

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
903484	078693000	Phoenix International 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	Phoenix International Academy requires masks to be worn only if there has been a confirmed contact with a positive case of COVID or if the community spread in the immediate area is in the HIGH category. Otherwise, masking is optional.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Students will be distanced at all times with a minimum of three feet of distancing (per new CDC guidelines).
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	PIA will encourage and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or as appropriate, use of hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. The School will support healthy hygiene behaviors by providing adequate supplies, including soap and hand sanitizer.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	The school will disinfect frequently touched surfaces (e.g., playground equipment, door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains) within the School and on buses (if applicable) at least three times per school day, when reasonably feasible. The School will follow cleaning and disinfection best practices and procedures, to the extent possible
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	When a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, the School will communicate with and follow the guidance of local health officials in making decisions regarding appropriate reactive mitigation measures, including the extent to which School operations should be temporarily restricted or closed, in whole or in part, and if so, for how long.A. School Notification of Positive Test. The School will encourage staff and students/families to notify School's designated COVID-19 Point of Contact regarding any positive test result for COVID19 with respect to any student or staff member. B. Coordination with Local Health Officials. Upon

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learning of a positive COVID-19 test result in someone who has been in the School, the School will promptly notify local health officials and seek guidance to determine an appropriate course of action in light of the circumstances. At a minimum, the affected individual will be quarantined from the School on-site environment (including on-site support services or in-person instruction) and other responsive actions will be taken, as directed in consultation with local health officials or in compliance with their guidance. Such actions may include, but are not limited to: 1. Short-term limitations on, or restrictions for, in-person learning with respect to a particular cohort, or the School generally. 2. Enhanced cleaning/disinfection of areas of the School used by the affected individual. 3. Extended school dismissal/closure. B. Communication with Staff, Parents, and Students. Consistent with privacy requirements, including those of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"), and in consultation with local health officials, the School will provide notification to appropriate staff and parents regarding COVID-19 cases in the School. When a student or staff member has been required to stay home from school: (a) following a positive test for COVID-19; (b) - Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (ARP Act) after showing symptoms of COVID-19; or (c) after recent close contact with a person with COVID-19, the School will implement the following mitigation strategies related to reentry on the School campus. Such individuals will be permitted to return to School for in person learning, upon compliance with CDC and local health official guidelines, which currently provide: A. Following an Illness Suspected or Confirmed to be COVID-19: After ... 1. At least 5 days* since symptoms first appeared; and 2. At least 72 hours with no fever without use of fever-reducing medication; and 3. Symptoms (such as cough or shortness of breath) have improved. *20 days if severely ill or immunocompromised. B. Following a Positive Test for COVID19 but without Symptoms: At least 5 days have passed since the positive test c. Following a Negative Test but with Symptoms: 1. At least 72 hours with no fever without use of fever-reducing medication; and 2. Symptoms

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		(such as cough or shortness of breath) have improved
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	PIA provides information for families to test at any time. We will also test any student whose parents request it using a rapid test.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	Y	PIA provides regular information regarding vaccines and where to get them.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	PIA provides individual accommodations as needed for all students to safely participate in safe in-person learning.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	Yajaira Arriaga is the point of contact for COVID-19 related concerns, including reporting positive test results or COVID-19 symptoms. Her email is yajaira@phoenixintacademy.org . Mitigation plans and policy questions should be directed to Ivette Rodriguez at ivette@phoenixintacademy.org .

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?

PIA returned to in person learning in the Fall of 2021 and offered online learning for those who were not yet comfortable returning. At the start of the 2021 school year, online services are only offered for those with documented medical needs and for those in quarantine from COVID. Our continuity of services has been natural due to our commitment to providing high quality in person instruction as soon as possible. SPED services were always offered in person. We are now focusing on recuperation of academic, social and emotional skills due to disruptions caused by the pandemic.

Academic Needs	PIA has been providing in-person learning for all students. Additionally, the school has hired additional teachers and paraprofessionals to provide more targeted instructional support. Additional intervention programs have been purchased in order to target gaps that have widened during the pandemic. PIA is a 200 day school year and is committed to remain so in order to reach all students. For students who need additional tutoring, particular those with special needs, we have contracted with an online tutoring services provider.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	We have hired a full time school counselor who checks in with students regularly and holds group sessions for identified students. PIA has purchased a SEL curriculum and utilizes it daily.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	The school counselor is also the point of contact for additional family needs - economic, health, or otherwise. We provide food boxes to families who experience food insecurity and are partnering with a local clinic to provide healthcare to those who are struggling to find it.
Staff Needs:	
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	A therapist is available to for the staff to hold group sessions on a monthly basis at no cost to the staff members.
Other Needs	All staff have a fully paid medical plan and 10 PTO days plus an additional 10 COVID days which do not count against PTO.

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

9/15/2023

Public Input

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

This plan was reviewed with our leadership team which includes the administrator, classified staff, three teachers, a two parents, a medical professional, and one student.

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;
 - (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

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