

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
90201	078558000	Educational Options Foundation

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	Y	Masks were previously required of all students and staff; they are now optional. Masks are made available to students and staff upon request.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Social distancing guidelines have been implemented throughout the school to the extent possible, with student working areas assigned to each student and spaced accordingly.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Hand sanitizer is provided in school buildings and classrooms and handwashing is strongly encouraged whenever students or staff use the restroom. Students and staff are also asked to cover their mouths and noses when coughing or sneezing.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	Staff clean shared surfaces at the end of each day. While school is in session, outside doors and windows are opened when safe and practical.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	Students and staff who feel ill are advised to stay home until their symptoms subside.
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	Information on how and where to obtain a COVID-19 diagnostic/screening test is available to all staff and students.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	Y	Information on how and where to obtain a COVID-19 vaccine is shared with all staff and students
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	The special education director addresses any necessary accommodations related to students with special needs and their interactions with health and safety policies on an as-needed basis.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	Updates from local and national health authorities are monitored and policies are updated accordingly as needed.

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?

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Through the school's Distance Learning Plan for the 2022-2023 school year, policies and procedures to ensure continuity of services have been established for the benefit of staff and students, including students who are unable to attend school in person.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	Students have access to their coursework online if they are unable to attend school in person, and they and their parents/guardians also receive daily check-ins from staff to ensure they are progressing as expected through their classes. Teachers and mentors are available remotely via phone, virtual meeting or the school's internal messaging system to assist with student needs and interventions.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	School staff will focus on the social and emotional needs of the students, their safety, self-worth, and academic confidence. The team will collaborate to best help the needs of the student and will assist all additional staff, students, and their parents in providing support to address any barriers to academic success. Some of the responsibilities will be to actively support the administration at the local sites, assist families to understand their children's educational needs and resources, and maintain open communication between the school and community agencies. School staff will provide extra supports to our most vulnerable subgroups and underserved populations.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	Teachers and mentors check in with students/parents on a daily basis, whether students are attending school in person or virtually, and are available remotely via phone, virtual meeting or the school's internal messaging system to assist with any other student needs.

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	School administrators have multiple check-ins with staff each week to assess any social, emotional and mental health needs and staff are encouraged to share any needs with administrators. Administrators are then able to connect staff with a range of support resources on an as-needed basis.
Other Needs	Addressed by administration on an as-needed basis.

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 **04/12/2023**

Public Input

Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	School staff and teachers have continuously communicated with students, parents, and other relevant school and community stakeholders regarding the school's in-person and distance learning educational options and its COVID-19 policies and protocols as part of their routine check-ins. The public also has the opportunity to address the school board at any of its public meetings, which are publicly noticed at least 24 hours in advance. As feedback related to the plan has been received, it is shared with administrators and school board members who work together to incorporate it into an updated plan.
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U.S. Department of Education Interim Final Rule (IFR)

(1) LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

- (a) An LEA must describe in its plan under section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services—
 - (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:
 - (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 the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments.
 - (F) Diagnostic and screening testing.
 - (G) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.
 - (H) Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.
 - (I) 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.
- (b)(i) During the period of the ARP ESSER award established in section Start Printed Page 212022001(a) of the ARP Act, an 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.
 - (ii) In determining whether revisions are necessary, and in making any revisions, the LEA must seek public input and take such input into account
 - (iii) If at the time the LEA revises its plan the CDC has updated its guidance on reopening schools, the revised plan must address the extent to which the LEA has adopted policies, and describe any such policies, for each of the updated safety recommendations.
- (c) If an LEA developed a plan prior to enactment of the ARP Act that meets the statutory requirements of section 2001(i)(1) and (2) of the ARP Act but does not address all the requirements in paragraph (a), the LEA must, pursuant to paragraph (b), revise and post its plan no later than six months after receiving its ARP ESSER funds to meet the requirements in paragraph (a).
- (d) An LEA's plan under section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services must be—
 - (i) In an understandable and uniform format;
 - (ii) 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; an
 - (iii) 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