



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: **Beaver Valley Montessori School**

Initial Effective Date: 09/07/2021

Date of Last Review: 11/15/2021

Date of Last Revision: 11/15/2021

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?

Our building space, including office, storage, common areas and all classroom spaces will be sanitized using an environmentally friendly, Bactronix process prior to opening. This process will be repeated in all spaces as necessary. In the event a student or staff member becomes ill, all contaminated spaces will be disinfected within 48 hours. Following CDC guidelines, spaces will be disinfected when they are safe for our custodian and staff to enter; until spaces are disinfected, they will be closed.

Cleaning of frequently touched surfaces will be disinfected repeatedly throughout the day. The administrators in collaboration with the teaching and custodial staff, will create a schedule that meets the needs of the students and staff of the building. This schedule is to be revisited as changes in schedule or protocols warrant.

Hand sanitizer and hand soap will be provided in each classroom. Hand washing will be a lesson that students will repeat throughout the day, especially before and after snacks, lunch and bathroom breaks.

All building staff will need professional development to understand the importance of this process. We will offer professional development via lecture and demonstration of cleaning procedures in their classrooms

Ventilation needs will be addressed by opening windows and doors throughout the day, thereby permitting a greater flow of outside air into occupied spaces. We do not have air conditioning.

Students and staff who experience changes in their health status, related to COVID19, must report said changes to the school administrator or lead teacher. Changes include evidence of fever or other symptoms of COVID-19 or exposure to persons with confirmed or suspected COVID-19.

Students exhibiting symptoms during the school day will be taken to the administrator's office and be held in a quarantine area until a parent or guardian arrives for pick up. Staff and visitors exhibiting symptoms during the school day will report to the administrator's office and be sent home.

Students, staff, and visitors will be encouraged to stay home when they feel ill and when there is an actual or suspected history of exposure.

Students, staff, and visitors who experience no symptoms, may return following a 14-day quarantine. Those who experience symptoms may return when the following criteria have been met: 10 days have elapsed since the start of symptoms, there have been no symptoms for 3 days, including fever without the use of pharmacological intervention and there is receipt of a physician’s approval.

Standard email notification will be utilized to notify staff, families, and the public of school closures and/or evidence of COVID-19 exposure or positive test results.

The school will continue to maintain COVID19 updates via email and website.

Professional Development:

Staff (teachers, teacher aides, administrators, and substitute teachers) will receive professional development on how to identify symptoms and isolate a person displaying those symptoms using safety, distancing practices and procedures.

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?

By following the Covid protocols in place, the school will remain open to continue to offer services. In the event of closure, kindergarten students will continue to receive academic instruction via Zoom or the Bloomz platform. Services offered by the BVIU will continue in the classroom or on their online platform if the school is closed. Staff will meet in person when able to distance themselves or virtually when a 6’ distance cannot be maintained.

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 ;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masks required for all students & staff. Face shields are optional for those whose medical condition prohibits use of a mask. • Post signs at school entrance stating face mask required to enter. • Lessons on proper use of face coverings • Masks will be provided for staff and visiting adults.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will travel to the students - students will remain with their group unless they can be spaced 6’ apart. • No more than 24 individuals p/room • Chairs & tables will be physically distanced. • Individual mats spaced 6’ apart when able • More independent works available • Assigned tables & chairs for lunch.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor play/Recess will take place in an open field or large courtyard when social distancing can be maintained • Classes will have alternating outdoor times • Classes will have alternating indoor recess times. • Organized games & walks that model physical distancing. • Snacks will be prepackaged. • Virtual group events & meetings • 6' between people if events are held
<p>c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lessons on proper hand washing, covering coughs & sneezes. • Lessons & reminders on key times to wash hands. • Periodic hand washing, hand sanitizing and disinfecting throughout the day • Posted signs in hallways and restrooms describing & illustrating protective measures such as proper handwashing, how to stop the spread of germs • Hand sanitizer stations are placed throughout the classrooms, office and building.
<p>d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our building space, including office, storage, common areas and all classroom spaces will be sanitized using a two step, environmentally friendly, Bactronix process prior to opening & weekly throughout the school year. • Clean & disinfect frequently touched surfaces within the school daily, including tables, chairs, door handles, sink handles. Restrooms disinfected each day. • Classrooms & common areas will be thoroughly disinfected in-between sessions and nightly. Increase circulation of outdoor air by opening windows & doors when possible. Portable air cleaners will be used during class sessions.
<p>e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents report history exposure to administration before arrival or if absent. • Families to self report if a family member becomes ill or is exposed • Students exhibiting signs of illness will go to the administrator's office quarantine area until a parent or guardian arrives • Staff and visitors who become ill will report to the administrator's office and be sent home. • Exposed students, staff, and visitors who experience no symptoms, may return following a 14-day quarantine or a negative Covid test. • Students & staff with symptoms may return when 10 days have elapsed since the start of

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	symptoms and have no symptoms for 3 days including fever without pharmacological intervention OR a negative Covid test result. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families who are considered a close contact by the CDC and DOH will be notified by the school office.
f. Diagnostic and screening testing;	N/A
g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities ;	N/A
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students with disabilities will have the option to wear a face shield if a mask cannot be worn If immune compromised, an individual table, chair & writing/art implements will be supplied.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contacting the DOH when a Covid positive case is identified within the school or the school community to assure the correct mitigating procedures are followed

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

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

The plan was approved by a vote of:

_____ **Yes**

_____ **No**

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

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.