

American Rescue Plan Act Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund (ESSER III) Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Local Educational Agency Plan Template

Background on ESSER

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) signed into law on March 11, 2021, provided nearly \$122 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund (ESSER). ARP ESSER, also known as ESSER III, funds are provided to State educational agencies in the same proportion as each State received under Title I-A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) in fiscal year (FY) 2020. The U.S. Department of Education (ED) published Interim Final Requirements (IFR) on April 22, 2021 requiring Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) receiving ESSER III funds to submit an LEA Plan for the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services. If an LEA had already developed a plan for safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services prior to the enactment of ARP that meets the statutory requirements of section 2001(i) but did not address all of the requirements in the IFR, the LEA must revise and post its plan no later than six months after receiving its ESSER III funds. This applies even if an LEA has been operating full-time in-person instruction but does not apply to fully virtual schools and LEAs.

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>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 School Operation Guidance: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html#anchor_1616080023247
- 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/guidanceeuseseeinvestment.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

Purpose of the Template

The IFR issued by ED outlines several requirements for all LEAs that receive ESSER III funds, including that LEAs have in place a plan for ensuring safety during in-person instruction (either in-progress or planned) as well as ensuring continuity of services should the LEA or one or more of its schools be required to close temporarily for COVID-19-related public health reasons in the future. LEAs who had a plan in place by March 11, 2021, which incorporated opportunity for public comment and was posted publicly have six months from the date their ESSER III Assurances were completed to update and revise the plans to meet those requirements. Examples of previous plans that may be allowable would be a completed Cal/OSHA or Assembly Bill 86 plan, as long as it meets the requirements previously stated. LEAs which did not have a statutorily compliant plan in place as of March 11, 2021, must create and post this plan within 30 days of completing their ESSER III Assurances.

If you have questions as to which category applies to your LEA, please contact EmergencyServices@cde.ca.gov. Plans are required for all LEAs, regardless of operating status, unless an LEA is fully virtual with no physical location. All plans must be reviewed, and, as appropriate, revised, at least every six months to incorporate new or revised CDC guidance and other changed factors.

This template has been created to assist LEAs in the creation of these plans and to ensure all required elements are met. The following requirements and assurances pertain to both the statutory requirements and the IFR published by ED. LEAs may provide any additional information they believe are helpful in assessing their plan. If you have any questions, please contact EmergencyServices@cde.ca.gov.

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

LEA Name:

Tahoe Truckee Unified School District

Option for ensuring safe in-person instruction and continuity of services:
will amend its plan

1. Please choose one:

- ☐ The LEA had a plan, as of March 11, 2021, that is already compliant with the ARP statute and will review and, as appropriate, revise it every six months to take into consideration the additional requirements of the IFR; or

NOTE: If your LEA already has a compliant plan as of March 11, 2021, and has assured such by checking the box above, then you may skip questions 2-4 and complete the Assurance and Contact sections.

- ☒ The LEA has amended/created a plan compliant with the IFR using this template and has posted/will post it within 30 days of completing the ESSER III Assurances.

NOTE: If checking the box above that you are using this template to meet the 30 day plan requirements, you must respond to each question in the template.

Please note whether the LEA has a compliant plan and include a link to the plan, or acknowledge that the LEA is submitting a new plan and will post it within 30 days of receiving funds.

The District posted a COVID-19 Safety plan prior to March 11, 2021. The amendment will address sections of the Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services not covered in the COVID-19 Safety Plan.

2. The LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and LEA staff, and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the CDC's safety recommendations, including: universal and correct wearing of masks; modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing; handwashing and respiratory etiquette; cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation; contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments; diagnostic and screening testing; efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities; appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and coordination with State and local health officials.

Describe how the LEA will maintain, or continue to maintain, health and safety policies and procedures. Include a description of any adopted policies and procedures regarding the CDC's safety recommendations (or available LEA website links to such policies). Include descriptions of appropriate accommodations adopted and coordination efforts conducted with outside State and local health officials. Please include or describe current public health conditions, applicable State and local rules and restrictions, and other contemporaneous information that informs your decision-making process.

