



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: **Lincoln Leadership Academy Charter School**

Initial Effective Date: July 1, 2021

Date of Last Review: Jun 17, 2021

Date of Last Revision: July 14, 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?

Lincoln is committed to prevention and mitigation of COVID and will use the following measures:

- LLACS COVID Coordinator to ensure compliance with policies and bring concerns to the attention of Administration.
- Monitoring and the implementation of new CDC guidelines and regulations
- Policies related to students, staff and other adults on campus including temperature checks, use of masks, social distancing, washing hands, and quarantine rooms as needed
- Daily building and transportation cleaning procedures

We recognize that a role of a public school is to be a resource hub for the surrounding community. With that in mind, we will educate our families on the realities of COVID and the importance of vaccinations. We plan to become a vaccination site for students and families.

Lincoln makes every effort to communicate directly with families and receive their comments. Parents are regularly invited to informational Administrative Zoom meetings, grade level Zoom meetings, surveys, and parent groups. Lincoln actively uses social media to share and receive information. Parents are called regularly to receive personal feedback. Additionally, Lincoln will host times at the beginning of the year to interact with parents and receive their comments. The Administration remains open to hear from parents and students as we continue to navigate necessary changes due to the pandemic.

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?

Continuity of services has been a priority for Lincoln throughout the pandemic. With

regards to academics, we plan to have both in-person and virtual instruction available in the event that a student will need to be quarantined at home or a family is uncomfortable with in-person instruction. Having a virtual option allows for students to remain academically engaged even when not on campus.

Students' and staff members' social, emotional, and mental health is also of high concern. For students, we provide services through the Student Life, Student Affairs, and Social Worker teams to address any areas of concern or any barriers that would impact a student's learning experience. We also engage outside services and resources when it is determined to be necessary. We are aware that mental health concerns with students are on the rise with students in our community, so we are preparing all staff with the needed resources and education to identify students who may need specialized attention. For staff, emotional and mental health issues will be addressed during professional learning times, and teachers with special concerns will receive special accommodations. Because our educators work in teams, it is easy for teachers to assist one another and share teaching load as necessary.

Two full-time medical professionals will be on campus at all times monitoring the health of students, and teachers will receive specific training at the beginning of the year to assess a student's health and respond appropriately.

Food service will be provided on a daily basis in alignment with CDC safety procedures. All workers will be trained in maintaining a safe environment for the students to eat.

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>Students and staff will be required to present vaccine documentation prior to the opening of school. All students and staff who have not been fully vaccinated will be required to wear a mask at all times while on campus and on school bus.</p>
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue social distancing protocols (6 ft) ● Classrooms will be organized to maintain 3-6 ft distance when possible ● Continue sanitization protocols ● Make use of outdoor space where and when possible ● Use some hallway space for small group instruction as possible

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use floor markers to demonstrate 6 ft distances <p>-Signage will direct students and staff the correct routes to follow on the school grounds, hallways and classrooms.</p> <p>-Hallways will have signs directing teachers and students to their classrooms. Only Maintenance staff and/or Essential Personnel shall have keys to access classrooms and bathrooms.</p> <p>-To ensure 3-6 feet separation, only two students (wearing masks if not vaccinated) shall be permitted to use a bathroom at one time.</p> <p>-Bathrooms shall be cleaned and sanitized on a regular basis throughout the day.</p>
<p>c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</u></p>	<p>-Hands-free hand sanitizers will be located at every entrance and in all hallways and classrooms on campus. Hand-sanitizing will be required upon entering buildings and classrooms.</p> <p>-Scheduled frequent handwashing throughout the day will be required and integrated into the instructional day.</p> <p>-Students and staff will be reminded visually and verbally to sanitize hands.</p> <p>-Staff and students will be required to sneeze and cough into their arms. Teachers will practice this with students during the first weeks of school.</p> <p>-Signs will be posted in highly visible locations, that promote everyday protective measures, and how to stop the spread of germs.</p> <p>-Signs/posters will be in English and Spanish and include pictures.</p>

