



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: **La Academia Partnership Charter School**

Initial Effective Date: 08/01/2021

Date of Last Review: 07/28/2021

Date of Last Revision: 07/28/2021

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?

Although the school was virtual for the 2020-2021 school year, La Academia Partnership Charter School developed a Health and Safety plan that addressed (1) cleaning, sanitation, and disinfecting; (2) social distancing, wearing masks, and other safety protocols; (3) monitoring the health of and tracking all visitors to the building; and (4) other considerations for scholars and staff on campus. The school updated policies, guidelines, and safety measures as recommendations changed frequently throughout the school year.

For the 2021-2022 school year, La Academia will continue to monitor the requirements, recommendation, and guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA, the CDC, and PA DOH, and PDE that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable guidelines after July 30, 2021, La Academia will update the plan accordingly.

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?

Although La Academia was virtual for the 2020-2021 school year, the building was open for much of the year as a Learning Hub to provide scholars a safe space to complete their schoolwork and access support. This support included meals, social-emotional needs, and other supports. During the time that the Learning Hub was open, Special Education and ESL staff were available to provide specific supports for scholars in those programs. Breakfast and lunch were provided for pick up daily as well.

Additionally, La Academia has offered a rigorous Summer Program to transition scholars back to in person learning for the 2021-2022 school year.

For the 2021-2022 school year, we are excited to welcome all scholars back to in-person learning. We have hired a social worker to continue to provide the necessary social-emotional support needed. To ensure continuity in academics, we will be utilizing Schoology and all scholars will be provided with a Chromebook. If a scholar will need to miss school due to illness, they will be able to engage in the learning virtually until a return



to in-person instruction is possible.

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 <u>masks</u>;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LAPCS will adhere to PA DOH orders regarding face coverings. ● If no face covering order exists, it is acceptable for someone who wishes to wear a face coming to do so, regardless of vaccination status. ● LAPCS will encourage the use of face coverings in areas where social distancing is not possible including hallways and when working in groups. ● LAPCS will continue to monitor all local, state, and federal guideline. If there are any changes to these guidelines, we will update the plan accordingly.
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LAPCS will adhere to PA DOH orders regarding physical distancing. ● LAPCS will adhere to recommended physical distancing measures to the greatest extent possible. ● LAPCS will continue to monitor all local, state, and federal guideline. If there are any changes to these guidelines, we will update the plan accordingly.
<p>c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u>;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LAPCS will have hand sanitizer and soap available at sinks, in bathrooms, in the cafeteria, and in classrooms. Students will be encouraged to wash and/or

	<p>sanitize hands frequently, especially before and after lunch.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LAPCS will continue to monitor all local, state, and federal guideline. If there are any changes to these guidelines, we will update the plan accordingly.
<p>d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned and sanitized daily. ● Plexiglass shield will be used in the office. ● LAPCS will continue to use plasma units in current ventilation systems. ● LAPCS will upgrade current ventilation system to increase airflow in main throughways. ● LAPCS will install commercial units in basement classrooms for moisture reduction. ● LAPCS will continue to monitor all local, state, and federal guideline. If there are any changes to these guidelines, we will update the plan accordingly.
<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LAPCS will adhere to PA DOH orders regarding contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine. ● LAPCS will continue to monitor all local, state, and federal guideline. If there are any changes to these guidelines, we will update the plan accordingly.
<p>f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Staff and students will complete symptom checks at home before the start of each school day. ● Staff and students will be encouraged to self-report symptoms and exposure to the school principal.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-site screening will be completed for any person who displays symptoms while in the building. • La Academia will partner with community agencies, including the school-based health clinic, to provide diagnostic services.
<p>g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • La Academia will partner with community agencies, including the school-based health clinic, to provide these services.
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any specific accommodation related to a student’s health and safety and outlined in a student’s IEP will be followed.
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The county does not have a local health agency. LAPCS will continue to collaborate with the PA DOH.



Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **La Academia Partnership Charter School** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **July 28, 2021**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

_____ **Yes**

_____ **No**

Affirmed on: **July 28, 2021**

By:

(Signature of Board President)*

Colleen Wagner

(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.



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June 4, 2021

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