

# Health and Safety Plans in Pennsylvania Schools: What Families Need to Know

The purpose of this document is to provide basic information about the Health and Safety Plans that LEAs are required to develop prior to the reopening of schools.

**Note:** LEA is referred to throughout this document. A Local Educational Agency (LEA) is a school district, charter school, or other educational entity responsible for providing free, appropriate, public education in accordance with Pennsylvania Department of Education statutes, regulations, and policies with or without support from other agencies.

## What is a Health and Safety Plan?

A Health and Safety Plan describes local guidelines surrounding the reopening of Pennsylvania's schools.

## Who is required to have a Health and Safety Plan?

Each LEA is required to have a Health and Safety Plan. Charter schools are encouraged to work with their local school district to establish their plans. Private and parochial schools are also encouraged to develop plans.
















## Where can I find my school's Health and Safety Plan?

Health and Safety Plans will be posted on the LEA's website.

## What information is in my school's Health and Safety Plan?

Health and Safety Plans are developed locally and are unique to your LEA. However, all Health and Safety Plans must meet the requirements described below.

## Requirements for Health and Safety Plans

 Establish a pandemic coordinator or pandemic team	 Protect high-risk students and staff	 Monitor for symptoms and exposure
 Determine what to do if students and staff become sick and when they can return to school	 Develop procedures for prevention (masks, hand-washing, signage about the spread of germs)	 Develop procedures for cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilating
 Address social distancing guidelines	 Arrange for alternative meal distribution	 Follow guidelines for sports and athletics
 Provide training for school staff	 Reduce class size and limit interactions	 Limit sharing of materials between students
 Restrict nonessential visitors and volunteers	 Adjust transportation	 Ensure ongoing communication with families

**For more information, please refer to PDE's Health and Safety Plans at this link:**

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/K12/Pages/HealthSafetyPlans.aspx>