

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	12/1/2021

District ID	County	LEA NAME
511	Dona Ana	Alma d’arte Charter High School

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	Local policy was drafted by our attorney’s office, Matthews & Fox. Any person entering the School premises or who is participating in or attending a

		School-related activity must wear a mask or similar protective face covering, covering the nose and mouth, at all times, except while eating or drinking or during PE or other activities involving exercise (i.e. recess).
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	All large group gatherings shall be avoided to the greatest extent possible on School premises or during School-related events. In the event we do have a large gathering at the school, social distancing is encouraged to the greatest extent possible, with seating arranged with seating spread out to the greatest extent possible. Outside of class, students/staff/visitors shall not congregate in groups larger than 10, or the maximum number of people allowed to congregate as defined by then-current DOH or Executive Order applicable to the School's area. Students/staff/visitors must maintain proper social distancing measures at all times (minimum 6 feet between individuals, whether or not a mask is worn). Reminder signs of maintaining social distancing is placed all around buildings.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	N	We do not have a specific policy, but have signage placed around building and verbal reminders to students and staff every day.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	All School facilities and buildings operated by the School must be maintained in accordance with the guidelines issued by the New Mexico Department of Health and CDC for the cleaning and disinfection of public facilities and schools during the current public health emergency.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	The School shall maintain a daily log of all persons entering the School who is not a student at the School, or a School employee. The name, telephone number, and date of entry shall be logged for each School visitor, contractor, volunteer, parent, or any person other than a currently-enrolled student at the School, or a School employee. This allows us to keep a record for contact tracing, along with attendance logs. If a person is denied access to school due to failed screening or temperature check are required to self-isolate for 10 days, obtain a COVID-19 test and disclose (confidentially) results of test to administration, and/or attend school from home, or work from home to the extent that work can

		be performed remotely with the permission of the Head Administrator.
Diagnostic and screening testing	N	We are in the process of looking into testing for students, but the few staff that are not vaccinated are required to test weekly based on the current Public Health Order.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	N	We have obtained staff records of vaccinations and have requested student vaccination records to update student files.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	Student accommodations and modifications will be addressed pursuant to IDEA, Section 504, and/or ADA procedures. Personnel accommodations shall be addressed in compliance with ADA and OSHA requirements.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	School shall adhere to DOH and/or PED guidelines and shall work with state and local health officials with respect to contact tracing.

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?	
Alma d'arte Charter is dedicated to ensuring that all students can continue services in all learning environments, whether that be remote or in-person. We have provided all students with a laptop and a hotspot to utilize throughout the school year and we also have our teachers providing assignments and instruction on the Canvas platform for all classes. We are continuing to always use these technological resources, such as Canvas, Zoom, and online curriculum/resources throughout the pandemic to have a seamless transition if we are required to go remote for any reason. If a student is required to go remote for the semester or school year for extenuating circumstances or medical reasons, we are providing online instruction through our Edgenuity program to satisfy course requirements.	
How will the LEA address Students':	
Academic Needs?	All students have access to all course requirements, whether it is remote or in-person. Students will be provided with all materials needed including but not limited to; school supplies as needed, text materials, online curriculum, laptop, hotspot, PPE as needed, etc. Students will be socially distanced to the greatest extent possible in the classroom and all safety and COVID-19 procedures will remain in place in accordance with the most current public health order. To recoup any lost learning, after school tutoring and Extended

	<p>Learning Time Days will be available for all students needing these services, again, both for in-person and remote learning through Canvas and Zoom.</p>
<p>Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs?</p>	<p>Teachers are required to check in with students on a daily basis with their Platica (advisory) classes. Teachers are able to check on how students are doing academically, emotionally, technologically, and if there are any outside of school needs, such as food, clothing, medical/mental health etc. We also have employed a full-time social worker to help with students who need additional social, emotional, and mental health support who may not have received those services previously. Our social worker has also compiled a list of local outside resources that are available to families to utilize if there is a need for it. Staff will also receive additional professional development and training on how to recognize students that display the warning signs of needing additional social, emotional, and mental health support. All resources listed above will be available in the in-person learning environment and a remote setting.</p>
<p>Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)?</p>	<p>If we are not able to provide health or food services for our students, we have partnered with Las Cruces Public Schools to have our students receive free breakfast/lunches through their programs. In rare cases, we could use a local catering service to continue food services to our students as well. Student health is referred to outside resources such as Ben Archer or we have a contracted nurse that will be available as needed on campus.</p>
<p>How will the LEA address Staff:</p>	
<p>Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs?</p>	<p>Teachers are required to check in with students on a daily basis with their Platica (advisory) classes. Teachers are able to check on how students are doing academically, emotionally, technologically, and if there are any outside of school needs, such as food, clothing, medical/mental health etc. We also have employed a full-time social worker to help with students who need additional social, emotional, and mental health support who may not have received those services previously. Our social worker has also compiled a list of local outside resources that are available to families to utilize if there is a need for it. Staff will also receive additional professional development and training on how to recognize students that display the warning signs of needing additional social, emotional, and mental health support. All</p>

	resources listed above will be available in in-person learning and in the remote setting.
Other Needs?	Email is a frequent communication tool that is used throughout our school and also Zoom meetings. In the event that any other needs arise, our virtual tools will be used for communicating those needs or if we are able, meet in-person, encouraging social distancing to the greatest extent possible and mask wearing. We will provide what resources we can to staff so that they may continue to do their jobs effectively and also to students to be able to continue with their learning 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.	Our school has had success in using online surveys, in addition to staff calling home/using text to receive input from our families and community members. We have had multiple conversations and surveys that have asked for input on what they think we could improve on and what we are doing well. All stakeholder feedback is considered when putting together this plan and many other aspects of learning at our school.
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 process for orally translating the plan for such parents.	This plan will be displayed in our foyer in the school and it will be posted on our school website that is currently being redesigned to be more user friendly. We will also have it translated into Spanish to provide to those that may be limited English proficient. If a parent needs another language available other than English and Spanish, or needs help visually with the document, those requests will be fulfilled as needed when the front office is notified.
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.	If a parent needs another language available, other than English and Spanish, or needs help visually with the document, or in any other version we are notified of, those requests will be fulfilled as needed when the front office is notified.

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