

Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

Addendum Guidance

2023

LEAs are required to update the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan every six months through **Sept. 30, 2023**. Each time, local education agencies (LEAs) must seek public input on the plan and any revisions and must take such input into account. The purpose of the plan is to keep stakeholders informed.

Every LEA should complete the addendum and upload it to ePlan in the LEA document library and post it to the LEA's website (Feb. 15 and Sept. 15). Like the development of the plan, all revisions must be informed by community input and reviewed and approved by the governing body prior to posting on the LEA's publicly available website.

Please consider the following when completing the addendum:

- Ensure the LEA used multiple models of engagement offered to stakeholders. Examples may include surveys, in-person or virtual committee meetings, town hall meetings, or other inclusive engagement opportunities.
- LEAs should engage all applicable groups noted in meaningful consultation during the crafting of the plan and when making any significant revisions or updates to the plan.
- The number of stakeholders engaged should represent the composition of students. For example, if students with disabilities make up 15 percent of students, then 10-20 percent of respondents should represent this subgroup.
- Ensure the stakeholder engagement happened prior to the development/revision of the plan.
- The LEA must engage the health department in the development and revision of the plan. This is different from providing the health department with COVID-19 numbers.
- Plans must explicitly address every bullet point in Question 3 regarding district policies and strategies.
- Plans require local board approval and public posting.
- LEAs must update the *Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan* at least every six months through Sept. 30, 2023, seek public input on the plan and any revisions, and take such input into account. All revisions must include an explanation and rationale of why the revisions were made.
- All revisions must include an explanation and rationale, with meaningful public consultation and in an understandable format. The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires LEAs to post their Health and Safety Plans online in a language that parents/caregivers can understand, or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to an individual with limited English proficiency, be orally translated. The plan also must be provided in an alternative format accessible, upon request, by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

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

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief 3.0 (ESSER 3.0) Fund under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, was enacted on March 11, 2021. Funding provided to states and local educational agencies (LEAs) helps safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students.

In the fall of 2021, LEAs developed and made publicly available a Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan. All plans were developed with meaningful public consultation with stakeholder groups. LEAs are required to update the plan every six months through Sept. 30, 2023, and must seek public input on the plan and any revisions and must take such input into account. LEAs also must review and update their plans and ensure they align with any significant changes to CDC recommendations for K-12 schools. Like the development of the plan, all revisions must be informed by community input and reviewed and approved by the governing body prior to posting on the LEA's publicly available website.

The following information is intended to update stakeholders and address the requirement.

LEA Name:

Date: September 8, 2023

1. Describe how the LEA has continued to engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders in the development of the revised plan.

The Dickson County School District has utilized open house, the district website, school board meetings, and our in-touch calling system to keep stakeholders engaged in the plan.

2. Describe how the LEA engaged the health department in the development of the revised plan.

The health department provides information and resources to the LEA regarding COVID-19. Staff and students are encouraged to contact the health department or their health care provider for guidance on COVID-19.

3. Provide the extent to which the LEA has updated adopted policies and a description of any such policies on each of the following health and safety strategies.

<i>Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies</i>
SPED and 504 departments provide accommodations for disabilities.
<i>Physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)</i>
The Dickson County School District continues to encourage social distancing.
<i>Hand washing and respiratory etiquette</i>
The Dickson County School District continues to encourage hand washing and respiratory etiquette.
<i>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities including improving ventilation</i>
The Dickson County School District has not updated our policy in this area. Our current policy regarding cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities remains in effect.
<i>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine</i>
The Dickson County School District refers to the health department or the student's health care provider to provide guidance.
<i>Diagnostic and screening testing</i>
The Dickson County School District provides a full time school nurse at every school. The school nurses provide assessments to students and refer students to the health department or their health care provider when symptoms are present. The LEA provides a clinic for staff to use free of charge for all illnesses including COVID testing.
<i>Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible</i>
Vaccines were provided to staff on 2/26/21, 3/26/21, and 11/23/21. Staff have also been informed of other places that have the vaccine in our area.
<i>Universal and correct wearing of masks</i>
The Dickson County School District encourages mask wearing but it is not required.

4. Provide a current description as to how the LEA is ensuring continuity of services including but not limited to services that address students' academic needs and students' and staff's social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

The Dickson County School District has provided a device to each student in the district which would allow the district to go to remote learning as our state allows. The nutrition department is prepared to provide

food to student if school is not in person. The district provides social workers, school nurses, counselors, and other personnel to meet students needs.