



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.

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Loyalsock Township School District

Initial Effective Date: July 21,2023

Date of Last Review: July 21,2023

Date of Last Revision: July 21, 2023

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?

The Loyalsock Township School District is committed to providing in-person learning to the maximum extent possible. The District will continue to consider information and guidance received from the Center for Disease Control, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

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?

The Loyalsock Township School District will continue to utilize a broad range of services to ensure the continuity of services including academic, social, emotional and mental health needs. To support both students and staff, we will utilize our counselors, school outreach worker, trauma counselor, outside mental health and support agencies and mental health programs. We will continue to provide food services for all students and students will be entitled to one free breakfast and one free lunch each school day during the 2022-2023 school year. The continuity of services will continue regardless of the in-person or remote learning.

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 |
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| a. Universal and correct wearing of masks ; | The wearing of masks is optional. The District will continue to have masks available for those students and staff who choose to wear a mask. The District will continue to monitor community levels of transmission. |
| b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding); | The District will continue to monitor physical distancing and spacing protocols established in classrooms. Floor space will be maximized and cohort groups will |

| ARP ESSER Requirement | Strategies, Policies, and Procedures |
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| | be used to limit mixing of students where possible. |
| c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ; | The Loyalsock Township School District will continue to educate our students and staff on safe and healthy hygiene practices. This includes hand washing, hand sanitizer, covering your mouth when coughing and sneezing, and encouraging both students and staff to stay home when they display symptoms or are sick. |
| d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation ; | We will continue to follow recommended guidelines for cleaning, disinfecting, sanitizing, and ventilation practices already established in our school district. |
| e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine , in collaboration with the State and local health departments; | The District will no longer contact trace close contacts in the school setting. Students and staff who test positive will be quarantined as recommended by the CDC. Asymptomatic close contacts will not be required to be quarantined. The school notification system will be used as necessary to notify parents/guardians of any concerns. |
| f. Diagnostic and screening testing; | The District will continue to educate and advise our students, staff, and families of the signs and symptoms of illness that may require them to be out of school or work for a period of time. |
| g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities ; | Vaccinations are not required for students and staff. The District will share information from health care providers or other agencies regarding vaccination opportunities for students, staff and the community. |
| h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and | The District will continue to offer a free and appropriate public education for all students. This includes appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities including any necessary modifications with respect to our health and safety policies. |
| i. Coordination with state and local health officials. | Loyalsock Township School District will continue to work with both state and local health officials to ensure the health and safety of our students, staff and community. We continue to seek input as needed and maintain a healthy work |

| ARP ESSER Requirement | Strategies, Policies, and Procedures |
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| | relationship with both our local and state agencies. |