



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 Thorough an Integrated System of Support](#)
- [PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#)

District Health and Safety Plan Website Location

The Health and Safety Plan can be accessed at:

[https://www.sulcosd.k12.pa.us/cms/lib/PA06000070/Centricity/Domain/328/SCSD Health and Safety Plan 2021-2022 Revised 20210817.pdf](https://www.sulcosd.k12.pa.us/cms/lib/PA06000070/Centricity/Domain/328/SCSD_Health_and_Safety_Plan_2021-2022_Revised_20210817.pdf)

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **Sullivan County School District**

Initial Effective Date: July 20, 2021

Date of Last Review: June 20, 2023

Date of Last Revision: November 16, 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?

Sullivan County 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 Center for Disease Control, Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the Pennsylvania Department of Education in order to ensure a safe reopening and reentry into school for the 2021-2022 school year. The District will consider the wishes and needs of our local community, along with the best interests of our students' academic, social, and emotional well being when making decisions. This Health and Safety Plan Statement is effective November 16, 2021, until superseded by a new Board approved Comprehensive School Health and Safety Plan for returning to school, if needed.

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?

Sullivan County School District will continue to monitor the allocation of resources to students and families while 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. Additional resources will be added to the budget over the next three years to address the effects that the pandemic has had on our students within the 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 masks ;	As pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Sullivan County School District will continue to monitor the current Health and Safety Guidelines and recommendations for schools as issued by the Center for Disease

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	Control, The Pennsylvania Department of Health, The Pennsylvania Department of Education, and other applicable laws and regulations. The Sullivan County School District recommends that students and staff wear masks, consistent with the CDC recommendations. The District will collaborate with state department of health officials, as needed, to determine any large-scale need for universal wearing of face masks. Decisions will be made based on considering these guidelines, along with the wishes and needs of our community, and what is in the best interest of our students' academic, social, and emotional well-being.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	As it pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Sullivan County School District will promote physical distancing.
c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ;	As pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Sullivan County School District will promote proper handwashing, using hand sanitizer, and respiratory etiquette by continuing to display signs/education materials. The district will also make public service announcements in the schools, encourage the school nurses to promote proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette, and encourage all other employee groups to promote proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette when practicable and appropriate
d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation ;	As pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Sullivan County School District will continue to monitor the current Health and Safety Guidelines and 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. Sullivan County School District will continue to assess and replace HVAC filters when necessary. The District will provide cleaning and sanitizing solutions and materials to classrooms and employees for cleaning as needed and provide routine cleaning of facilities/ classrooms and buses by employees.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine , in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	As pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Sullivan County School District will continue to monitor the current Health and Safety Guidelines and 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. Sullivan County School District will abide by, to the maximum extent possible, any contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine requirements issued by the Center for Disease Control/Pennsylvania Department of Health/Pennsylvania Department of Education.
f. Diagnostic and screening testing;	As pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Sullivan County School District will continue to monitor the current Health and Safety Guidelines and 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. Sullivan County School District will promote diagnostic and symptom screening by parents/students/employees who are symptomatic or have suspicion of COVID-19 exposure prior to arriving at the school campus and school buildings.
g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities ;	The District is willing to offer our facilities as a vaccination site, through a partnership with local providers, to allow students, families, and the surrounding community to be able to receive a vaccination on our campus.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	As pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Sullivan County School District will continue to monitor the current Health and Safety Guidelines and 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. Decisions will be made based on considering these guidelines, along with the wishes and needs of our community, and what is in the best interest of our students' academic, social, and emotional well-being. Sullivan County School District will provide reasonable accommodations, as appropriate,

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	to students with disabilities with respect to health and safety strategies.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	As pertains to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the Sullivan County School District will continue to monitor the current Health and Safety Guidelines and 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. Decisions will be made based on considering these guidelines, along with the wishes and needs of our community, and what is in the best interest of our students' academic, social, and emotional well-being. Sullivan County School District will participate in collaborative efforts with local and state health officials who desire coordination related to responses to the pandemic, when contacted directly.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Sullivan County School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **June 20, 2023**

The plan was approved by a vote of:

 7 Yes

 0 No

Affirmed on: **June 20, 2023**

By:



(Signature* of Board President)

Gabriel P. Blasi

(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.