Oregon Charter Academy

American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER);
OAR 581-022-0106 (State Operational Plan)

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan
Charter School Information

Institution ID: 4399  Institution Name: Oregon Charter Academy

Charter School Continuity of Services Plan/RSSL Contact Name and Title:

Allison Galvin - Executive Director

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Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

In order to best support students and families with the safest possible return to school for the 2021 school year, the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) has created an operational plan template to align guidance from the federal and state level in support of local decision-making and transparency of health and safety measures in the communities that school districts and charter schools serve. The Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan serves the following purposes:

1) Replaces the Ready Schools, Safe Learners Operational Blueprint required under Executive Order 21-06; and

2) Meets the requirements for:
   a. An operational plan required under OAR 581-022-0106(4), while aligning the CDC Guidance on School Reopening with the Ready Schools, Safe Learners Resiliency Framework for the 2021-22 School Year (RSSL Resiliency Framework);
   b. Section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP ESSER and the US Department of Education's Interim Final Requirements for Safe Return/Continuity of Services Plan; and
   c. Communicable Disease Plan and Isolation Plan under OAR 581-022-2220 (Division 22 requirements).

As districts and charter schools plan and implement the recommendations in ODE’s RSSL Resiliency Framework, they will need to consider a continuum of risk levels when all recommendations cannot be fully implemented. For example, universal correct wearing of face coverings between people is one of the most effective preventive measures. However, there will be times when this is not possible based on a specific interaction or a physical space limitation, such as during meal times. It will be necessary to consider and balance the mitigation strategies described to best protect health and safety while ensuring full time in person learning.

ODE remains committed to the guiding principles introduced in spring of 2020 to generate collective action and leadership for efforts to respond to COVID-19 across Oregon. These principles are updated to reflect the current context:

- **Ensure safety and wellness.** Prioritizing basic needs such as food, shelter, wellness, supportive relationships and support for mental, social, and emotional health of students and staff.
- **Center health and well-being.** Acknowledging the health and mental health impacts of this past year, commit to creating learning opportunities that foster creative expression, make space for reflection and connection, and center on the needs of the whole child rather than solely emphasizing academic achievement.
• **Cultivate connection and relationship.** Reconnecting with one another after a year of separation can occur through quality learning experiences and deep interpersonal relationships among families, students and staff.

• **Prioritize equity.** Recognize the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, and Latino/a/x, Pacific Islander communities; students experiencing disabilities; students living in rural areas; and students and families navigating poverty and houselessness. Apply an equity-informed, anti-racist, and anti-oppressive lens to promote culturally sustaining and revitalizing educational systems that support every child.

• **Innovate.** Returning to school is an opportunity to improve teaching and learning by iterating on new instructional strategies, rethinking learning environments, and investing in creative approaches to address unfinished learning.

*Continued on next page.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ARP ESSER &amp; OAR 581-022-0106 Component</th>
<th>Extent to which charter school has adopted policies, protocols, or procedures and description of policies, protocols, or procedures adopted to ensure continuity of services</th>
<th>How do the charter school's policies, protocols, and procedures center on equity?</th>
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<tr>
<td>Devote time for students and staff to connect and build relationships</td>
<td>Being a virtual school, we have always devoted time to building relationships in the virtual environment. Our theme as a school for this year is “Community Counts!” where we will be supporting staff in community development with our students.</td>
<td>Oregon Charter Academy has adopted and follows policies that include but are not limited to: All Students Belong, Equal Educational Opportunity, Educational Equity, Field Trips, and Staff/Student/Parent Relations. All staff are required to participate in annual trainings on Cultural Competence, Racial Bias, and Making Schools Safe and Inclusive for students. These resources ensure equity and access to align with the federal and state requirements. We continue to monitor and apply an equity informed lens to support every student and staff member.</td>
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<td>Ample class time, and private time if needed, for creative opportunities that allow students and staff to explore and process their experiences</td>
<td>All classrooms offer opportunities for students to interact in an informal manner. Teachers offer small group and individual opportunities for students to interact. Students also have social opportunities outside of class through clubs, virtual field trips and in-person field trips. Oregon Charter Academy also has students connect with at least one staff member to be a go-to adult in their lives.</td>
<td>Oregon Charter Academy has adopted and follows policies that include but are not limited to: All Students Belong, Equal Educational Opportunity, Educational Equity, Field Trips, and Staff/Student/Parent Relations. All staff are required to participate in annual trainings on Cultural Competence, Racial Bias, and Making Schools Safe and Inclusive for students. These resources ensure equity and access to align with the federal and state requirements. In addition, all students have access to an advisory teacher or a homeroom teacher, a counselor and groups/clubs to help meet their social-emotional needs.</td>
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<td>Link staff, students and families with culturally relevant health and mental health services and supports</td>
<td>All students, families, and staff have access to the school social worker, counselors, and family liaisons at Oregon Charter Academy. These staff can connect individuals to service providers within every county in the state. They also provide small group and individual support to address the non-academic needs of our school community.</td>
<td>Oregon Charter Academy has students all over the State of Oregon, and will work with local counties and cities to make sure that all students have the necessary services not only to provide for their education needs but also their physical and mental wellbeing. ORCA employs a full-time School Social Worker and contracts with LBLES for a full-time Family Support Liaison. These positions work full-time connecting families with culturally responsive resources in their local communities. In addition, staff receive training and professional development on school protocols to accommodate students with health and mental health needs.</td>
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<td>Foster peer/student lead initiatives on wellbeing and mental health</td>
<td>There are ample opportunities through Oregon Charter student clubs such as Breakfast club (LBGTQ+) and Student Government for students to lead initiatives on student wellbeing and mental health. Oregon Charter Academy also offers virtual field-trip opportunities to support social and peer led initiatives such as virtual recess and lunch bunch.</td>
<td>All students have equal access to eligible clubs and social-emotional opportunities. Students are encouraged to engage in these opportunities and all policies within the handbook including but not limited to All Students Belong, Equal Educational Opportunity, Educational Equity, Field Trips, and Staff/Student/Parent Relations are upheld equally for all students.</td>
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Communicable Disease Management Plan