Tahoe Truckee Unified School District has developed and updated a COVID-19 Prevention Program containing the following information regarding health and safety policies and procedures. The current COVID-19 Prevention Program complies with all public health orders from the CDPH or local health department. Some of the highlights include"

Testing

The District provides COVID-19 testing for all staff and students who are symptomatic. Testing for symptomatic staff and students is conducted at the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District Office, located at 11603 Donner Pass

Road, Truckee, CA. This testing site is NOT for the general public or family members. Employees also have access to free COVID-19 testing at the Placer County Department of Health Testing Site (OptumServ) located at 10990 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA.

The COVID-19 Prevention Program includes procedures for:

1. Testing for staff and students that have been in close contact with a positive case.
2. Testing for staff and students who have tested positive for COVID-19.
3. Testing for unvaccinated staff.

COVID-19 Response Scenarios

Placer County Office of Education has developed COVID-19 Response Scenarios, in accordance with CDPH guidance, to assist the District in administering safety protocols as it relates to positive COVID-19 cases, exposures and symptoms. The District has adopted these procedures to address the appropriate responses in the event of positive cases, exposures and symptoms.

Contact Tracing

The following ONLY applies to the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District (TTUSD) established contact tracing response protocol for when a student and/or staff member tests positive for COVID-19. Per CDPH recommendations, TTUSD will be following group tracing. Group tracing consists of notifying all parents or staff that a class or classes or work site were potentially exposed to a positive case. Individual contact tracing and notification will be performed on a case-by-case basis (depending on the circumstances). All staff and students will be notified of a potential exposure from a positive case.

Physical Distancing

CDPH recommends focusing on the other mitigation strategies instead of implementing minimum physical distancing requirements in the workplace and for routine classroom instruction. However, the District recommends physical distancing in circumstances where it is reasonable and practicable to do so.

Face Coverings

On February 28, 2022, California announced that, based on a review of epidemiologic indicators and modeling projections, the universal indoor mask mandate in K-12 school settings would transition to a strong recommendation after March 11, 2022. The State still strongly recommends the use of face covering in a K-12 School setting, however, it is no longer required. The District has adopted this new guidance effective March 13, 2022 and has made the use of face coverings optional for staff and students. Masks are still made available to all staff and students upon request. The District has established procedures to address face covering requirements in the event a universal mask mandate is reinstated.

Handwashing

To protect employees and students from COVID-19 hazards, the District will evaluate its handwashing facilities, determine the need for additional facilities, encourage and allow time for employee and student handwashing, and provide employees and students with an effective hand sanitizer. Employers shall encourage employees to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds each time. Provision or use of hand sanitizers with methyl alcohol is prohibited. Additional handwashing stations provided at every site. Hand sanitizer stations provided throughout the school and/or TTUSD buildings.

Cleaning

The District has implemented cleaning and disinfecting procedures, which require:

1. Identifying and regularly cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces and objects, such as doorknobs, elevator buttons, equipment, tools, handrails, handles, controls, bathroom surfaces, and steering wheels. The District will inform employees and authorized employee representatives of cleaning and disinfection protocols, including the planned frequency and scope of regular cleaning and disinfection.

2. Prohibiting the sharing of personal protective equipment and to the extent feasible, items that employees come in regular physical contact with such as phones, headsets, desks, keyboards, writing materials, instruments, and tools. When it is not feasible to prevent sharing, sharing shall be minimized and such items and equipment shall be disinfected between uses by different people. Sharing of vehicles shall be minimized to the extent feasible, and high touch points (steering wheel, door handles, seatbelt buckles, armrests, shifter, etc.) shall be disinfected between users.
3. Cleaning and disinfection of areas, material, and equipment used by a COVID-19 case during the high-risk exposure period.
4. Classrooms will be cleaned regularly after the instructional day ends. Cleaners used are approved by the EPA and CDPH to be effective against COVID-19 and could include disinfectants and general cleaning solutions. Schools/staff will be provided with cleaning supplies in the event they wish to use them in their classroom/work area. NOTE: Staff are not required or responsible to clean, but can do so voluntarily.

