

Elementary and Secondary School Relief Fund (ESSER III)

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction

Local Educational Agency Plan Template

Q1: The LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and LEA staff, and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the CDC's safety recommendations, including: universal and correct wearing of masks; modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing; handwashing and respiratory etiquette; cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation; contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments; diagnostic and screening testing; efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities; appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and coordination with State and local health officials.

Describe how the LEA will maintain, or continue to maintain, health and safety policies and procedures. Include a description of any adopted policies and procedures regarding the CDC's safety recommendations (or available LEA website links to such policies). Include descriptions of appropriate accommodations adopted and coordination efforts conducted with outside State and local health officials. Please include or describe current public health conditions, applicable State and local rules and restrictions, and other contemporaneous information that informs your decision-making process.

Rocketship CA has developed regional health and safety policies grounded in the CDC's Prevention Strategies to Reduce Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in Schools and compliant with CDPH's COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for K-12 Schools in California, 2021-22 School Year. The full plan, including family-facing materials and operational application to daily school routines can be found at <https://www.rocketshipschools.org/covid19-ca/#1614886772587-551d5d61-5bae>.

Rocketship will conduct a monthly audit of all health and safety policies to ensure compliance with both CDC and CDPH guidance for K-12 schools. We will closely monitor local health conditions, including case rates and positivity rates, and adjust our policies if necessary.

While Rocketship does not require vaccination for staff or students, we will be monitoring vaccination rates at each of our campuses and will use the regional and site vaccination rates as data points for decision-making as well.

Q2: 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.

Describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services in case isolation, quarantine, or future school closures are required, including how the LEA will meet the needs of students with disabilities and English learners.

Rocketship's priority will be keeping students and staff learning and teaching in our buildings this year. However, in the event that isolation, quarantine, or future school closures are required, we will ensure continuity of services.

Students who must flex into distance learning will benefit from our experience building high-quality virtual learning options in 20-21. Depending on the extent of the exclusion/closure, students will either learn asynchronously with teacher check ins, or synchronously with their whole cohort. We will ensure that virtual instruction meets all requirements associated with fulfilling the needs of students with disabilities and English learners. For students with IEPs, we will implement instruction aligned with the Emergency Contingency Plan prepared during IEP meetings. Based on student needs, we will hold an IEP meeting to update elements of the program and Emergency Contingency plan.

For English Learners, daily Designated English Language Development will continue to be protected in the student's instructional schedule. Teachers will prioritize Integrated English Language development, by planning scaffolds at the students instructional level, as well as opportunities to produce language during virtual instruction. In the event that a multilingual student engages in asynchronous instruction, we will leverage the Seesaw platform so that students have audio instructions and can select different modes of communication to complete tasks. We also plan to supplement English Language Development, by using the online platform Lexia English, for additional speaking and listening opportunities throughout the day.

At Rocketship we believe that school provided breakfast and lunch enable children to continue to get healthy and nutritious meals, maintain a healthy immune system and focus on their studies. It is essential that students have the opportunity to have school provided meals no matter their learning environment. When on campus students will have their breakfast and lunches in their classrooms with their designated cohort.

During distance learning or quarantine due to COVID-19, our students will continue to access free breakfast and lunch. Schools will work with families of students in these learning environments to ensure that, at the very least, they always have meals available for pick up at their school. Parents will be informed of our meal program plans during student and family orientations as well as daily reminders during arrival and dismissal. We will also make sure to check in on families' needs during conference and Care Corps calls.

Q3: The LEA sought public comments in the development of its plan and took those comments into account in the development of its plan.

Describe the LEA's policy or practice that provided the public with an opportunity to provide comments and feedback and the collection process. Describe how any feedback was incorporated into the development of the plan.

Throughout the pandemic, Rocketship has been deeply committed to gathering feedback and input from stakeholders regarding our policies, practices, and actions. Our current reopening plans and accompanying policies are informed by more than a year of engagement with families, staff, and local authorities. Families have responded to several surveys and provided comments via parent coffees/Cafecitos and orientation events. Staff have also been surveyed multiple times, and our school leaders engaged staff members individually over the course of the spring regarding reopening plans. We will continue that same type of engagement as we enter and proceed through the 21-22 school year.

We will continue to deeply engage staff and families as the school year continues, the public health context evolves, and we receive additional national and state guidance as we know comfort levels and community norms will continue to evolve over the course of the year.

All family-facing documents on health and safety (original + Spanish and Vietnamese translations) as well as our more detailed internal-facing protocols are posted on Rocketship's webpage with an open invitation to comment.