Please provide a link to the charter school’s **communicable disease management plan** that describes measures put in place to limit the spread of COVID-19 within school settings. (OAR 581-022-2220). The advised components of the plan and additional information are found in the Communicable Disease Management Plan section of the **RSSL Resiliency Framework** and meet the ESSER process requirements of “coordination with local public health authorities.”

Link: 

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| Coordination with local public health authority(ies) including Tribal health departments | It is not likely that students will be inside a building for a school related activity. In the event that students are in the same indoor area, the school will follow the current guidance from Oregon Department of Education and Oregon Health Authority in regards to school setting distancing and facial covering. The school has sanitation supplies, masks, attendance logs, and facial shields at the one building that is occasionally used by students. | Oregon Charter Academy does follow the Exposure Plan and Communicable Disease Plan of the Santiam Canyon School District when necessary, as well as all FERPA regulations.  
http://santiam.k12.or.us/our-district/plans-reports/ |
Isolation Plan

Please provide a link to the charter school’s plan to **maintain health care and space** that is appropriately supervised and adequately equipped for providing first aid, and **isolates** the sick or injured child. ([OAR 581-022-2220](https://regulations.gov/webapp/srch/default.aspx?n=00c4d555d62f4b8a87fa56b45b520f23)). If planning for this space is in your communicable disease management plan for COVID-19, please provide the page number. Additional information about the Isolation Plan can be found in the Isolation & Quarantine Protocols section of the [RSSL Resiliency Framework](https://www.rssl.org/). 

Link: Full-time virtual public charter school.

*Continued on next page.*
## Health and Safety Strategies

School administrators are required to **exclude staff or students from school** whom they have reason to suspect have been exposed to COVID-19. ([OAR 333-019-0010](#))

Please complete the table below to include the extent to which the charter school has adopted policies and the description of each policy for each health and safety strategy. In developing the response, please review and consider the [CDC guidance](#) and the [RSSL Resiliency Framework](#) for each health and safety strategy. Additional documents to support district and school planning are available on the [ODE Ready Schools, Safe Learners website](#).

