



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: Seven Generations Charter School

Initial Effective Date: August 1, 2021

Date of Last Review: June 20, 2023

Date of Last Revision: June 20, 2023

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?

Seven Generations Charter School has continually utilized the most recent guidance from the CDC, PA Department of Health and Allentown Health Bureau, to inform our decisions for health and safety planning. We will continue to use State and/or local guidance to implement appropriate prevention and mitigation protocols in response to the level of community spread in our county and in our local community. Our goal has been, and continues to be, to maximize the amount of in-person learning for our students in the safest manner possible. SGCS will use the three tiered system below for the 23-24 school year. Determination of the tier will be based on the school's internal transmission table data, Lehigh County transmission rate, Lehigh County vaccination rates, as well as guidance from the CDC and Pennsylvania Department of Health.

- **Tier 1: Standard Mitigation Measures-** *Low school transmission rate, and/or Low to Moderate county rate*
 - Most school activities will proceed as normal.
 - Indoor and Outdoor Field Trips will be permitted
 - In-person assemblies will be permitted
 - Visitors will be allowed in the building
 - Masking will be optional for students and staff
 - **Exceptions:**
 - Individuals exposed to Covid-19 must wear a high-quality mask for 10 days and get tested after day 5.
 - Masks are required in health rooms if students have [symptoms of Covid-19](#).
 - Quarantine:
 - SGCS will no longer be assisting the PA Department of Health with contact tracing, as of 3/15/22. The Department of Health will manage contact tracing moving forward.
 - Individuals diagnosed with COVID-19 will follow current quarantine guidelines.
- **Tier 2: Stricter Mitigation Measures-** *Low to Moderate school transmission rate, and/or Moderate to Substantial county rate.*

- Outdoor field trips will be permitted. Indoor field trips will be permitted upon approval of administration
- In-person assemblies will not take place, but may take place virtually
- 1 Visitor will be permitted per classroom per week
- Masking will be optional for students and staff
 - **Exceptions:**
 - Individuals exposed to Covid-19 must wear a high-quality mask for 10 days and get tested on day 5.
 - Masks are required in health rooms if students have [symptoms of Covid-19](#).
- Quarantine:
 - SGCS will no longer be assisting the PA Department of Health with contact tracing, as of 3/15/22. The Department of Health will manage contact tracing moving forward.
 - Individuals diagnosed with COVID-19 will follow current quarantine guidelines.
- **Tier 3: Strongest Mitigation Measures- Moderate to Substantial school transmission rate, and/or Substantial county rate**
 - Field Trips will be not be permitted
 - In-person assemblies will not take place, but may take place virtually
 - Schools will maintain physical distancing practice per recommendations of the CDC and/or PA DOH to the maximum extent feasible during periods of high community transmission
 - Visitors will not be permitted in the building
 - Masking will be determined by state orders and/or local data per the [CDC's Community Levels by County Map](#)
 - **Exceptions:**
 - Individuals exposed to Covid-19 must wear a high-quality mask for 10 days and get tested on day 5.
 - Masks are required in health rooms if students have [symptoms of Covid-19](#).
 - Quarantine:
 - SGCS will no longer be assisting the PA Department of Health with contact tracing, as of 3/15/22. The Department of Health will manage contact tracing moving forward.
 - Individuals diagnosed with COVID-19 will follow current quarantine guidelines.

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?

For the 23-24 school year, Seven Generations has evaluated and considered student and family needs in planning for staffing and programming to ensure continuity of services to address academic, social, emotional, mental health, and wellness needs. In order to address academic deficits that have resulted from the COVID-19 pandemic, SGCS hired additional staff in the 22-23 school year. These employees will continue with us in the 23-24 school year and include:

- An instructional coach to support teachers in designing and implementing high quality, individualized instruction to meet each student's need
- Additional learning support teachers to provide special education services for students who have been identified as requiring specially designed instruction, additional paraprofessionals
- Additional paraprofessionals to support student learning by providing additional adult support and guidance within classrooms to supplement general education and special education instruction. Specifically, paraprofessional support will provide the opportunity for all students to receive small group instruction and guided practice opportunities specifically designed to meet each student's specific needs
- An additional nurse for additional nursing support. This added health support, in addition to our full time contracted school nurse, will ensure that student health and safety needs are met as they take part in educational experiences on and off campus.
- An additional mental health supports to address the ongoing social emotional needs of our students

Such an increase in staff will reduce the school's student/instructor ratio and provide students with increased academic, social-emotional, and health supports.

