



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: Bucks County Youth Center

Initial Effective Date: August 30, 2021

Date of Last Review: Plan will be reviewed at our next Board of Managers meeting October 21, 2021.

Date of Last Revision: August 30, 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?**

This health and safety plan will continue to be monitored to consider guidance from our federal, state and county authorities. These agencies include but are not limited to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH), Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (PADHS) and the Bucks County Health Department (BCHD). This plan will also align with the current policies of the Bucks County Court Administration.

The health and safety plan will be reviewed as necessary based upon current recommendations from the CDC, PADOH, PADHS, BCHD and Bucks County Court Administration. These changes will be communicated to all staff, residents, family members, and vendors/contractors working in the building.

- 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?**

Academic needs will be met by the Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 and at this time the Bucks IU will continue to provide in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year. Based on public health conditions and any related mandates/requirements, the Bucks IU will remain positioned to quickly pivot between in-person instruction, virtual/remote instruction, and hybrid instruction.

Medical needs of the residents will continue to be met by Prime Care Medical our contracted medical services provider.

Residents are offered mental health services through Prime Care Medical by completing a sick call form. Depending on level of mental health needs a referral is sent to Lenape Valley or handled by Prime Care mental health services. This may also include emotional/counseling services through the Bucks IU.

Food services will continue to operate under the National School Lunch Program.

To meet the social, emotional and mental health needs of staff they will be continually reminded of how to access the County Employee Assistance Program.

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>Masks are required for all individuals (staff and residents) indoors at this current time. Regardless of vaccination status.</p> <p>We will continue to follow guidance from CDC, PADOH, PADHS and BCDH. We will also adhere to the policies of Bucks County Court Administration.</p> <p>The correct wearing of masks includes covering both the nose and the mouth. Masks are not required outdoors and remain optional.</p> <p>Please Note: All procedures based upon evaluation and current circumstances may be adjusted as needed.</p>
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>We will rely on best practices, informed by federal, state, and local guidance, to design and implement high-quality, learner-centered instructional environments in the classrooms.</p> <p>Specifically, the Bucks IU will continue to rely on the BCHD's guidance to design safe instructional spaces and workspaces for all individuals. In dorm living units, cafeteria and recreational areas staff and residents will maintain physical distancing in accordance with BCDH's guidance.</p>
<p>c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</p>	<p>All individuals will continue to be encouraged and reminded to sanitize or wash their hands on a frequent basis. Hand sanitizer will continue to be made available in all common areas, hallways, and/or lobby areas where sinks for handwashing are not available, in order to encourage frequent use.</p> <p>We will continue to post signs in highly visible locations that promote everyday protective measures/hygiene and how to stop the spread of germs. These signs are also posted in the dorm living</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	units. Staff members will continue to advise residents of proper hand washing.
<p>d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;</p>	<p>We will continue to follow proper cleaning and sanitizing protocols following CDC, EPA, and manufacturer guidelines.</p> <p>The ventilation system will be maintained by Aramark on a preventative maintenance schedule with regular filter changing. Windows will be opened in classrooms (weather permitting).</p> <p>Contracted cleaning services (CleanNet) will continue to clean daily with an increased focus on high-touch items, including cleaning of restrooms, lobby, conference rooms, work areas and dorm living units as per contract.</p> <p>Hand sanitizing stations have been installed and will continue to be maintained throughout key areas of the building.</p> <p>All cleaning products utilized are approved on the EPA COVID-19 approved sanitization products list, following the approved application standards. Additional cleaning/disinfecting products are available for staff use as needed - disinfectant wipes, hand sanitizer, hand soap, and paper towels.</p>
<p>e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>We will continue to work in partnership with the BCHD for all COVID-19-related case investigations and contact tracing. Staff members are required to report a positive test for COVID 19 to their Department Head per Bucks County Court Administration policy. Staff members who test positive for COVID-19 are required to remain out of work for 7-10 days and be symptom free for 24-48 hours prior to returning to work per court and BCHD policy. Residents who test positive are required to medically isolate to their rooms for 10 days per Prime Care and BCDH policy with follow-up testing prior to ending isolation. When a resident is positive all residents in that living unit are tested. If a resident is <u>negative</u> on the</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>unit, they are able to quarantine to the dorm living unit as long as they continue to test negative and will not have to medically isolate.</p>
<p>f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;</p>	<p>We will continue to educate all staff, residents, parents/guardians, and visitors of the signs and symptoms of COVID 19. Each day, all staff (employees and contractors) are expected to self-affirm that they feel well enough to report to work and are symptom-free and fever-free without medication. Staff members experiencing symptoms while at work will be sent home and instructed to contact their medical provider.</p> <p>Staff members who test positive for COVID-19 by a medical provider should seek support from their medical provider. Prime Care Medical is testing every admission to the facility with a COVID 19 antigen rapid test and again the resident is tested at 72 hours after admission for COVID 19.</p> <p>Prime Care Medical will evaluate and screen any resident of the facility who becomes symptomatic during their stay and will perform a rapid COVID 19 or PCR COVID test at the recommendation of the medical provider and BCDH.</p>
<p>g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u>;</p>	<p>Upon admission to the facility all residents are asked if they would like to receive the COVID 19 vaccination. If they answer yes Prime Care Medical, then coordinates with the BCHD to administer the vaccine with parental consent. The Bucks County Court Administration has mandated the vaccine for all court employees by September 17, 2021.</p>
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>The Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22 delivers the education program at the facility. The Bucks IU is a high-quality provider of services for individuals with disabilities, many of whom are served in clinical and healthcare-like settings and/or who reside in congregate care settings, residential placements, and/or healthcare-like settings. The Bucks IU will continue to</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	meet those needs through the IEP/504 process and the multi-tiered, multi-domain system of support model. The Bucks IU will continue to design and follow any individualized health and safety plan for the students we serve.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	Ongoing collaboration with the BCHD, the Bucks County Intermediate Unit (BCIU #22), the PA DOH, PADHS and Bucks County Court Administration.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

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

10/21/21

The plan was approved by a vote of:

Yes

No

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

By:

[Handwritten Signature]

(Signature* of Board President)

Diane M E Marsaglia LCSW

(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.

