

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

Section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act requires each local educational agency (LEA) that receives ARP ESSER funds to develop and make publicly available on the LEA’s website, no later than 30 days after receiving ARP ESSER funds, a plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services. In New Mexico, districts and state-chartered charter schools are LEAs.

This is a federal requirement and is not the same as the past state requirement for LEAs to submit Reentry Plans.

Pursuant to ARP requirements, LEAs must post on their website a fully compliant Plan for Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services by **December 24, 2021**.

This is the template we are providing for you to complete the ARP ESSER Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services. The template incorporates the federally-required components of this plan.

This template incorporates the federally-required components of the LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services.

PED hopes this template will allow LEAs to efficiently and effectively plan and to easily post their LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services on their websites as required by the ARP Act.

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 Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services through September 30, 2023**

Date of Revision	11/3/2021
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District ID	County	LEA NAME
008-000	Colfax	Cimarron Municipal Schools

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)**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>

CDC Safety Recommendations	Has the LEA Adopted a Policy? (Y/N)	Describe LEA Policy:
Universal and correct wearing of masks	Y	CMS requires facemasks that have two or more layers of cloth, clear plastic window, or N95 and KN95 Facemasks. Masks are to be worn in all

		indoor areas. Students will be reminded that masks are to worn over nose and mouth at all times and when students have difficulty keeping their masks on constantly, parents are notified with the ultimate penalty being the student is not able to come to school until the mask is worn properly.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Students will maintain 6ft of social distancing to the extent possible with a minimum of 3ft of social distancing when eating and excising. Seating charts will be maintained by classroom for contract tracing.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Students are reminded visually with flyers in conspicuous areas to use proper hand washing techniques and to also sneeze in their masks when done.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	All classroom areas contain either a HEPA filter or a filtration system connected to the HVAC that uses MERV13 Filtration.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	When a positive case has been detected, contract tracing for all students with close exposure starts two days before the test positive date and is reported to the state for contract tracing purposes. School officials notify parents of any exposure immediately and allow parents to make a decision on quarantining for 10 days or Day 1, 3, and 5 quick response testing.
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	Cimarron is using the Binax Rapid Response Test for all testing.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	Y	Cimarron has hosted two on site vaccination clinics for students and community members.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	Students with disabilities go through their individual educational plan to determine if they are capable of being successful with general safety protocols of if is a need for special accommodations.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	New Mexico Public Education Department produces and updates a COVID 19 response toolkit that is required by all school districts for COVID practices.

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?	
Cimarron will participate in remote learning that is live for two-way communication between the student and the teacher when there is a reason why face to face instruction is not allowed or available.	
How will the LEA address Students':	
Academic Needs?	Each Student has specific interventions delivered on a weekly basis and students that have additional extra circular needs that cannot be provided during regular school hours are served in an extended school year program on campus once a month.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs?	Counselors work with teachers to schedule and deliver social / emotional instruction to students weekly.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)?	Food Service is provided on site and through a delivery system on days that face to face instruction cannot be delivered.
How will the LEA address Staff:	
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs?	Social Emotional Training and Programs are available as part of our insurance coverage for staff to be able to improve stress techniques and mental health strategies.
Other Needs?	

Public Input	
Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan.	Cimarron Schools has doubled community meetings and board meetings to be able to understand needs of the community and plan strategies for implementation.
Understandable and Uniform Format	
Describe the process by which the LEA will, to the extent practicable, present the plan written in a language that parents can understand. Or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited	All plans are posted online and are available in multi languages.

<p>English proficiency, describe the process for orally translating the plan for such parents.</p>	
<p>Describe the process by which a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, will be provided a version of the plan in an alternative format accessible to that parent.</p>	<p>All parents are provided information through an all call system orally and in video form. LEA is willing to address any individual concerns and barriers for individual parents.</p>

U.S. Department of Education Interim Final Rule (IFR)

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

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 –

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. During the period of the ARP ESSER award established in section 2001(a) of the ARP Act, an LEA must
 - a. 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.
 - b. In determining whether revisions are necessary, and in making any revisions, the LEA must seek public input and take such input into account.
 - c. 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.
4. 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).
5. 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—
 - a. In an understandable and uniform format;

- b. 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; and
- c. 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.

The IFR and ARP statute, along with other helpful resources, are located here:

April 2021 IFR: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2021-04-22/pdf/2021-08359.pdf>

ARP Act text: <https://www.congress.gov/117/bills/hr1319/BILLS-117hr1319enr.pdf>

ED COVID-19 Handbook Volume I: <https://www2.ed.gov/documents/coronavirus/reopening.pdf>

ED COVID-19 Handbook Volume II: <https://www2.ed.gov/documents/coronavirus/reopening-2.pdf>

ESEA Evidence-Based Guidance: <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/07/guidanceuseseinvestment.pdf>

ED FAQs for ESSER and Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER):

https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/05/ESSER.GEER_FAQs_5.26.21_745AM_FINALb0cd6833f6f46e03ba2d97d30aff953260028045f9ef3b18ea602db4b32b1d99.pdf