



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: Centennial School of Lehigh University

Initial Effective Date: 08/24/2021

Date of Last Review: 08/12/2021; 03/1/2022

Date of Last Revision: 08/12/2021; 03/1/2022

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?

Centennial School's goal is to provide full-time in-person learning for our students in the safest manner possible. We will continue to utilize guidance from the CDC and PA Department of Health (PA DOH) to inform our decisions for health and safety planning. A layered mitigation approach is recommended and we plan to incorporate mask wearing when community or building data indicate a substantial level of spread, physical distancing, enhanced ventilation, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, staying home when sick and getting tested, contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation, and cleaning and disinfection procedures. As guidance and resources from the PA DOH become available for screening and testing, we will attempt to incorporate this layer of protection as well. We will continue to use state or local guidance to implement appropriate prevention and mitigation protocols in response to the level of community spread in our local community. This plan will be monitored, revised, and updated as federal, state and local orders evolve.

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?

Centennial School offers a robust academic curriculum where teachers provide high-quality instruction to ensure students' academic needs are met. Academic progress monitoring occurs on a regular basis. All students are assigned a case manager who monitors their progress and communicates with the families on a weekly basis via emails, hand written notes, phone conversations, and voicemails. A positive rapport is established between the case managing teacher, the student, and the family to provide opportunities for ongoing communication regarding needs and concerns. Case managers will work directly with program coordinators, the director, and the school counselor to identify the necessary supports that will assist the student in managing school and personal challenges they may be experiencing. The school

counselor may reach out to community based agencies to support students when permissions to share information are acquired. Centennial School counseling staff developed a [website](#) for families to access a variety of resources to address social emotional wellness. Additionally, the [PA Mental Health and Well Being website](#) is another resource for families.

A full-time school nurse is employed through Centennial and a crucial member of the Health and Safety Plan team. Centennial School nurse will collaborate with Lehigh University Employee Health Case Manager and also Bethlehem Area School District school nurse staff members.

Centennial School offers a free breakfast program and participates in the free school lunch program for the 2021-2022 school year. Both are free for all students this school year.

Regarding teachers' social emotional wellness, Lehigh University offers resources through the [Employee Assistance Program](#) to assist employees in meeting their needs. The Employee Assistance Program is managed by Integrated Behavioral Health and is available to eligible employees and any of their dependents who could benefit from their services.

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
a. Universal and correct wearing of masks ;	<p>As of March 1, 2022, when in low or moderate COVID-19 community level, masks are optional at Centennial School regardless of an individual's vaccination status.</p> <p>Masks are not required outdoors.</p> <p>Federal orders, state orders and/or local data may result in modifications to the school's face covering practices.</p> <p>Effective February 25, 2022, CDC is exercising its enforcement discretion to not require that people wear masks on buses or vans operated by public or private school systems, including early care and education/child care programs. CDC is making this change to align with</p>

	<p><u>updated guidance</u> that no longer recommends universal indoor mask wearing in K-12 and early education settings in <u>areas with a low or medium COVID-19 Community Level</u>.</p>
b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	<p>Physical distancing will occur to the greatest extent feasible and consistent with prioritizing educational instruction.</p> <p>Students should be at least 3 feet apart when seated in the classrooms for instruction and eating.</p> <p>Breakfast will be served by staff at the kitchen counter and students will return to their homeroom desks to eat. Lunch will be served to each classroom and students will sit at their homeroom desks to eat.</p> <p>Floor markers will be present outside of bathrooms and in the gym where dismissal takes place to assist students in knowing where to appropriately stand while they wait in line.</p>
c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u> ;	<p>All individuals will sanitize/wash hands frequently (e.g., upon arrival, prior to eating, after eating, after recess, use of bathroom).</p> <p>Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and office spaces. Hand sanitizer will be used before and after gym class and when using technology.</p> <p>Signs will be posted in highly visible locations to promote everyday proactive practices (e.g., bathrooms, classrooms).</p>
d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u> ;	Teachers will clean desks on a frequent basis when student groupings change

	<p>and/or at the end of each class period. Desks will be cleaned before and after eating.</p> <p>Lunch: A cart will be used to distribute lunches to students in their homerooms. All lunch will be served and consumed in the classrooms. Students will eat all meals at their desks.</p> <p>Facilities: Water fountains will not be accessible; a water-refilling station will be used to fill water bottles. Students and staff are encouraged to bring a refillable water bottle to school daily.</p> <p>Ventilation: At the end of the school day, exterior doors will be opened and an industrial fan will be placed at two entrances to circulate old air out of the building and encourage new air to enter the building.</p>
e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine , in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	<p>The Centennial School nurse will work with students and their families to provide guidance on mandated isolations or quarantines in the event of a confirmed case.</p> <p>Centennial School may assist with contract tracing, at times of high community transmission, as seen within Centennial School, and as directed by the PA DOH.</p> <p>Centennial will follow recommended guidance from Pennsylvania Department of Health and CDC for isolation and quarantines as it applies to vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals until</p>

	<p>otherwise deemed unnecessary by the Pennsylvania Department of Health.</p> <p>The Centennial School nurse will collaborate with Lehigh University Employee Health Case Manager and also Bethlehem Area School District nurse staff members.</p> <p>For students on temporary quarantines/isolations, a device will be provided to access work through Google Classroom and/or email.</p> <p>Return to work/school will be permitted in accordance with the current CDC and PA DOH guidelines. A doctor's note may be required.</p>
f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;	<p>Parents/Guardians will be asked to screen students at home each morning as they did during the 2020-21 school year. Centennial will provide a COVID-19 screener for daily use for students and staff.</p> <p>Based upon the community and building level spread, a wellness screener for staff, visitors, and volunteers may be utilized during the school year.</p> <p>Any students or staff who are experiencing Symptoms of COVID-19 will be asked to stay home.</p>
g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u> ;	Centennial provided information in the spring of 2021 on vaccine clinics in the area for eligible students and will continue to provide information to families on vaccine opportunities both through Remind and on the school website.

<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>When indoors, all staff and students will wear face coverings on a daily basis, while in substantial community spread. Pending low and moderate community transfer, masks are optional.</p> <p>Accommodations for such students should be made in partnership with the student's health care provider, school nurse, and IEP/504 team. Student case managers will communicate weekly with families. IEP meetings will be called to address changes in programming and health/medical accommodations. Case managers will communicate specific student plans with school teams.</p>
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p>Members of the Health and Safety team will monitor community transmission rates on a weekly basis and stay current with recommendations from the PA DOH and the CDC. Revisions and changes to the Health and Safety Plan will reflect the recommendations and consider the factors in the local area.</p>

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Centennial School of Lehigh University** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on ..

The plan was approved by a vote of:

Yes

No

Affirmed on:

By:

(*Signature* of Board President*)

William Gaudelli

(*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.