Air Quality and Ventilation

For indoor locations, the District will evaluate how to maximize the quantity of outdoor air and whether it is possible to increase filtration efficiency to the highest level compatible with the existing ventilation system. All locations with functioning windows shall be encouraged to keep them open depending on weather, temperature, or air quality conditions. HVAC systems will be maintained and set to operate per design specifications. The District will make every attempt to maximize air filtration in classrooms and common spaces. HVAC air filters shall be equipped with MERV 13 filters if possible and changed at the recommended intervals. The highest MERV rating filter available for each HVAC system will be installed. In addition, all classrooms, instructional spaces, and workspaces will be supplied with a portable air purifier.

The District follows all CDPH and local public health guidelines for California K-12 Public Schools. The District consults regularly with County Public Health Officials on case rates, potential outbreaks, and to receive clarification, interpretation, and recommendations on the implementation of CDPH guidelines as it relates to in-person instruction and school related activities. The District will make changes to its COVID-19 Prevention Program as new guidance is issued

3. 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 foodservices.

Describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services in case isolation, quarantine, or future school closures are required, including how the LEA will meet the needs of students with disabilities and English learners.

Student Isolation/Quarantine: Academic Needs

- * All: A student will engage virtually with their teacher at their regular school via Google Classroom or Seesaw
- * EL: A student will engage virtually with their teacher at their regular school via Google Classroom or Seesaw. ELD will be provided virtually and with translation support, if needed
- * SWD: A student will engage virtually with their teacher at their regular school via Google Classroom or Seesaw and with their service provider(s) based on the IEP agreement regarding isolation/quarantine

Student Isolation/Quarantine: Social, emotional, mental health, and other needs

- * All:
SEL lessons, small group counseling, and other mental health supports will be provided virtually via Google Classroom or Seesaw
Food services will provide meals either via delivery or pick up at the school

- * EL:

SEL lessons, small group counseling, and other mental health supports will be provided virtually via Google Classroom or Seesaw with translation support if needed

Food services will provide meals either via delivery or pick up at the school with translation support if needed

* SWD:

SEL lessons, small group counseling, and other similar mental health supports will be provided based on the IEP agreement regarding isolation/quarantine

Food services will provide meals either via delivery or pick up at the school

Class Quarantine: Academic Needs

* All: Students will engage virtually with their class at their regular school via Google Classroom or Seesaw

* EL: Students will engage virtually with their class at their regular school via Google Classroom or Seesaw. ELD will be provided virtually and with translation support, if needed

* SWD: Students will engage virtually with their class at their regular school via Google Classroom or Seesaw and with their service provider(s) based on the IEP agreement regarding isolation/quarantine

Class Quarantine: Social, emotional, mental health, and other needs

* All:

SEL lessons, small group counseling, and other mental health supports will be provided virtually via Google Classroom or Seesaw

Food services will provide meals either via delivery or pick up at the school

* EL:

SEL lessons, small group counseling, and other mental health supports will be provided virtually via Google Classroom or Seesaw with translation support if needed

Food services will provide meals either via delivery or pick up at the school with translation support, if needed

* SWD:

SEL lessons, small group counseling, and other similar mental health supports will be provided based on the IEP agreement regarding isolation/quarantine

Food services will provide meals either via delivery or pick up at the school

Future school closures: Academic Needs

* All: Students will engage virtually with their class at their regular school via Google Classroom or Seesaw

* EL: Students will engage virtually with their class at their regular school via Google Classroom or Seesaw. ELD will be provided virtually and with translation support, if needed

* SWD: Students will engage virtually with their class at their regular school via Google Classroom or Seesaw and with their service provider(s) based on the IEP agreement regarding isolation/quarantine

