

Campus crisis planning

RISK CONTROL eGUIDE



eResources

Awareness and informational

[International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators \(IACLEA\)](#)

[Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990](#)

[Campus Security Data Analysis](#)

[Campus Public Safety: Weapons of Mass Destruction Terrorism Protective Measures](#)

Strategy development

[U.S. Dept of Education – Crisis Planning](#)

[U.S. Dept. of Education – Emergency Plan](#)

[U.S. Dept of Education - Threat Assessment – Targeted Violence](#)

[Crisis Care Network](#)

[Security on Campus, Inc.](#)

[Center for the Prevention of School Violence](#)

[Campus Safety Magazine](#)

Crime and violence have become common concerns that schools must consider when developing, updating, or reviewing their risk control programs. Campus violence and the potential for terrorist attacks must be taken into account. The threat that can lead to a major crisis may not be completely preventable; however, programs focused on giving students access to counselors, as well as improved methods of sharing and analyzing information from faculty and campus police to identify students who may be at risk for violent behavior, can help avert or minimize the severity of an occurrence. Other general preventive steps may include:

- Monitoring the school facility to ensure it is a clean, safe and secure environment
- Implementing school-wide education and training on avoiding violence
- Implementing policies that support and reward pro-social behavior
- Implementing policies that discourage harassment – sexual, racial, and age
- Implementing school-wide policies on drug and alcohol abuse

Roles and responsibilities

The direct involvement of school leadership should commit the necessary resources and support the policies and strategy recommendations of work groups concerned with school security issues. They should also ensure that key staff receives training on the development and implementation of policies and strategies.

Key staff and security consulting companies, local public safety agencies, security consultants, and industry trade groups can also be used to assist in preventing or reducing school threats and vulnerabilities.

Plan ahead

The suggestions below are intended to help in the development or creation of a crisis plan to address the threats that a school may face. A comprehensive approach to school crisis preparedness requires that school administrators meet many challenges that include:

- Conducting a threat and vulnerability assessment which may include
 - > Analysis in multiple threat categories: extreme weather, earthquake, fire, pandemic, violence, shootings, terrorism, and vandalism
 - > Deployment of targeted violence assessment tools to identify violence-prone individuals
 - > Examination of campus buildings, such as classrooms, research stations, laboratories, and residence halls
 - > Scrutiny of assembly areas/athletic facilities/libraries or other common spaces and special events conducted on campus
 - > Review of off-campus activities, such as school-related travel by staff and students
 - > Analysis of campus and community crime statistics
 - > Working with local law enforcement and public safety agencies
- Preparing for needs in the event of a campus crisis
 - > Providing staff development programs
 - > Use of force training for security staff
 - > Identifying your critical incident response team
 - > Designing enforcement and investigation techniques
 - > Conducting training exercises or drills
 - > Obtaining equipment and supplies
 - > Preparing for life safety of students and staff during crisis
 - > Mitigating injury and damage during crisis

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Additional resources

[National Alliance on Mental Illness](#)

[Breaking the Code of Silence: Bystanders to Campus Violence](#)

- Developing a Campus Recovery Plan
 - > Emotional support for students and staff during the recovery
 - > Identification of critical functions that must be maintained
 - > Securing and protecting critical staff and functions
 - > Supporting the critical functions with human and physical plant resources
- Identifying security-oriented facility needs, such as
 - > Electronic emergency communication systems
 - > Communication system compatibility with public safety agencies
 - > Access controls
 - > Surveillance cameras
 - > Campus patrol vehicles
- Enhancing communication
 - > Identify critical contacts in the communication network
 - > Develop standardized terminology
 - > Identify a school spokesperson(s)
 - > Communicate to staff who can speak to the media on school issues
 - > Identify and plan for the communication needs of crisis various events
 - > Identify new communication technologies, such as cell phone text alerts

With pre-crisis assessment, preparation, response, mitigation and recovery plans, the vulnerability of a school can be reduced.

For resources to help put these campus crisis planning elements in place, refer to the E-Resources provided in the left column of this document.



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