

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
92302	088705000	Desert Star Academy

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	All scholars will have access to wear a mask (covering the mouth and nose) when social distancing cannot be achieved if they choose.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	N	All classrooms will re-arrange desks to allow social distancing.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	All scholars will practice hand washing and sanitizing periodically through the school day. DSA has purchased hand sanitizing stations for each classroom and office area.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	DSA hired extra cleaning staff to thoroughly clean all classrooms and the school nightly.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	DSA will follow all health policies provided by Mohave County Dept of Public Health. Health Dept will be called, and all cases will be reported to the Dept. Classroom families will be notified of positive cases as they occur.
Diagnostic and screening testing	N	Diagnostic testing is referred to local sites. Temperature screenings are taken when scholar present symptoms.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	N	School families will be kept informed of local vaccination sites.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	A personal laptop can be checked out for a scholar to work from home if they chose due to Covid. Created social distancing within the classroom.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	DSA has a special liaison at Mohave County Health Dept for questions, reporting, and training.

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?

Desert Star Academy will ensure procedures that will continue services. DSA will follow the CDC, Federal, State and AZ Charter Boards guidelines to continually support our staff and scholars. We will strive to continually address the health and safety of our staff and scholars.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	Academic testing 3 times a year. Data review by administration and teaching staff. Education plans to provide support services to scholars in need.
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Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Simple K12 webinar access to all teachers to train in social, emotional, and mental health needs. Counselor has been hired.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	Desert Star Academy has hired multiple aides for small group intervention to close the learning gap.
Staff Needs:	
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	DSA allows staff personal days for mental health. Training to identify and support scholars with social and emotional needs.
Other Needs	DSA has provided staff with training on how to support scholars to fill the gaps from the time out of school by using Simple K12.

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 October 18	The stakeholders meet in early October to review the plan and make changes.
Public Input	
Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	Parental input is of utmost value. The input is valued and shared amongst the committee to revise and reevaluate the current policy. ¹⁰

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

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- (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.
 - (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; and
 - (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