Future school closures: Social, emotional, mental health, and other needs

* All:

SEL lessons, small group counseling, and other similar mental health supports will be provided virtually via Google Classroom or Seesaw

Food services will provide meals either via delivery or pick up at the school

* EL:

SEL lessons, small group counseling, and other similar mental health supports will be provided virtually via Google Classroom or Seesaw with translation support if needed

Food services will provide meals either via delivery or pick up at the school with translation support, if needed

* SWD:

SEL lessons, small group counseling, and other similar mental health supports will be provided based on the IEP agreement regarding isolation/quarantine
Food services will provide meals either via delivery or pick up at the school

4. The LEA sought public comments in the development of its plan and took those comments into account in the development of its plan.

Describe the LEA's policy or practice that provided the public with an opportunity to provide comments and feedback and the collection process. Describe how any feedback was incorporated into the development of the plan.

The District initially received feedback on the COVID-19 Safety Plan from the Superintendent's Parent Advisory Group, bargaining units, District leadership, and the public and has posted the plan on the District's website. The District also received feedback and agreement with bargaining units for the return to in-person instruction through MOUs which addressed safety mitigation measures and provided details on the instructional model and learning expectations for our students. There were separate MOUs for Distance Learning, The Hybrid Instructional Model, and five day in-person instruction. The District presented its plans for Distance Learning, Hybrid Instruction, and Five Day In-Person instruction at regularly scheduled Board Meetings and provided opportunity for public comment. Plans were distributed to parents prior to transitions into the different instructional models through regular messaging via email and postings on the District Website. In addition, the District solicited extensive feedback from staff, leadership, and parents in the development of the 2020 - 2021 Learning Continuity Plan and the Expanded Learning Opportunities Plan. The Expanded Learning Opportunities Plan includes additional supports needed in the 2021 - 2022 school year to address student academic needs, learning loss, and socio-emotional and mental health resources for students and staff. All feedback received from these different components have been incorporated into the District's plan for in-person instruction in the 2021 - 2022 school year. The Safe Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity Plan was originally submitted and approved by the Board on July 7, 2021. The District has continued to follow all CDPH guidance and safety mitigation recommendations. This updated Safe Return for In-person Instruction & Continuity Plan includes changes to CDPH guidance as of April 6, 2022. The plan will be presented to the Board of Education and allow for additional public comments.

In addition, the LEA provides the following assurances:

- ☒ The LEA has made (in the case of statutorily compliant plans) or will make (in the case of new plans) its plan publicly available no later than 30 days after receiving its ARP ESSER allocation.

o Please insert link to the plan:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MI-N7IZVirrlbh3PUYekN7jtl7ggdX7dP26CuFCFhr4/edit?usp=sharing>

- ☒ The LEA sought public comment in the development of its plan and took those public comments into account in the development of its plan.
- ☒ The LEA will periodically review and, as appropriate revise its plan, at least every six months.
- ☒ The LEA will seek public comment in determining whether to revise its plan and, if it determines revisions are necessary, on the revisions it makes to the plan.
- ☒ If the LEA revises its plan, it will ensure its revised plan addresses each of the aspects of safety currently recommended by the Centers for Disease Control(CDC), or if the CDC has revised its guidance, the updated safety recommendations at the time the LEA is revising its plan.
- ☒ The LEA has created its plan in an understandable and uniform format.
- ☒ The LEA's plan is, to the extent practicable, written in a language that parent can understand, or if not practicable, orally translated.

- ☒ The LEA will, upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, provide the plan in an alternative format accessible to that parent.

The following person or persons is/are the appropriate contact person for any questions or concerns about the aforementioned plan.

Please list name(s), title(s), address, county, and contact information for the person or persons responsible for developing, submitting, and amending the LEA plan.

Todd Rivera, Executive Director of Business Services, 11603 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA, Nevada County, trivera@ttusd.org, (530) 582-2541