



# 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: Wesley Schools

Initial Effective Date: 08/26/2021

Date of Last Review: 08/12/2021

Date of Last Revision: 08/12/2021

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?

Wesley Family Services has a Covid Response Team that meets weekly to reviews PDE, DOH, and CDC guidance. Wesley Schools will maintain proper cleaning, disinfecting, and ventilation strategies. Students and staff will review daily screening criteria to self-assess their health. Those individuals who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 will complete a return to school/work process. The School District will encourage and provide for the hand hygiene of all students, staff, and visitors. The School District will continue to partner with local health officials to complete contact tracing and identify individuals for quarantine and/or isolation

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?

Wesley Schools will provide instructional and non-instructional staff to ensure all students have access to quality learning opportunities and services as determined by the students' individualized education program or individual service agreements

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> ;	Students, staff, and visitors, <b>regardless of vaccination status</b> , are required to wear masks when entering Wesley Schools and in all common areas of the buildings. Masks may be removed when outside or at a personal workspace only if social distance can be maintained (see below). Masks are

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<i>required</i> on all district provided transportation.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for <a href="#">physical distancing</a> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	The social distance between students is 3 ft. The expectation between staff and student is 6 ft. Students will have their desks at least 3 ft apart within the classroom. Social distancing stickers are also placed around the school building.
c. <a href="#">Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</a> ;	<p>Teach each staff and students proper handwashing techniques and how to appropriately cover coughs/sneeze</p> <p>Require frequent handwashing/sanitizing(after PE, before meals, after recess, after restroom use)</p>
d. <a href="#">Cleaning</a> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <a href="#">ventilation</a> ;	Wesley Schools will continue to clean and disinfect schools daily with an increased focus on high touch surfaces and high traffic areas. Disinfecting protocols will be used following the identification of a positive case.
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;	<p>Wesley Schools follows CDC guidance for contact tracing, isolation and quarantine of staff and students. Isolation &amp; quarantine guidance can be found here:</p> <p><a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html</a></p>
f. <a href="#">Diagnostic</a> and screening testing;	Parents are asked to continue health screens prior to sending students to school and to notify our school nurses if your child presents with symptoms, and/or a person in your household is getting tested or has tested positive. The symptom screening tool can be found by clicking on the health & safety tab at <a href="http://www.wesleyschools.org">www.wesleyschools.org</a> .
g. Efforts to provide <a href="#">vaccinations to school communities</a> ;	Wesley Schools will continue to monitor CDC guidance and will consider revisiting the face covering requirement, at which time there is the potential that proof of vaccination will be requested for High School students. Currently, Wesley Schools is requiring masks regardless of vaccination status. Vaccination proof may be requested in the event of an exposure to determine quarantine or isolation.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	Wesley Schools will review additional mitigation options for staff members and students who are at higher risk for severe illness, including necessary June 4, 2021 Page 7 of 9 accommodations under the ADA, Section 504, or the IDEA.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	Wesley Schools will continue to communicate any known cases with the Allegheny County Health Department and/or PA DOH and will partner to provide needed contact tracing information. Wesley Schools will continue to seek consultation as needed from local health officials and appropriate medical experts.



- Require frequent handwashing/sanitizing(after PE, before meals, after recess, after restroom use)
- Wesley Schools will continue to clean and disinfect schools daily with an increased focus on high touch surfaces and high traffic areas. Disinfecting protocols will be used following the identification of a positive case.
- Wesley Schools follows CDC guidance for contact tracing, isolation and quarantine of staff and students. Isolation & quarantine guidance can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>
- Parents are asked to continue health screens prior to sending students to school and to notify our school nurses if your child presents with symptoms, and/or a person in your household is getting tested or has tested positive. The symptom screening tool can be found by clicking on the health & safety tab at [www.wesleyschools.org](http://www.wesleyschools.org).
- Wesley Schools will continue to monitor CDC guidance and will consider revisiting the face covering requirement, at which time there is the potential that proof of vaccination will be requested for High School students. Currently, Wesley Schools is requiring masks regardless of vaccination status. Vaccination proof may be requested in the event of an exposure to determine quarantine or isolation.
- Wesley Schools will review additional mitigation options for staff members and students who are at higher risk for severe illness, including necessary
- June 4, 2021 Page 7 of 9 accommodations under the ADA, Section 504, or the IDEA.
- Wesley Schools will continue to communicate any known cases with the Allegheny County Health Department and/or PA DOH and will partner to provide needed contact tracing information.
- Wesley Schools will continue to seek consultation as needed from local health officials and appropriate medical experts.
- d. **Cleaning** and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving **ventilation**;
- e. **Contact tracing** in combination with **isolation** and **quarantine**, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;
- f. **Diagnostic** and screening testing;
- g. Efforts to provide **vaccinations to school communities**;
- h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and
- i. Coordination with state and local health officials.

#### Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Wesley Schools** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on (INSERT DATE: MONTH, DAY, YEAR).

24 AUGUST 2021

The plan was approved by a vote of:

☒ Yes (UNANIMOUS)  
☐ No



Affirmed on: (INSERT DATE: MONTH, DAY, YEAR)

By:

24 AUGUST 2021



(Signature\* of Board President)

BENJAMIN J. CIOCCO

(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.

June 4, 2021

Page 1 of 2



