



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: Hickory Christian Preschool

Initial Effective Date: August 4, 2021

Date of Last Review: August 3, 2021

Date of Last Revision: July 29, 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?

Hickory Christian Preschool (HCP) will monitor and review the latest recommendations from the PDE, PA DOH and CDC as the information is updated and released. HCP will update this plan throughout the upcoming school year as needed. HCP policies and procedures will be reviewed and revised as needed to assure compliance with necessary mandates, recommendations, and guidance related to the Preschool's Health and Safety Plan.

The Health and Safety Plan will be presented and reviewed by the Pastor of Hickory United EPC and HCP Committee for approval when changes are necessary. Health and safety practices will be implemented to the extent feasible to ensure appropriate prevention and mitigation guidelines are followed. In addition, HCP will encourage the practice of standard preventive measures including frequent hand washing, consistent cleaning practices, standard mitigation efforts, and the use of PPE when required. The tracking of close contacts will continue to ensure appropriate steps being implemented to minimize the risk and spread of COVID-19.

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?

Hickory Christian Preschool will ensure continuity of services for the 2021-22 school year by providing in-person instruction. If health and safety needs warrant school closure, a remote educational model will be available during this time for all learners. Social emotional learning is part of our program and is included in our curriculum. Additional services may be provided through the Intermediate Unit and HCP will assist families in finding the help they need to the extent 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 masks;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hickory Christian Preschool (HCP) will monitor and review the latest recommendations from the PDE, PA DOH and CDC as the information is updated and released. • The wearing of masks will be adjusted to align with state mandates. • Staff and students will be trained and reminded of proper mask use if state mandated. • All implementation strategies will adhere to a student’s IEP, 504, and/or medical documentation.
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCP will implement mitigation measures of physical distancing to the maximum extent feasible. • Same direction seating and adequate spacing will be attempted to the maximum extent feasible. • Large spaces will be used as much as possible. • Staff will maintain appropriate and applicable physical distancing from students, whenever possible; when not disruptive to the educational process; and when developmentally appropriate.
<p>c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</p>	<p>Staff will instruct and review good hygiene measures with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand washing (upon arrival, before and after snack, after using the restroom, and as needed) • Covering coughs and sneezes with elbow and turning away from others • Correct wearing of masks when required. • Provide hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol in classrooms (under teacher supervision) and at drop off area • Post signs in classrooms, hallway, entrance, and bathrooms to communicate protective measures and how to stop the spread of COVID-19 (hand washing and covering coughs)
<p>d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily cleaning of facilities used by HCP with soap and water to reduce amount of the virus on surfaces. • Daily disinfect and sanitize classrooms and areas used by HCP with EPA approved disinfectants for use with COVID-19. • Disinfecting highly touched surfaces (sinks, handles, door knobs, light switches) • Ensure ventilation systems operate properly. Clean filters monthly. • Increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible,

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>by opening windows. (Do not open windows if doing so poses a safety or health risk to children using the facility triggering asthma symptoms).</p>
<p>e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with DOH or county health department to complete contact tracing for individuals diagnosed or exposed COVID-19. • Identify an isolation room (one of the classrooms/big room area not in use) to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms • Anyone caring for sick person should use Standard and Transmission Based Precautions <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/care-for-someone.html https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/basics/standard-precautions.html https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/basics/transmission-based-precautions.html</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrange for anyone who is sick to go home • Notify Pastor Dan and local health authorities for further guidance of possible cases before acting in response to a known or suspected communicable disease. • Maintain confidentiality consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and follow their directions. • Follow CDC guidelines for quarantine and isolation. <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/end-home-isolation.html https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/contact-tracing.html</p>
<p>f. Diagnostic and screening testing;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff and parents perform daily home/self screening and report any positive COVID-19 symptoms before coming to school. <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/coronavirus-self-checker.html</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage staff to stay home if they are sick and encourage parents to keep sick children home. • Assess students and staff daily for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 upon arrival at school.
<p>g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help staff and families find information as to when and where they can receive vaccinations.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that any policies regarding face coverings or any other part of the Health and Safety Plan are sensitive to the needs of staff and students with medical issues. Make appropriate accommodations for staff and students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and procedures.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hickory Christian Preschool will work together with the PA Department of Health and other community health agencies as needed to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/child-care-guidance.html>

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Hickory Christian Preschool Committee reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **8/3/2021**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

 4 **Yes**

 0 **No**

Affirmed on: **8/3/2021**

By:

(Signature of Board President)*

(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.