

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
92988	07-82-39-000	Estrella Educational Foundation DBA Maricopa Institute of Technology

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	N	
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	<p>Physical distancing expectations must be adhered to by all staff and students to the extent practicable and feasible.</p> <p>Care will be taken to remain 6' apart when possible.</p> <p>The reception desk in the front office may have tape on the floor to indicate 6' distance.</p> <p>At the Headmaster's discretion, the campus may install plexiglass at the reception desk.</p> <p>Classrooms will be arranged to maximize distance between students to the greatest extent possible.</p> <p>Teachers should consider only permitting one student to leave class to use the restroom at a time, however, professional decision-making must be used in this area if a student does not feel well or if there is another urgent need.</p> <p>Water fountains should not be used to drink directly from but can be used to fill a water bottle. This will help to mitigate the transmission of germs.</p> <p>Physical distancing will be encouraged throughout the school campus.</p>
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	<p>Students will be encouraged to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol upon arrival at school, before and after meals, and after sneezing, coughing, or blowing their noses.</p> <p>Hand sanitizer will be available in the office and classrooms to be used throughout the day.</p> <p>Staff and students are encouraged to bring their own sanitizer as well.</p>
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	<p>The campus maintenance team will oversee cleaning and sanitizing efforts throughout the campus for daily routine cleaning, sanitizing efforts throughout the campus for daily routine cleaning, sanitizing of high-touch surfaces, and deep cleaning after large group gatherings.</p> <p>Facilities staff will wear globes while cleaning/sanitizing and will wash their hands</p>

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		<p>afterward, using the handwashing and hand sanitizing procedures outlined above.</p> <p>If there is a confirmed positive case of COVID-19 within the building the following steps will be taken: maintenance manager will be made aware which areas have been impacted. No personal medical information will be disclosed with regard to this communication, the facilities staff will close off areas as directed if doable, if feasible, open outside doors and windows and use ventilating fans to increase air circulation in the area. Wait 24 hours or as long as practical before beginning cleaning and disinfection. After 24 hours normal daily cleaning and disinfecting should be undertaken.</p> <p>The school will conduct daily cleaning and disinfection of bathrooms, classrooms, and high-touch areas using virucide. Ventilation system filters are changed regularly with filters at the highest MERV rating indicated for the system. All staff are to sanitize their assigned computer keyboard and screen daily, wipe down conference rooms with disinfecting wipes or a towel with a cleaning solution after each use, and sanitize mobile computer carts and computer labs between each use.</p>
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	<p>The school regularly consults the CDC, Arizona Department of Health Services, and Maricopa County Health Department protocols for reported cases.</p> <p>Cases reported to the school will be addressed on an individual basis in consultation with state and local health departments.</p> <p>The school will notify students and staff of any potential exposure.</p> <p>Quarantine may be advised by the state or local health department; if quarantined, students will be provided with technology and support to continue to participate in classwork and other services.</p>
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	<p>Staff and students are able to conduct self-screening of body temperature and COVID-19 related symptoms with a standing non-contact thermometer.</p>
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	Y	<p>Maricopa Institute of Technology sends directives out to families with directions on where to find vaccination sites and locations.</p>
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	<p>Accommodations are determined on a case-by-case basis.</p>
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	<p>Maricopa Institute of Technology regularly consults with the local health department and</p>

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		AZ Department of Health for guidance on mitigation strategies and the appropriate response to positive cases identified for the purpose of contact tracing and/or quarantine and isolation.
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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?

Maricopa Institute of Technology will continue to strategies and program options to ensure students are able to continue to access their education while on campus and/or off-campus.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	<p>Maricopa Institute of Technology will ensure that students affected by quarantine, isolation, or any recommended closures have access to technology to continue providing instruction, intervention, and other academic services remotely.</p> <p>The school will provide personal internet hotspots to families without reliable internet access as needed.</p> <p>An enrichment program is provided to students after school.</p>
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	<p>MIT will continue outreach to students and families to provide assistance to community resources and mental health services in the event quarantine or closure is indicated by the state or local health department.</p> <p>Staff is receiving a series of professional development sessions throughout the year to grow their own social emotional competence and capacity. This is led by our certified school counselor.</p> <p>The professional development sessions each include a challenge that allows the school community to apply and practice the skills learned in the session.</p> <p>A full-time school counselor has been added to MIT's staff list for the 2022-2023 school year and the counselor's contract will be renewed for 2023-2024.</p>
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	<p>Access to food service will continue for students affected by quarantine, isolation, or school closure. For students that are affected, meal services will be provided through a safe distance pick-up system.</p>

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	<p>Staff is receiving a series of professional development sessions this year to grow their own social-emotional competence and capacity; the professional development sessions each include a challenge that allows the school community to apply and practice the skills learned in the session.</p> <p>MIT Provides free access to all employees and their family members to the Employee Assistance Program; services include free emotional and work-life counseling, financial information/resources, legal support/resources, and health/benefit services to support employees during major life events, MIT health plan provides virtual access to a medical professional to eligible employees, including mental health professionals.</p>
Other Needs	N/A

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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	07/01/2023
Public Input	
Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	Public input on our Safe and Healthy return to in-person learning was gathered through and public comment periods. Input from families was a valuable part of the creation of our mitigation plan and was intertwined with the alignment to OSHA, CDC guidelines and the ADE Roadmap for reopening in-person learning.

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