



# ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan Guidance & Template

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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: Mon Valley Career and Technology Center

**Initial Effective Date: July 1, 2021**

**Date of Last Review: June 24, 2021**

**Date of Last Revision: June 24, 2021**

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?

Mon Valley CTC will monitor the latest recommendations from PDE, PADOH, and CDC and update their Health and Safety Plan as needed. Board policies will be reviewed and adjusted as needed to assure compliance with the health and safety plan. The plan will be presented to the governing Board for approval when changes are necessary. Facilities and practices will be adapted to the extent possible to ensure that appropriate prevention and mitigation processes are followed. In addition to practicing standard preventative measures such as handwashing, cleaning practices, and the use of PPE when required, Mon Valley CTC will continue to encourage the vaccination of students and staff. Mon Valley CTC will continue to practice standard mitigation efforts to include reducing close contact when feasible.

1. 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 primary mode of instruction will be In Person, however educational models will be adapted to the needs of the students as appropriate, including virtual if warranted. Social, emotional, mental health and other needs will be monitored and provided by school health providers, social workers and other mental behavior specialists when needed. Mon Valley CTC does not provide daily food services as we are a "Shared-Time" Technology Center.

2. 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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u>;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Face coverings will be optional unless mandated by Order of the PA Secretary of Health, Governor, or other governing authority.</li> </ul>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mon Valley CTC will develop mitigation plans in line with the most recent PDE, PADOH, and CDC guidance with plans being updated every six months as needed.</li> <li>• Staff and students will be trained on and reminded of proper mask use as needed.</li> <li>• All implementation strategies will adhere to the student's IEP or 504 Plan.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Balance class numbers as much as possible – remove unused desks and furniture in classrooms; maximize social distancing (to the extent practicable).</li> <li>• Staff will maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from other adults to the maximum extent feasible.</li> <li>• Staff will maintain at least 6 feet from students, whenever possible and when not disruptive to the educational process.</li> <li>• Limit physical interaction through partner or group work.</li> <li>• Establish distance between the teacher's instructional area/desk/board and students' desks/practical areas.</li> <li>• Identify and utilize large spaces such as lab areas and outside spaces – as weather permits) for social distancing.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing, covering coughs, and face coverings when required.</li> <li>• Provide hand soap, hand sanitizer with at least 70% alcohol, cleaning wipes/disinfectant spray, tissues, and paper towels in all classrooms and frequently trafficked areas.</li> <li>• Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the</li> </ul>

**ARP ESSER Requirement****Strategies, Policies, and Procedures**

- Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;

- Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;

spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, proper respiratory etiquette and school/district specific protocols.

- Perform hand hygiene after having contact with respiratory secretions and contaminated objects or materials.

- Daily cleaning of schools with soap and water, disinfectants and sanitizers to decrease how much of the virus is on surfaces and objects, which reduces the risk of exposure. Provide additional cleaning to frequently touched surfaces and objects including door handles, sink handles and drinking fountains.

- Use of routine cleaning practices for indoor areas that have not been used for 7 or more days.

- Follow standard protocols to clean surfaces that are not high touch.

- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, for example by opening windows and doors. Do not open windows and doors if doing so poses a safety or health risk (e.g., risk of falling, triggering asthma symptoms) to children using the facility.

- Work with school administrators and school first aid personnel to identify an isolation room or area to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms.

- school first aid personnel and other healthcare providers should use Standard and Transmission- Based Precautions when caring for sick people.

**ARP ESSER Requirement****Strategies, Policies, and Procedures**

- Diagnostic and screening testing;

- Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;

- Establish procedures for safely transporting anyone who is sick home or to a healthcare facility.
- Contact the local health authority before acting in response to a known or suspected communicable disease.
- Contact the local health authority for further guidance if a parent/guardian/caregiver notifies the school of potential exposure by a student, staff member, or school visitor.
- Fill out and submit the Self Report and Line List forms provided by PDE and PADOH Joint Task Force for contact tracing.
- Send out notifications to building staff and students with the appropriate information as needed.
- Work closely with the community health center nurses to follow-up and complete contract tracing.
- Develop policies and procedures based on CDC guidelines. Ensure that staff and students meet all requirements before returning to school safely.
- Be aware of signs and symptoms of students and staff daily upon arrival.
- Consider a process to address privacy concerns of monitoring practices and the potential stigma associated with monitoring and confirmed exposure or cases.
- Develop a system for home/self-screening and reporting procedures.
- Encourage staff to stay home if they are sick and encourage parents to keep sick children home.
- Work with community health centers and hospitals to either provide on-site vaccinations or provide brochures and other information as to when and where staff and

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</li> </ul>	<p>students can receive vaccinations at their sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that any policy regarding face coverings or any other parts of the health and safety plans should be sensitive to the needs of students and staff with medical issues. Appropriate accommodations in compliance with federal and state laws should be made for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and procedures.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination with state and local health officials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mon Valley CTC will work together with the Joint Task Force, PADOH, community health agencies and County Emergency Management Agencies to coordinate resources in accordance with their health and safety plan.</li> </ul>



## Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for Mon Valley CTC reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **(August 5, 2021)**.

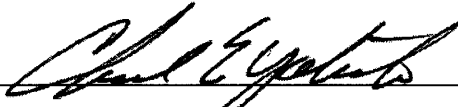
The plan was approved by a vote of:

  4   Yes

  0   No

Affirmed on: 08-5-2021

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature\* of Board President)

Charlie Yakich

\_\_\_\_\_  
(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.