

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



*Updated 8/29/2023 and board approved 8/30/2023

Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
92985	078410000	Victory Collegiate 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	Masks are optional for adults, staff, and students on campus.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	VCA uses cohorts for daily scheduling and is physically set up with five pods.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Staff taught explicit expectations around handwashing and respiratory etiquette. VCA placed signs from CDC in all buildings and restrooms. Each classroom has a contactless hand sanitizing station. Parents were communicated with on the expectations and policies.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	Custodial staff have updated job description and routines in disinfecting commonly used areas such as restrooms, door handles, staff workroom and more constantly throughout the day.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	<p>If there is a potential case such as a student showing some symptoms, or a student verbally announcing to another person they are sick or have COVID or any related information that indicates a student has COVID or may have been exposed, the VCA Administration will immediately and has immediately:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Isolate the individual, conduct a questionnaire and take their temperature ● Call the parents to investigate and gather more information ● If a positive case is identified, the VCA Administration will contact trace that classroom and any other classroom the student may have exposed someone <p>Our plan that was created and board approved is aligned to state, local, CDC and federal guidelines.</p>
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	VCA District has COVID tests available for staff and students upon request
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	N	VCA has made efforts to coordinate with a few local organizations to set up third party COVID vaccination and testing locations that never have materialized

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Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	All known accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies are being adhered to and updated from our SPED Teacher/Assistant Director and VCA staff.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	VCA has identified a local hospital to communicate with in case of a major spread or health issue. We have reached out for information and resources with Maricopa, Arizona Department of Education and the Charter Board Association.

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?

Victory Collegiate Academy will ensure continuity of services by maintaining compliance with all state and CDC guidelines on a regular basis. Several school leaders will be tasked with following up regularly with staff (weekly and monthly) as a check to make sure the plan and all guidelines are done with fidelity.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	VCA is continuing to follow its program of instruction as submitted to the Charter Board Association as in person ensuring we are meeting the needs of all students academically.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	VCA has a designated time daily for SEL curriculum to be taught in all classrooms. VCA has a full time counselor who is counseling students. VCA has professional development for staff around mental health, social and emotional learning, cultivating emotional resilience and intelligence.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	We have multiple internal programs that support student health and food services and partner with external programs such as St. Marys Food Bank for health and food services.

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	VCA has professional development for staff around mental health, social and emotional learning, cultivating emotional resilience and intelligence.
Other Needs	VCA offers a 1:1 Coaching Model that meets the "whole staff" needs in areas such as teacher pedagogy, teacher skill, teacher knowledge, teacher cultural competence and teacher emotional intelligence.

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	August 30, 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:	Constant reviews of updated information on CDC, state, local and federal guidelines are conducted monthly, which are accessing public information and public input from those institutions.



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