

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	12/15/21
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District ID	County	LEA NAME
026	Guadalupe	Vaughn 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	Mask Policy will be in accordance with CDC and State of NM guidance. It will change to reflect

		any changes issued by the CDC and the state of NM.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Facilities in the entire Vaughn Municipal Schools District will be set up to follow all social distancing requirements. Populations will be in cohorts as much as possible.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Staff and students wash hands frequently throughout the day. Sanitizing stations are strategically available through campus. Signage and respiratory etiquette is practiced.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	All ventilation has been converted to MERV 13. Enhances cleaning schedules are in place.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	y	Vaughn Municipal Schools follows the guidance set forth by the NMPED toolbox. All contact tracing is completed using the toolbox as guidance. Additionally, isolation and quarantine are also guided by the NMPED toolbox.
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	At this point, all diagnostic and screening testing are done by our local Guadalupe County clinic. As soon as possible, VMS will have the capability to test close contacts as well as surveillance test through the "Test to Stay" program/
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	Y	Vaughn Municipal Schools has partnered with Guadalupe County Clinic to vaccinate all persons interested including children.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	Vaughn Municipal Schools has a plan in place to ensure students with disabilities have all appropriate accommodations.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	Vaughn Municipal Schools coordinates and cooperates with state and local health officials to ensure safety of students, staff, and community.

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?

Vaughn Municipal Schools is committed to ensuring the opportunity and support to all students and staff in the areas of academics, social, emotional, and mental health.	
How will the LEA address Students’:	
Academic Needs?	Vaughn Municipal Schools will assess students individual needs in the area of academics. Using the iReady diagnostic data, administration will assess whether gaps have closed or widened. VMS will ensure that all students and teachers have high quality curriculum and materials that are needed to learn.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs?	Vaughn Municipal Schools has a full-time counselor, a part time nurse, and a part time social worker to support students and staff with social, emotional, and mental health needs. Additionally, Staff has had training in developing strategies for these areas.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)?	Vaughn Municipal Schools ensure that all students receive breakfast after the bell, lunch and a snack each day.
How will the LEA address Staff:	
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs?	Vaughn Municipal Schools has a full-time counselor, a part time nurse, and a part time social worker to support students and staff with social, emotional and mental health needs. Additionally, Staff has had training in developing strategies for these areas.
Other Needs?	Vaughn Municipal School Partners with the nearest local clinic (Guadalupe County Health clinic) to support additional 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.	Vaughn Municipal Schools has had a series of community outreach meeting (virtually) to seek input. Staff also had opportunity to give input during staffing’s and board work sessions.
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	Vaughn Municipal Schools will make the written plan available in English and Spanish and will translate to another language as needed. Vaughn Municipal Schools can explain the plan verbally in English and Spanish for any parents that request it.

<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>Vaughn Municipal Schools will ensure to meets the needs of students and parents in providing a plan that is accessible and understandable both written and verbally.</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/guidanceuseinvestment.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