

# School Safety Specialists

## Onboarding Webinar

Utah State Board of Education School Safety Center - Dec. 2023



# USBE School Safety Center Overview

- (2019) The Utah State Legislature passed House Bill (H.B.) 120: Student and School Safety Assessment.
- H.B. 120 formed the Utah State Board of Education (USBE) School Safety Center (SSC).
- The USBE SSC is a group of professionals from USBE, the Utah Department of Public Safety, the Utah Office of Substance Use and Mental Health, and SafeUT at the Huntsman Mental Health Institute.
- The USBE SSC works collaboratively to provide technical assistance, training, and resources that support Local Education Agencies' commitment to ensuring school safety and improving the climate of school communities.

# H.B. 61 School Safety Requirements, 2023

- Created the State Security Chief position within the Department of Public Safety.
- Created the School Security Task Force.
- Requires every public primary and secondary school to conduct a threat assessment and designate a school safety specialist.
  - \$3.6 MM ongoing for stipends and training.
- Awarded \$75 MM (one-time)
  - Firearm detection software
  - School Safety and Support Grant Program

# H.B. 140 Standard Response Protocol to Active Threats in Schools, 2023

- Standard Response Protocols (SRP)™
  - The I Love U Guys Foundation
  - Hold, Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate, Shelter
- Define “active threat” and “developmentally appropriate” for emergency response training.

# Roles and Responsibilities

## SCHOOL SAFETY SPECIALIST:

- What's important?
- What is a "school safety specialist"?
- What are your responsibilities?
- What to know?
- What type of support will I get?



**What is a School Safety Specialist:** A school employee (e.g. teacher, school counselor, school social worker, school psychologist) who is responsible for supporting school safety initiatives, including threat assessment described in Subsection [53G-8-802](#).

### Duties

The School Safety Specialist will be a member of a school's multi-disciplinary team to support school leadership with school safety initiatives by:

- Attending the USBE School Safety Center school safety-related training.
- Participating in threat assessment.
- Ensuring the school has adopted Standard Response Protocol™.
- Participating in the administration of the School Climate Survey, reviewing the data, and implementing plans to address gaps.
- Updating the school's Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Response Plan in accordance with R277-400-3.
- Communicating with the school community about what the school is doing for school safety.

### This position DOES NOT

- Replace the role of a School Resource Officer (SRO).
- Enforce student discipline.

### Why

Every public primary and secondary school shall designate a School Safety Specialist in accordance with 53G-8-701.5.

### Support

The Utah State Board of Education (USBE) School Safety Center will provide the following training through the Utah School Safety Academy:

- Webinars
- Monthly strategic technical assistance
- [Standard Response Protocol™](#)
- Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines ([CSTAG](#))
- Other school safety-related training

### Questions?

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ADA Compliant: 6/14/2023



# Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG)

## [R277-400](#)

- Goal 1: Prevent violence
- Goal 2: Resolve conflict
- Multidisciplinary teaming
- Moving away from zero tolerance; context matters

## Keys to behavioral threat assessment:

- Low threshold
- Simple multidisciplinary process
- Fair and equitable resolution

# Standard Response Protocol (SRP)<sup>™</sup>



**HOLD**



**SECURE**



**LOCKDOWN**



**EVACUATE**



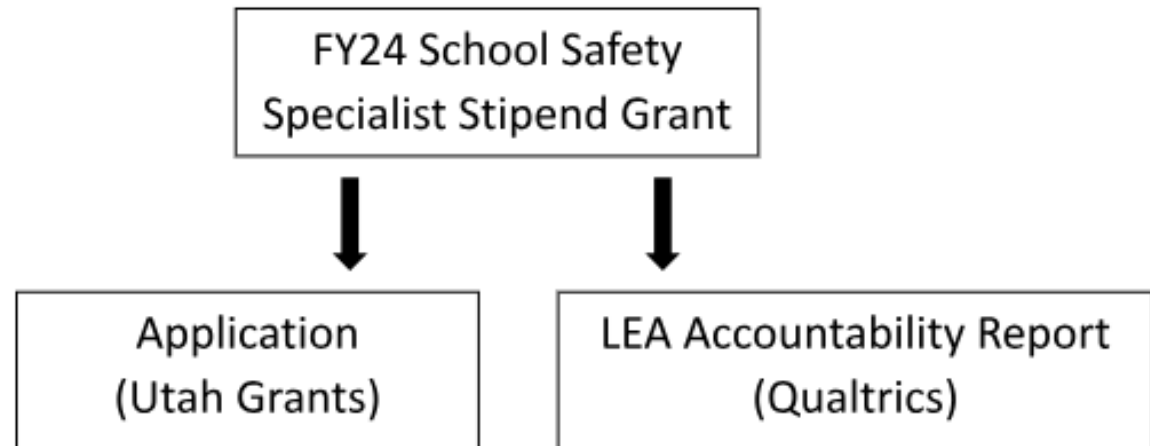
**SHELTER**



# School Safety Specialist Stipend Grant Overview

H.B. 61 (2023) requires every public primary and secondary school to designate a School Safety Specialist.

Two parts to the grant:





# School Safety Specialist Stipend Grant Approval Process

The Utah Grants Application cannot be approved before the submission in Qualtrics is approved.

- Your LEA should have received an email if there is a missing part of the grant.
- USBE will notify LEAs if allocation funds have been altered.

# Training Requests and Event Dates

- [Training Request Portal](#)
  - Threat Assessment
  - Other (SRP)
- Save the Dates for School Safety Specialist Trainings! More information to follow
  - 1/24/24 from 10:30 – 11:30 AM
  - 3/27/24 from 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
- Utah School Safety Conference
  - Thursday, June 13 - Friday, June 14, 2024 from 8 AM - 5 PM
- Other Trainings (Spring 2024)
  - Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG) - TBA
  - Standard Response Protocol (SRP) - TBA

# Wrap Up

- The recording and PDF of this webinar are posted on [our website](#).
- This [questionnaire](#) *must* be completed to have your attendance recorded and to receive 0.5 relicensure hour through MIDAS.

For questions, contact [schoolsafetyprograms@schools.utah.gov](mailto:schoolsafetyprograms@schools.utah.gov) and the next available team member will reply as soon as possible.

You can visit the [USB E School Safety Center website](#) to find our contact information, resources, and more.

**Thank you for your participation!**