

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	December 6, 2021

District ID	County	LEA NAME
007	Chaves	Lake Arthur 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	Lake Arthur Municipal Schools Board of Education approved wearing a mask as part of our students’ dress code for the SY 2021-2022:

		Everybody will wear a mask while indoors. The mask should cover both mouth and nose.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	y	Lake Arthur's largest class is 13 students. All rooms have desks that are 6 feet apart.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	y	Nurse Jones has taught a class on handwashing and modeled for every student at Lake Arthur Municipal Schools.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	y	Safe Covid cleaning practices are followed. During Flex Friday, our custodian crew deep clean our buildings. All our AC/Heating units have MERV 13 filters that are changed 4 times a year.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	y	NMPED and NMDOH requirements for reporting, isolate, and quarantine are followed as established in the November 1, 2021, updated COVID-19 Response Toolkit for New Mexico's Public Schools.
Diagnostic and screening testing	y	Test to Stay and weekly screening tests for unvaccinated staff are offered at Lake Arthur Municipal Schools.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	y	Frequent communications are sent home/posted on Facebook to inform parents of vaccination clinics in the area.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	y	As today, we have not received any request for accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.
Coordination with State and local health officials	y	Superintendent Begueria and Nurse Jones are in contact with officials both at the state and local level and from both NMDOH and NMPED.

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?
Lake Arthur Municipal Schools plan to continue to provide academic, social, emotional, student health, and food services as detailed in our Extended Safe Covid Practices Plan. We will implement Test to Stay in order to provide face to face instruction for all our students. If Covid cases increase (5%-10%), Lake Arthur Municipal Schools will transition to hybrid instruction: 50% of the day, our

students will receive in person learning and 50 % of the day, they will be remote learning. If Covid cases increase dramatically (10% or higher), Lake Arthur Municipal Schools will transition to remote-only instructional model: 100% of the day, our students will receive virtual learning through Canvas, Google Class and Edgenuity.	
How will the LEA address Students’:	
Academic Needs?	Lake Arthur Municipal Schools will provide standards-based instruction for all prek-12 students and reading, and math interventions as established by our MLSS plan to students who need extra support based on students’ achievement data.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs?	Lake Arthur Municipal Schools is implementing Capturing Kids Hearts to ensure transformational processes focused on social-emotional wellbeing, relationship-driven campus culture, and student connectedness. Furthermore, training on Suicide Prevention and the Dangers of social media, as well as access to a Social Worker are available.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)?	Lake Arthur Municipal Schools provide student services that include free breakfast and lunch for all students, access to a doctor every Monday, and a nurse three days a week.
How will the LEA address Staff:	
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs?	Lake Arthur Municipal Schools is supporting its staff social emotional, and mental health by providing structured planning time for our teachers, early released on Friday afternoon, and access to a social worker, if needed.
Other Needs?	N/A

Public Input	
Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan.	Since all the revisions to our Covid Safe Plan are approved by the Lake Arthur Municipal Schools Board of Education, we encourage parents and community members to attend our monthly regular board meeting to provide public input and take into account in the revision of the plan.
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 English proficiency, describe the	The plan will be posted in our school website for easy access. Since we are a micro district, and if any parent or community member needs the plan to be explained, translated or in an alternative format, a one-on-one meeting will be scheduled in the library with Ms. Begueria and Mr. Lessard, who will provide that support.

<p>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>The plan will be posted in our school website for easy access. Since we are a micro district, and if any parent or community member needs the plan to be explained, translated or in an alternative format, a one-on-one meeting will be scheduled in the library with Ms. Begueria and Mr. Lessard, who will provide that support.</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/guidanceeusesinvestment.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