



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: **All Saints Catholic School**

Initial Effective Date: August 16, 2021

Date of Last Review: 2020-2021 School Year

Date of Last Revision: August 16, 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?

All Saints Catholic School will continue to take steps to maintain the health and safety of its staff and students. During the 2021-22 school year, ASCS will continue to monitor the latest recommendations from the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese, PDE, PADOH, and CDC and update its Health and Safety Plans, as needed and as appropriate. In addition, local data will serve as a guide to determine the impact of the virus in our local county and community.

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?

ASCS will provide in-person instruction to all students. In the event that any short-term school closures are necessary, remote learning will be provided, as needed, utilizing our learning management system, online conferencing tools, paper/pencil activities. Devices (Chromebooks and/or Tablets) will be available for all learners that need them. Social, emotional, mental health and other needs will be monitored and supports will be provided through the school counselor and partnerships with local behavioral and mental health agencies. Free meals for all students will be offered in accordance with the available programming.

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>All Saints will follow the Pennsylvania Department of Health which allows masks to be optional indoors at school.</p> <p>The impact of the pandemic has affected every Catholic school in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown over the past</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>18 months. As students, families, administrators, faculty, staff, and pastors look forward to the new academic year, the diocese remains committed to the health and safety of everyone. While the situation with COVID-19 continues to evolve, all school communities are encouraged to maintain a spirit of flexibility, patience, understanding, and profound respect for the wishes of others and each individual situation.</p> <p>The Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown will continue to communicate with families, administrators, faculty, and staff as developments occur.</p>
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>ASCS will maintain a minimum of three feet distance between the spacing of student desks in the classroom and students physically in the cafeteria and other areas of the school utilized by the students.</p> <p>The maximum number of students in any given classroom will depend on the size of the classroom.</p> <p>ASCS will utilize outdoor spaces surrounding the school as weather and conditions permit.</p>
<p>c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</p>	<p>Students will be reminded by teachers, staff, and through daily announcements about proper hygiene including covering coughs and sneezes, handwashing, the need for social distancing etc.</p>
<p>d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;</p>	<p>Classrooms will be cleaned and disinfected daily. Teachers and staff will have access to wipes and sanitizing sprays which can be used throughout the day as necessary. Hand sanitizing stations are located throughout the school. Windows will be opened as often as possible and air purifying fans used to increase ventilation.</p>
<p>e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>ASCS will comply with the quarantine and isolations as directed by the PA Department of Health (DOH). These orders of quarantine/isolation will be communicated through the Diocesan Education Office (DEO) to the school and will occur ASAP after the DEO receives the paperwork about the exposure or COVID+ diagnosis from the COVID response person at the school. All paperwork will be filled out immediately upon notification of an exposure or COVID+ situation and turned into the DEO as soon as it is completed.</p>
<p>f. Diagnostic and screening testing;</p>	<p>Families and staff will be reminded on a regular basis about monitoring for COVID 19 symptoms and the need to stay home when necessary.</p> <p>Daily temperature checks will be conducted with non-</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	contact thermometers for a health screening purpose prior to entering the school for the day.
g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;	When ASCS receives vaccination information, we will share with the information with our families.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	ASCS will provide reasonable accommodations, when feasible, to students with disabilities with respect to health and safety strategies.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	ASCS will work in conjunction with the Diocesan Education Office. Their office will coordinate with state and local officials for all Catholic schools in the diocese.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **All Saints Catholic School** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **August 16, 2021**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

_____ **Yes**

_____ **No**

Affirmed on: **(INSERT DATE: MONTH, DAY, YEAR)**

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.