SGCS will continue to offer a 1:1 technology to each student and, when identified as a need, connectivity hardware for at-home access to education.

SGCS will continue robust SAP, MTSS, and Staff and Student School Wide Positive Behavior Support committees, services, and initiatives. SGCS will continue our lunch help program and Seven Gen lends programs. Additionally, SGCS plans to continue our Summer Academy program established during the 20-21 school year. This "4th Semester" provides summer academic instructional opportunities to all students to limit the skill deficits that occur over the summer months that may compound deficits resulting from COVID-19.

This health and safety plan will be reviewed and modified based on State, local, and Federal guidelines as well as school community COVID-19 transmission rates.

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>	<p>Tier 1: Standard Mitigation Measures -Masking will be optional for students and staff -Masks must be worn in the health room if showing symptoms of covid-19 -Individuals exposed to Covid-19 must wear a high-quality mask for 10 days</p> <p>Tier 2: Stricter Mitigation Measures -Masking will be optional for students and staff -Masks must be worn in the health room if showing symptoms of covid-19 -Individuals exposed to Covid-19 must wear a high-quality mask for 10 days</p> <p>Tier 3: Strongest Mitigation Measures - Masks must be worn in the health room -Masking will be determined by state orders and/or local data per the CDC's Community Levels by County Map -Individuals exposed to Covid-19 must wear a high-quality mask for 10 days</p>
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>Field Trips</p> <p>Tier 1 Indoor and Outdoor Field Trips will be permitted</p> <p>Tier 2 Outdoor field trips will be permitted. Indoor field trips will be permitted upon approval of administration</p> <p>Tier 3 Field Trips will be not be permitted</p> <p>Physical Distancing SGCS will maintain physical distancing practice per recommendations of the CDC and/or PA DOH to the maximum extent feasible during periods of high community transmission</p> <p>Cafeteria</p>

	<p>Tier 1 & 2 Lunch will take place in the cafeteria</p> <p>Tier 3 Lunch will take place in student classrooms</p>
<p>c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</p>	<p>Tiers 1, 2, and 3 Frequent hand washing of students and employees will be encouraged.</p> <p>Hand Sanitizer will be available in all rooms and offices.</p> <p>Lessons and visuals have been developed to teach students.</p> <p>FDA hand sanitizers</p>
<p>d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;</p>	<p>Tiers 1, 2, and 3 Sanitizing and disinfecting will occur nightly.</p> <p>Clean and sanitize each classroom, restroom, hallway, and high touch point areas.</p> <p>Each classroom will be given sanitizing equipment for daily cleaning.</p>
<p>e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>SGCS will no longer be assisting the PA Department of Health with contact tracing, as of 3/15/22. The Department of Health will manage contact tracing moving forward.</p> <p>Individuals exposed to Covid-19 and are not exhibiting symptoms will no longer be required to quarantine from school, effective 3/15/22.</p> <p>Individuals diagnosed with COVID-19 will follow current quarantine guidelines.</p> <p>CDC Covid Quarantine Calculator</p>
<p>f. Diagnostic and screening testing;</p>	<p>Tiers 1, 2, and 3 All employees and students will be encouraged to stay home if they are ill.</p>

	<p>All employees and students will be encouraged to obtain COVID-19 testing if they are showing symptoms.</p> <p>Seven Generations will continue using the Daily Screening Protocol.</p> <p>Employees are required to notify administration if they receive a positive COVID-19 test.</p> <p>Parents are required to notify the school nurse if their child tests positive for COVID-19.</p> <p>Positive cases will be reported to the state weekly as required.</p> <p>Parents are required to notify the school nurse if their child has been exposed to COVID-19</p>
<p>g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</p>	<p>SGCS will make our community aware of COVID-19 vaccination clinics as needed, partnering with our local health networks.</p>
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>Tiers 1, 2, and 3 Based on the individual needs of our students with disabilities, appropriate aides, services, and accommodations related to health and safety procedures will be created, implemented, and written into the child’s IEP or 504 Plan.</p>
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p>Tiers 1, 2, and 3 Seven Generations will continue to collaborate with state and local health officials by directly contacting them as needed or to report a positive case in school.</p>

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for Seven Generations Charter School reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on January 16, 2024.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

8 **Yes**

0 **No**

Affirmed on: January 16, 2024

By:



(Signature of Board President)*

Ben Loomis

(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.