



# 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: **Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School**

**Initial Effective Date:** July 21, 2021

**Date of Last Review:** July 20, 2021

**Date of Last Revision:**

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?

**CMAVTS provided in person instruction at the start of the 2020-2021 school year to faculty and staff and created pandemic guidelines for CMAVTS staff and students to follow throughout the 2020-2021 school year. We will continue to do our best to provide for the health and safety of all our staff and students knowing that we want to provide in-person instruction to the greatest extent possible during the 2021-2022 school year. The chart below outlines the specific measures that will be taken to provide for the health and safety of all students.**

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?

**CMAVTS intends to provide in-person instruction to the greatest extent possible 2021-2022. CMAVTS continues to provide one-to-one electronic devices for our students. In 2020-2021 CMAVTS purchased a learning management system and began using this in the fall of 2020. CMAVTS will continue to provide professional development to our faculty and staff so that instruction can continue even if we move to a virtual format. Educators at CMAVTS will stay connected and aware of students' academic and social emotional needs in both the in-person and virtual learning environments knowing that we will be in -person to the greatest extent possible.**

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   |
|---|--|
| a. Universal and correct wearing of <a href="#">masks</a> ;   | <p>As of June 28, 2021, masks are not mandated in PA regardless of vaccination status.</p> <p>CMAVTS will permit students and staff to voluntarily wear masks at any time.</p> <p>CMAVTS leaders will collaborate with local and state health officials as needed to determine any large-scale (by building) need for universal wearing of face masks and will enforce any PA DOH and PDE guidance and mandated orders pertaining to face masks.</p> <p>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as masks, shields, gowns, gloves and plexiglass shields will be provided to staff upon request.</p> |
| b. Modifying facilities to allow for <a href="#">physical distancing</a> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);          | <p>CMAVTS will follow the PA DOH and PDE guidance regarding physical distancing. CMAVTS will promote physical distancing to the maximum extent possible in our schools. Strategies may include, but are not limited to, cohort, assigned seating, structured group activities, additional spaces for breakfast and lunch. Water filling stations have replaced water fountains in hallways.</p> <p>The CMAVTS will follow PA DOH and PDE guidelines regarding occupancy of both indoor and outdoor events.</p>   |
| c. <a href="#">Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</a> ;  | <p>CMAVTS will promote proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette through educational materials, displayed signs, videos and public service announcements. All staff will promote proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette when practical and appropriate.</p>   |
| d. <a href="#">Cleaning</a> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <a href="#">ventilation</a> ; | <p>CMAVTS Maintenance staff will conduct daily cleaning and sanitizing of school facilities. Additional cleaning</p>   |



| ARP ESSER Requirement   | Strategies, Policies, and Procedures  |
|---|---|
|   | <p>and sanitization will be addressed in high use or infected areas. Sanitizing solutions will be provided to employees for sanitizing furniture and materials.</p> <p>CMAVTS will continue to ensure proper ventilation. Maintenance services staff will assess, maintain these systems.</p>   |
| <p>e. <a href="#">Contact tracing</a> in combination with <a href="#">isolation</a> and <a href="#">quarantine</a>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p> | <p>CMAVTS will abide by, to the maximum extent possible, any contact tracing, isolation and quarantine requirements issued by the Centers for Disease Control/Pennsylvania Department of Health/Pennsylvania Department of Education. CMAVTS administrators will be trained in contact tracing protocols</p>                          |
| <p>f. <a href="#">Diagnostic</a> and screening testing;</p>   | <p>CMAVTS will promote diagnostic and symptom screening by parents/students/employees who are symptomatic, or have suspicion of COVID-19 exposure, prior to arriving at the school campus and school buildings. Additional diagnostic screening will be conducted by school nurse if students or staff are symptomatic at school.</p> |
| <p>g. Efforts to provide <a href="#">vaccinations to school communities</a>;</p>  | <p>CMAVTS participated in the CSIU regional vaccination program for educators in Spring 2021. CMAVTS will continue to remain in close contact with Geisinger Medical Center and Evangelical Hospital and will communicate regional vaccination and health information.</p>  |
| <p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>   | <p>CMAVTS will provide reasonable accommodations, as appropriate, to students with disabilities with respect to health and safety strategies</p>  |
| <p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>   | <p>CMAVTS will collaborate with local and state health officials as needed and to coordinate responses related to the pandemic.</p>   |

## Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Columbia-Monitur Area Vocational-Technical School** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **July 20, 2021**

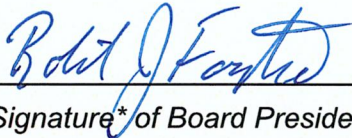
The plan was approved by a vote of: 10 / 0

☒ Yes

☐ No

Affirmed on: **July 20, 2021**

By:



(Signature\* of Board President)

ROBERT J FOGARTY

(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.

