



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

### LEA Information

**1. LEA Name (one LEA per form)\***

Aprender Tucson

**2. Entity ID Number\***

79426

**3. CTDS Number\***

108785000

**4. Plan's Primary Contact Name\***

Melissa Costa

**5. Plan's Primary Contact Email Address\***

mcosta@scstucson.org

**6. Plan's Primary Contact Phone Number\***

50203292444

**Please submit your Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan every six months from your prior submission date.**

Revision Timeline: May 2023-September 2023

**7. Since your last submission date, when did your LEA last review and/or revise your plan? Please provide the updated mm/dd/yyyy of your review/revision. This date should be updated from your last submission. \***

07/31/2023

**All LEAs receiving ESSER III funds must make publicly available on their website, a plan for the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services. Please list the link where the plan/template is posted on the LEA's website.**

**8. Insert the link below with directions on how to find your LEA's Safe Return to In-Person plan located on your LEA website (do not link directly to the PDF). The plan must be on the ADE template that will be downloaded from EMAC after completing your responses.\***

<https://www.scstucson.org/covid-policies-procedures/>

**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)**

**9. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on universal and correct wearing of masks?\***

Yes

**10. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on universal and correct wearing of masks.\***

Students, staff and visitors are all recommended to wear masks while indoors on campus.

**11. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)?\***

Yes

**12. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding).\***

Our facilities are prepared to return to pods if needed based on COVID cases increasing within the county.

**13. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on handwashing and respiratory etiquette?\***

Yes

**14. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on handwashing and respiratory etiquette.\***

Students should wash hands or use hand sanitizer before and after eating, after using the restroom and after playing outside.

**15. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation?\***

Yes

**16. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation.\***

Classrooms have a air purifier running during the day. We have installed air conditioning units that use better filters. Frequently touched surfaces are wiped down daily and bathrooms are cleaned frequently.

**17. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments?\***

Yes

**18. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments.\***

We perform Bionex Rapid antigen tests on students who are symptomatic. If there is a positive case, we report to Pima County Health department our positive cases and keep students off campus for 5 days after symptoms appear.

**19. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on diagnostic and screening testing?\***

Yes

**20. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on diagnostic and screening testing.\***

We perform Bionex Rapid antigen tests on students who are symptomatic. If there is a positive case, we report to Pima County Health department.

**21. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities?\***

No

**22. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies?\***

Yes

**23. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.\***

Students with disabilities receive separate services from their teachers and will make up those services if they need to be out of school for an extended period of time due to a closure.

**24. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on coordination with State and local health officials?\***

\*

Yes

**25. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on coordination with State and local health officials.\***

We remain in contact with Pima County Health Department weekly through their school. We also report all testing results through their reporting tool.

## 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.

### 26. How will the LEA ensure Continuity of Services?\*

Briefly describe an overview of the continuity of services and in the following questions you will provide more detailed information.

Our focus is keep the school functioning with as little disruption as possible so the students can feel physically and mentally safe to learn on campus. We are putting a big emphasis on testing students regularly and isolating positive cases quickly. If a student shows symptoms, we will test them using our Bionex tests. If there is a positive case, we can quickly remove the student before there is spread to the rest of the school community. Students are asked to isolate for five days after symptoms appear.

### 27. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services for students' academic needs?\*

Students will be given instruction in-person for as long as it is safe to so. Our emphasis on testing helps to keep outbreaks from happening so in-person classrooms can stay available. If that is not possible, students will be given tablets to take home where they can work on assignments from teachers. Most of our current curriculum has an online component, so students can work on the same things they would have been working on in class and can complete their quarantine without falling behind.

### 28. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services for students' social, emotional, and mental health needs?\*

We have four Certified Mental Health Specialists on staff who have completed formal training on ways to handle student mental health issues that have arisen since the pandemic. We also have a Family Advocate, licensed school counselor and community partners who specialize in mental health who are available to reach out and offer services to unresponsive students and families during periods of online learning.

### 29. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services for students' other needs?\*

This may include student health and food services.

We have food available for pick up daily for all families during school closures. We also currently have a partnership with the local Food Bank, and are a distribution site for large amounts of food monthly for our parents and other members of the community. We have used federal funding to hire health office staff, who we will be responsible for reaching out to parents and families with students who have health concerns in the event of another closure.

### 30. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services for staff's social, emotional, and mental health needs?\*

Staff are encouraged not to work after hours, and to take time off when needed. There are typically two people in every elementary class, so substitutes are available without further burdening other staff members during the substitute shortage. We have staff events every quarter that allow staff to talk and let off steam in areas outside of campus. We also have done small things to boost morale, like keeping our coffee bar stocked.

**31. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services for staff's other needs?\***

We have used some of the extra money in our budget to give stipends to staff for tutoring and provide supplies so they do not have to pay for anything out of their own pocket.

**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**

**32. Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan.\***

We hold monthly parent meetings and public hearings when implementing new policies and procedures. We posts public notices and advertise these to parents, families and the community via teacher outreach and messaging apps and actively ask for feedback about policy proposals.



**After completing all responses in EMAC, save your information. Then, use the red download button to create a copy of your completed form to be uploaded to your LEA website. Once your form is uploaded to your LEA website, log back into EMAC to click the blue submit button and submit your form to be reviewed by your specialist. Your EMAC submission will not be approved unless this updated form is on your LEA website.**

**33. Did you upload the completed EMAC form to your LEA website?\***

Yes