



Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (RIPICS)

Brazosport ISD
School Year 2023-2024
(updated 7.3.23)

Continuity of Services

In March 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act, also known as the ARP Act, was signed into law, dedicating funds for K-12 schools through the Elementary and Secondary School Education Relief (ESSER) III funds. As a result, Brazosport ISD is eligible to receive one-time federal funds through the ESSER III program to be spent prior to September 30, 2024, to address expenses and learning loss associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Brazosport Independent School District has applied for the American Rescue Plan, ESSER III Federal Grant for funding. This grant provides funding to the district in two major categories. One area would address the student learning loss due to COVID-19 and the second area would address the safe re-opening of the public school district. The guidelines outlined within this plan will ensure continuity of educational 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.

BISD will address student learning loss due to COVID-19 and the safe re-opening of the Brazosport Independent School District. The guidelines outlined within this plan will ensure continuity of educational 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.

In the summer of 2020, Brazosport ISD submitted an [asynchronous plan](#) to TEA which described how students learning remotely would have a continuity of instructional services similar to those students learning in-person. Remote students were provided instruction on 100% of the TEKS and were afforded opportunities to participate in all assessments. BISD recognizes all students, whether remote or in-person, were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and has plans to mitigate learning loss as well as meet student and staff social, emotional, and mental health needs. In the event that BISD is forced to temporarily implement at-home learning options due to a serious outbreak of COVID-19, the district will implement the asynchronous plan.

BISD will use local and ESSER III funding to create new positions focused on implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students and providing information to parents on effectively supporting students. All of these positions will work to address learning loss among all BISD students, including low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care. These campus-based positions will include interventionists, instructional coaches, Licensed Professional Counselors, special education teachers and paraprofessionals, and campus safety specialists. Teacher retention stipends will address the ongoing challenges of providing highly qualified instructors for students. Funds have also been allocated for additional curriculum instruction and supplies, as well as extended learning programs such as tutoring and summer learning programs.

*BISD will utilize the below outlined **Brazosport ISD Health Mitigation Protocols 2023-2024** to ensure the safe re-opening of Brazosport ISD.*

Brazosport ISD Health Mitigation Protocols 2023-2024

Safe Return to School and Continuity of Services Plan

Masks and Vaccines

- We encourage all families and staff members to make the best decision for themselves in deciding whether to wear a mask or not, and we expect all staff, students, and visitors to respect the choice of others.
- Receiving the COVID vaccine is a personal choice for everyone, and we respect the rights of individuals to make their own decisions. Brazosport ISD does not have the authority to require vaccines for staff or students for the 2023-2024 school year.

General Protocols and Practices

- Employees, students, and visitors shall [self-screen](#) for any symptoms before entering district buildings.
- BISD staff members must contact their supervisor and Human Resources if they test positive for COVID.
- Parents will also be notified when:
 - (PreK-4 / self-contained grade levels) your student was in the same class with a COVID positive individual.

Absences and Return Guidelines

- Students not attending school due to lab-confirmed positive COVID will be counted absent - excused.
- Students quarantining due to household COVID cases, or close contact with a COVID individual will be counted absent - excused.
- An individual who is diagnosed with COVID may return to campus/ property after 5 full days from symptom onset.
 - The individual must also be fever-free for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing medications, and with improvement of other symptoms.
 - Positive Covid-19 cases (staff and students) will be reported to the local

health department and the Texas Department of State Health Services as required by TEA.

- Individuals who have been in close and personal contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 should monitor their health conditions for symptoms of COVID-19 and take appropriate steps should symptoms arise.

Health and Hygiene Protocols and Practices

- Handwashing will continue to be a priority and it is recommended that students, teachers, and staff dedicate intentional time for handwashing throughout the school day.
- Signage for proper hygiene etiquette will continue to be posted throughout district facilities.

Coordination with Local Health Officials

- BISD will continue to work with Brazoria County and the Texas Education Agency to mitigate COVID. These efforts may include but are not limited to, updating policies needed, responding to contact tracing if requested, and facilitating community immunization sites.

Texas Education Agency Guidance / UIL Guidelines

- [Texas Education Agency Guidance](#)
- [UIL Guidelines](#)

Additional Information

- Students will be allowed to bring their own water bottles to school.
- Plans and procedures may be modified depending upon positive COVID cases on campus.

Still have questions?

If you have any questions feel free to reach out to our team on the [Just Ask](#) feature on our [website](#).

