

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (ARP Act)



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
6393	001202000	Arizona State School for the Deaf and Blind

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)

CDC Safety Recommendations	Has the LEA Adopted a Policy? (Y/N)	Describe LEA Policy:
Universal and correct wearing of masks	Y	At a high COVID-19 Community Level, universal indoor masking in school and office locations is recommended. This applies to both Students and Staff and is dependent on the county that is in a high transmission rate.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Classrooms will be set up to best maintain social distancing. Guidelines are, whenever possible, desks should be at least 3 feet apart or as far apart as possible within the space available. How this is accomplished will be decided by individual classroom teachers in conjunction with the site principal.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	All schools will require staff and students to wash their hands with soap and water or to disinfect their hands with hand sanitizer before and after food, after recesses, and restroom visits. Staff/students will wipe down all instructional areas (e.g., tables, desks, etc.), Students will wash their hands/use hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer will be available at the entrance of each building. Placement will depend on the specific set up of each building so the sanitizer is readily available for all students. If students' hands are visibly dirty, they will be asked to wash their hands with soap and water. Staff and students will be required to wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds after using the bathroom and before eating any food.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	y	Before school begins, all school classrooms will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. This includes, but is not limited to cupboards, flat surfaces, desks, and chairs. All disinfecting products used will kill most, if not all bacteria, fungi, and viruses. Cleaning will be performed frequently throughout the day by wiping down hard surfaces with soap and water or a sanitizer. Cleaning or sanitizing of door handles, and push bars will also be performed throughout the day. At a minimum, cleaning will occur during the lunch period and end of the school day. Disinfecting needs to be done less often, but will be performed at least once

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		<p>at the end of each day. This includes wiping down hard surfaces with a disinfectant provided by the school. All cleaning supplies used at individual campuses will be reviewed to assure they have adequate cleaning and disinfecting power. Preschool, kindergarten, MDSSI, and all rooms used for medically fragile students will have additional cleaning as needed. Ventilation: HVAC filters are changed per HVAC manufacturer's recommendation and CDC guidelines. HVAC outside air dampers adjusted to meet CDC guidelines for outside air exchange. ASDB utilizes HEPA filtration in the Student Health Center.</p>
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	y	<p>ASDB follows CDC guidelines as supplied to ASDB and quarantine, in collaboration with the Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) Human Resources. This keeps ASDB in compliance with all State and Local guidelines.</p>
Diagnostic and screening testing	y	<p>Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Student Health Center must establish some parameters in order to properly separate sick children from healthy children. SHC operations include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teachers will be given a packet of bandages and small gauze pads in order to wash small cuts or scrapes and put on a band-aid instead of sending students to the SHC. ● Due to health concerns, the SHC bathroom may be used only by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● students in the SHC; ● students who have had a toileting accident; ● or any student who has special permission to use this bathroom on an ongoing basis. ● Visitors and students waiting for transport after school must use another public restroom. The SHC door will remain closed throughout the day. ● Children with diabetes, asthma or other serious diagnoses may go immediately to the SHC. ● SHC staff will give the students medications at the SHC entrance, asking students to wait outside.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	y	<p>Human Resources sends out notifications to communities regarding information on sites providing vaccinations, and updates as required.</p> <p>ASDB School Nurse ensures that an immunization record- or a valid ADHS exemption form- is maintained for each child enrolled. The law requires that we enforce immunization</p>

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		requirements, maintain immunization records of all children enrolled, and submit reports to public health agencies. It is our duty, by law, A.A.C. R9-6-705, to exclude children from school, preschool, or child care if they do not meet immunization requirements
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	y	Per student IEP appropriate accommodations are made with respect to health and safety policies for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety.
Coordination with State and local health officials	y	The school nurse attends all state and local officials health meetings to update the agency as needed. In addition, the Human Resources Director attends Arizona Department of Administration meetings to ensure that ASDB follows all internal state guidelines and updates the agency as needed.

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?

Should the conditions of COVID require distance learning, ASDB is prepared to return to this mode of instruction and will post information, seek input and send information to parents regarding these changes.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	Over 20% of the budget will be used for after school tutoring in the 22-23 school year to supplement the ESSER II funds being used for the same reason in the 21-22 school year. This will help our students recover from learning loss experienced during the time of covid. Activities will be aligned to current agency approved curriculum and will include components to address the student's social and emotional needs with current school counselors and social workers. Data from teachers, counselors, IEP teams and benchmark assessments will be used to place students in these programs.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	School social workers and counselors are available for students on an as needed basis. Campuses are implementing an MTSS model for social emotional and behavior needs.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	ASDB's nursing team is attending COVID meetings held by the state and the county and is keeping ASDB administration informed of these changes and needs that must be addressed. The food service department is a partner with campus leadership to discuss and revise food menu options as needed to ensure student nutrition is being met.

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	HR is the main contact point for social and emotional and health needs of the ASDB staff.
Other Needs	

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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 the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services **through September 30, 2023**

Date of Revision

5/1/2023

Public Input

Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:

Virtual stakeholder meetings were held with our parents and districts, letters, emails and website information was shared and gathered to seek input.

U.S. Department of Education Interim Final Rule (IFR)

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

- (a) 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—
 - (i) 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.
 - (ii) 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.
- (b)(i) During the period of the ARP ESSER award established in section Start Printed Page 212022001(a) of the ARP Act, an 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 the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services.
 - (ii) In determining whether revisions are necessary, and in making any revisions, the LEA must seek public input and take such input into account
 - (iii) 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.
- (c) 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).
- (d) 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—
 - (i) In an understandable and uniform format;

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- (ii) 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; an
- (iii) 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