers will be utilized when 3ft or 6ft during meals is not feasible • Outdoor spaces will be used for instruction and activities when possible. • Additional spaces indoors & outdoors will be identified to allow for physical distancing during meals & recess. • Water fountains will not be available. Students will be encourage to bring water from home, and bottles of water will be provided as needed. • Restriction of nonessential visitors will be implemented when the

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	county transmission levels increases to substantial or high levels.
c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ;	Students and staff will continue to have training on proper hand washing, and appropriate sneezing & coughing etiquette to minimize the spread of respiratory infections. Visual cues and reminders are placed throughout the building and bathrooms. Hand sanitizing stations will continue to be available in every classroom, office, and throughout the building.
d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation ;	Green Tree School will continue to follow CDC and PA Department of Health guidelines and recommendations for cleaning & disinfection of the school building. Green Tree School has already upgraded our HVAC system with air purification and pathogen filtration systems.
e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine , in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	Green Tree School will continue to collaborate with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health for contact tracing in each identified COVID-19 case. Potential exposures are notified as soon as possible, and Green Tree School will continue to comply with Philadelphia Department of Health guidelines regarding need for quarantine & duration.
f. Diagnostic and screening testing;	Green Tree School will continue to require all students and staff to complete daily self-monitoring for symptom screening. In the 2021-2022 SY, Green Tree School will also continue diagnostic screening of all staff. We will implement random sampling procedures for diagnostic screening of students, as the rate of transmission in the county increases to substantial or high levels.
g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities ;	Green Tree School will partner with the Philadelphia Department of Public Health to promote the COVID-19 vaccine to the school community. This partnership supported Green Tree School staff with obtaining the vaccine in the Spring of 2021. In the 2021-2022 SY Green Tree School will provide information sessions

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	for families to obtain credible vaccine information.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	Green Tree School will make appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities based on the student's IEP, in conjunction with requirements outlined by the student's medical physician.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	Green Tree School will continue to collaborate with state and local health officials throughout the 2021-2022 school year.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Green Tree School** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **July, 29th, 2021**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

Yes

No

Affirmed on: **July 29th, 2021**

By:

DocuSigned by:
Paul Volosov
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(Signature of Board President)*

Paul Volosov

(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.