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| COVID-19 vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students if eligible | Being a virtual school, we do not provide vaccinations sites to staff. All staff and eligible students are given opportunities within their local community, physicians, and clinics to choose to receive a Covid-19 vaccination. | N/A - Virtual School.  
Oregon Charter Academy does follow the Exposure Plan and Communicable Disease Plan of the Santiam Canyon School District when necessary.  
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<td>Universal and correct wearing of face coverings</td>
<td>Oregon Charter Academy is a full-time virtual public charter school so we do not have students indoors for in-person learning. At local offices, PPE is provided upon entry to school facilities and the use of face coverings or masks is enforced following current OHA and ODE guidelines.</td>
<td>At local offices, PPE is provided upon entry to school facilities and the use of face coverings or masks is enforced following current OHA and ODE guidelines. Signage includes clear pictures to communicate messages clearly to all.</td>
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<td>Physical distancing and cohorting</td>
<td>As a virtual school, students and instructional staff do not share a physical space while &quot;in school&quot;. Office and support staff are on a daily cohorted rotating schedule to ensure no office space is being shared and to maximize social distancing. Masking is used in accordance with current OHA and ODE guidelines.</td>
<td>N/A - Virtual School. Oregon Charter Academy does follow the Exposure Plan and Communicable Disease Plan of the Santiam Canyon School District when necessary. <a href="http://santiam.k12.or.us/our-district/plans-reports/">http://santiam.k12.or.us/our-district/plans-reports/</a></td>
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<td>Ventilation and air flow</td>
<td>Modern high flow HVAC systems are in place within each office ensuring continuous turnover or flushing of air. These systems are maintained to manufacturers specifications.</td>
<td>N/A - Virtual School. Oregon Charter Academy follows the Exposure Plan and Communicable Disease Plan of the Santiam Canyon School District when necessary. <a href="http://santiam.k12.or.us/our-district/plans-reports/">http://santiam.k12.or.us/our-district/plans-reports/</a></td>
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<td>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</td>
<td>As a virtual school, we do not have a traditional school building; however, handwashing stations, sanitizer stations and PPE are all provided to any person entering school offices. Sanitizers and PPE are also available for staff to provide to students for all school activities held outside of the school office. All entry points, restrooms, classrooms, and kitchens have signage to remind all individuals of the importance of following sanitation and masking protocols.</td>
<td>Signage to include clear pictures at all entry points in offices to accommodate any potential language barriers.</td>
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| Free, on-site COVID-19 diagnostic testing | Being a virtual school, we will not be completing COVID-19 diagnostic testing. | N/A - Virtual School.  
Oregon Charter Academy does follow the Exposure Plan and Communicable Disease Plan of the Santiam Canyon School District when necessary.  
http://santiam.k12.or.us/our-district/plans-reports/|
| COVID-19 screening testing | Being a virtual school, we will not be completing COVID-19 screening testing. | N/A - Virtual School.  
Oregon Charter Academy does follow the Exposure Plan and Communicable Disease Plan of the Santiam Canyon School District when necessary.  
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<td><strong>Public health communication</strong></td>
<td>Being a virtual school, public health communication is rarely necessary. When applicable, the school will use district and ODE communication resources to relay information to staff, students, and families. All staff receive training on COVID awareness.</td>
<td>N/A - Virtual School. Any potential in person events will have communication shared (in preferred language) about the specific health and safety protocols in place at the location. Oregon Charter Academy does follow the Exposure Plan and Communicable Disease Plan of the Santiam Canyon School District when necessary. <a href="http://santiam.k12.or.us/our-district/plans-reports/">http://santiam.k12.or.us/our-district/plans-reports/</a></td>
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<td><strong>Isolation:</strong> Health care and a designated space that is appropriately supervised and adequately equipped for providing first aid and isolating the sick or injured child are required by OAR 581-022-2220.</td>
<td>Being a virtual school, we do not have students on site and will not need to provide an isolation/health care designated space.</td>
<td>N/A - Virtual School. Oregon Charter Academy does follow the Exposure Plan and Communicable Disease Plan of the Santiam Canyon School District when necessary. <a href="http://santiam.k12.or.us/our-district/plans-reports/">http://santiam.k12.or.us/our-district/plans-reports/</a></td>
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## Health and Safety Strategy

**Exclusion:** School administrators are required to exclude staff and students from school whom they have reason to suspect have been exposed to COVID-19. ([OAR 333-019-0010](http://santiam.k12.or.us/our-district/plans-reports/))

## Extent to which charter school has adopted policies, protocols, or procedures and description thereof

Being a virtual school, most students and staff do not need to be excluded as they are already from home.

Staff and students will be asked to not participate in the optional face-to-face events if they do not feel well or have a suspected or confirmed exposure to COVID-19. Office staff members are to work from home if they are not feeling well or have or suspect a recent exposure to COVID-19.

## How do the charter school's policies, protocols, and procedures center on equity?

If exclusion is needed, Oregon Charter Academy will follow the Exposure Plan and Communicable Disease Management Plan of the Santiam Canyon School District:

http://santiam.k12.or.us/our-district/plans-reports/
Accommodations for Children with Disabilities

Please describe the extent to which the charter school has adopted policies related to appropriate accommodation for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety protocols. Please describe any such policies and how the charter school collaborates with the district to comply with district policies, if applicable.

During regular school hours, students are served in their homes and no accommodations from the academy are needed.

When students gather for field trips or other events, if accommodations are needed, the school adheres to the following policies to make sure all students can participate.

ACA - Americans with Disabilities Act As written in a student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) and per policy, Special Education - Individualized IEP

Updates to this Plan

Charter schools 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 Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan.

Date Last Updated: August 13, 2021