



Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services LEA Plan

American Rescue Plan Act

ASBA / ASA / AASBO / ACSA Joint Webinar

June 2, 2021



Safe Return to In-Person Instruction LEA Plan

Thank you to our hosts!



Safe Return to In-Person Instruction LEA Plan

Our Presenters:



Peter Laing - *Policy Advisor*

Callie Kozlak - *Associate Superintendent, Policy & Government Relations*



Safe Return to In-Person Instruction LEA Plan

Our Additional Q&A Panelists:



Chris Kotterman *Director of Government Relations - Arizona School Boards Association (ASBA)*



Chuck Essigs *Director of Governmental Relations - Arizona Association of School Business Officials (AASBO)*



Mark Joraanstad *Executive Director - Arizona School Administrators (ASA)*



Jake Logan *President & CEO - Arizona Charter Schools Association (ACSA)*



Safe Return to In-Person Instruction LEA Plan



Welcome !

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www.azed.gov/CARES/ESSER

for all grant and program
resources and guidance
documents

If you have any questions,
please contact us at:

ESSER@azed.gov



NEW LEA ESSER III Plan Requirements

- USED released a **new Interim Final Rule (IFR) for ESSER III** on 4/22/2021, and has released more information and guidance regarding this IFR over the last few weeks
- The IFR provides more detail regarding the requirement for LEAs to develop a “***Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan***”



NEW: ESSER III

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan

- **All LEAs receiving ESSER III funds must develop and make publicly available on their website, a plan for the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services**
- **If an LEA already developed a plan** prior to enactment of the American Rescue Plan Act that meets the statutory requirements, **but does not address all the requirements** on the previous slide, the **LEA must revise and post its plan no later than 6 months after receiving its ESSER III funds** to meet these requirements
- LEAs must **update this plan regularly**, at least **every 6 months**, throughout the initial term of ESSER III (**September 30, 2023**), taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools, review and, as appropriate, revise its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services
- In determining whether revisions are necessary, and **in making any revisions**, the **LEA must seek public input** and **take such input into account**



NEW: ESSER III

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan

The plan must address the following sections:

- I. How it 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 policies**, on each of the following **safety recommendations established by the CDC**:
 - Universal and correct wearing of masks
 - Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)
 - Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
 - Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation
 - Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments
 - Diagnostic and screening testing
 - Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities
 - Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies
 - Coordination with State and local health officials

- II. How it will **ensure continuity of services**, including but not limited to services to address **students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs**, which may include **student health and food services**



NEW: ESSER III

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan

➤ The LEA's plan must also be:

- ✓ In an **understandable and uniform format**
- ✓ To the extent practicable, **written in a language that parents can understand** or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, be orally translated for such parent
- ✓ Upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent
- ✓ Be made **publicly available on the LEA's website**

NEW: ESSER III

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan



Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (ARP Act)

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 policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

CDC Safety Recommendations	Has the LEA Adopted a Policy? (Y/N)	Describe LEA Policy:
Universal and correct wearing of masks		
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)		
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette		
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation		
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments		
Diagnostic and screening testing		
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities		
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies		
Coordination with State and local health officials		

ADE has created a template to assist LEAs in developing their local plans:



NEW: ESSER III

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan

How the LEA will ensure **continuity of services**, including but not limited to services to address **students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs**, which may include **student health and food services**

How the LEA will Ensure Continuity of Services?

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	
Other Needs	

The LEA must **regularly, but no less frequently than every six months** (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools), **review and, as appropriate, revise its plan** for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services **through September 30, 2023**

Date of Revision	
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Public Input

Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	
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Key Takeaways

- ✓ If no plan was in place (**unlikely**), then it would need to be created by **July 2, 2021**
- ✓ If a plan was already in place, then the plan would need to be **revised** to address the new requirements to be in place for the **first day of their next school year (SY21-22)**
- ✓ The plan must be updated at least every 6 months, or more often depending on updates in CDC guidance – **through September 30, 2023**
- ✓ We will provide guidance soon on how to submit these plans to ADE. A **template is available now on the ESSER III website** to help build your plan to meet the new ARP Act and IFR requirements for ESSER III



Thank You!



Peter Laing - Policy Advisor

Callie Kozlak - Associate Superintendent, Policy & Government Relations

Please visit
www.azed.gov/CARES/ESSER
for links to all grant and program resources and
guidance documents

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