	<p>-Students will also create signs to post in their classrooms</p> <p>-Students, staff, essential visitors, essential parents, essential volunteers shall have their temperatures taken upon entry to all of the school buildings. Anyone exhibiting a fever, sneezing or cough will be isolated and parents will be contacted to come pick up the child. All adults exhibiting a fever will be asked to leave the premises. In those instances, COVID testing and 14-day quarantine will be required before returning to school.</p>
<p>d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;</p>	<p>-LLACS has renovated older buildings on campus and equipped them with new HVAC Systems which include a UV Air Purification system that has proven, medical-grade filtration components used in healthcare settings, and continuously recirculate indoor air and effectively capturing and destroying 99.99% of airborne contaminants.</p> <p>-Every common area, including every classroom and all offices, are equipped with highly effective portable air purification systems.</p> <p>-Each building has air purification systems that measures cleanliness of air.</p> <p>-New energy efficient windows that can open and close easily have been installed in the HS building.</p> <p>-Large floor fans will circulate and move air constantly in the gymnasium and dining halls.</p> <p>-All Lincoln K-12 Buildings shall be Cleaned, sanitized, disinfected and learning spaces will be ventilated; surfaces cleaned and disinfected, including areas used by students (i.e., restrooms, hallways, and Lincoln-owned transportation vehicles).</p>

	<p>- Lincoln owned transportation vehicles shall be cleaned, disinfected and sanitized every day, before vehicles are used to pick up students, upon their return to campus, and again before a vehicle can be used for another trip on the same day.</p> <p>-Bottled water will be provided to all students and personnel. Water Fountains will remain disconnected.</p> <p>-All classrooms, hallways and areas used by students/staff shall be cleaned, disinfected and sanitized every day, once students and teaching staff leave the Lincoln campus, in preparation for use the next day.</p> <p>-Every Friday all facilities will be thoroughly sanitized and disinfected following the CDC Guidance for safety.</p> <p>-LLACS maintains a well-stocked inventory of cleaning and sanitizing supplies and equipment such as Electrostatic sprayers and PPE including face masks.</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>-Students and staff shall have their temperatures taken upon entry to all of the school buildings. Anyone exhibiting a fever, sneezing or cough will be isolated immediately in our “Quarantine Room.”</p> <p>-Parents will be contacted to come pick up the child immediately. Proof of COVID testing and 14-day quarantine will be required before returning to school.</p> <p>-All essential visitors, essential parents, essential volunteers shall have their temperatures taken upon entry to all of the school buildings. Anyone exhibiting a fever, sneezing or cough will be asked to leave the campus immediately. They will be advised to be COVID Tested and show proof of results prior to coming back on campus.</p>

	<p>-In the event of a parent, LLACS COVID Coordinator will isolate student (s) in contact with parent and remove from class immediately. Parent will be required to sign the child out and follow the COVID testing protocols for return to school.</p>
<p>f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;</p>	<p>-LLACS will use COVID testing kits for students whose parents we cannot reach immediately. However, parents will be required to take the child for professional testing and follow the protocols for return to school.</p>
<p>g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u>;</p>	<p>-Collaborating with local Health Bureau's and medical providers, to become a Vaccination Site for our students, families and staff.</p> <p>-Collaborated with PDE and the IU 21 to coordinate a staff-wide vaccination effort in the Spring of 2021. Approximately 60-65% of staff were fully vaccinated.</p>
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>-Students in need of accommodations will have an individualized plan created based on their disabilities. Student Plan will be implemented accordingly to meet their needs.</p>
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p>-LLACS COVID Coordinator has and will continue to communicate and collaborate on an on-going basis with Health Bureau officials in both Allentown and Bethlehem.</p> <p>-LLACS has and will continue to comply with all state reporting mandates on a consistent basis.</p>

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Lincoln Leadership Academy Charter School** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **July 15, 2021**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

 5 Yes

 0 No

Affirmed on: **(July 15, 2021)**

By:

On original

(Signature of Board President)*

On original

(Print Name of Board President)