



# ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan Guidance & Template

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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: Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School

**Initial Effective Date: August 19, 2021**

**Date of Last Review: July 22, 2021**

**Date of Last Revision: July 22, 2021**

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?

**Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School will monitor and adhere to the latest recommendations from Pennsylvania Department of Education, Pennsylvania Department of Health, and Control Disease Center. Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School’s Health and Safety Plan will be updated as needed based on recommendations from these entities. As updates and changes are communicated on the level of community transmission of COVID-19, Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School administration will update changes to the school’s Health and Safety Plan. Updates will be communicated to school stakeholders and posted on the school website [bishopguilfoyle.org](http://bishopguilfoyle.org).**

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?

**Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School will return for the 2021-2022 school year to in person learning for all students while continuing to offer blended and flex learning models. Social, emotional, mental health, and other needs will be monitored via Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School’s Student Assistance Program and School Counseling Services. Food service will continue and will include free and reduce lunch benefits.**

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   |
|---|--|
| a. Universal and correct wearing of <a href="#">masks</a> ; | Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School will follow PDE, PADOH and CDC recommendations and guidance regarding masks. Currently, the school |

| ARP ESSER Requirement   | Strategies, Policies, and Procedures  |
|---|---|
|   | recommends that everybody wears masks indoors, regardless of vaccination status.  |
| <p>b. <a href="#">Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing</a> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>   | <p>Social distancing of 3 feet will be encouraged and enforced in classroom settings. Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School will utilize outdoor and large space learning areas. When working in close proximity, teachers will direct students when possible to limit time to 15 minutes or less. Large gatherings will enforce social distancing when possible.</p>   |
| <p>c. <a href="#">Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</a>;</p>  | <p>Proper hygiene practices will be posted and communicated to staff and students. Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School will reinforce hygiene practices such as handwashing, covering coughs, and sanitizing common touch areas. Hygiene signage will be posted throughout the school campus. Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School will continue to provide hand sanitizer dispensers in all classrooms and common areas of the school. Disinfectant spray and tissues will be available and misting disinfectant sprays will be used in high traffic areas.</p>                                       |
| <p>d. <a href="#">Cleaning</a> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <a href="#">ventilation</a>;</p>   | <p>Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School facilities will be cleaned on a define schedule for sanitizing and disinfecting all surfaces and areas used by staff and students. The school will continue to maximize the ventilation system and fans to increase air flow and circulation throughout the school building.</p>   |
| <p>e. <a href="#">Contact tracing</a> in combination with <a href="#">isolation</a> and <a href="#">quarantine</a>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p> | <p>Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School administration will work with the PADOH to identify and isolate individuals potentially positive for COVID-19. School administration will communicate and collaborate with local and state health authorities on potential incidents of infection or spread of COVID-19. School administration will communicate with PADOH for guidance if notified of a staff, student or other individual accessible to the school has exposure to COVID-19. School administration will complete and submit all required documentation to PADOH, communicate with relative</p> |

| ARP ESSER Requirement  | Strategies, Policies, and Procedures   |
|--|--|
|  | school community members of safety concerns and complete all required contact tracing recommended by PADOH. School administration will enforce isolation and quarantine as recommended by PADOH. |
| f. <a href="#">Diagnostic</a> and screening testing;                       | Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School will encourage staff, students and parents/guardians to self-screen and report COVID-19 concerns to the school.  |
| g. Efforts to provide <a href="#">vaccinations to school communities</a> ; | Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School will communicate available information about vaccination opportunities.  |
| h. Coordination with state and local health officials.                     | Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School will collaborate with local and state health agencies on resources and recommendations for health and safety plans.  |
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## Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **July 22, 2021**

Affirmed on: **July 22, 2021**

By:

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*(Signature\* of Board President)*

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*(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.