

Welcome to the LEA School Safety and Security Director Information Session

Housekeeping:

- Use the “Q&A” feature throughout our training to ask questions.
Questions will be answered by members of the School Safety Center.
 - Note, the Q&A will be shared publicly for those who cannot join us live.
- Check your SPAM folder for emails from schoolsafetyprograms@schools.utah.gov.

School Safety and Security Directors

Information Session #1

Wednesday, September 9, 2026 | 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

The Utah School Safety Center (1)



Ashley Pistello
School Safety Center Specialist



Levi Grisenti
School Safety & Security Specialist



Willie Chen
School Safety Data Analyst



Michelle Knight
Suicide Prevention
Specialist



Scott Eyre
OSUMH Liaison
School Mental Health Specialist



Lt. Jeremy Barnes
Department of Public Safety -
School Safety Center Liaison



Amy Pace
Utah Charter School
Board Liaison

The Utah School Safety Center (2)



Shauntelle Cota
Director of School Safety and
Student Services



Melissa Muhlestein
Executive Secretary for the
School Safety Center



Rhett Larsen
School Safety Center
Coordinator

Agenda

- Welcome!
- Training, Equipment, and Funding
- FY27 School Safety and Security Personnel Designation Form
- School Safety and Security Specialist (SSSS) Stipend Grant Process
- SSSS Training Program Information
- School Safety and Security Training Program
- Wearable Panic Alert Devices
- Emergency Recovery Plans
- Charter School Board Updates
- Prevention/SafeUT
- Incident Response Method

Welcome!

Shauntelle Cota

Director of School Safety and Student Services
Utah State Board of Education

Chief Matt Pennington

State Security Chief
Department of Public Safety

Rhett Larsen

School Safety Center Coordinator
Utah State Board of Education

Training, Equipment, and Funding

Professional Learning Opportunities

- School Safety Center Conference
 - June 9-10, 2027
- NEW School Safety and Security Training Program
- CSTAG
- The “I Love U Guys” Foundation
- PREPaRE Workshop 1
- Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA)
- Avoid, Deny, Defend (ADD)
 - Staying Safe

Safety Equipment and Devices

- Bleed Control Kits
- First Aid Kits
- Wearable Panic Alert Devices

Projects in Development

- Emergency Planning Guide
- Utah School Safety Playbook
- School Safety Dashboard

Funding

- School Safety and Support Grants (Closeout Date: June 30, 2027)

New Learning Portal

The [Utah State Board of Education \(USBE\) Learning Portal](#) is an online tool for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to request specific professional learning, technical assistance, or training support from USBE. The information submitted is used to help coordinate learning opportunities across the state to ensure that LEA needs are addressed and met in an efficient manner.

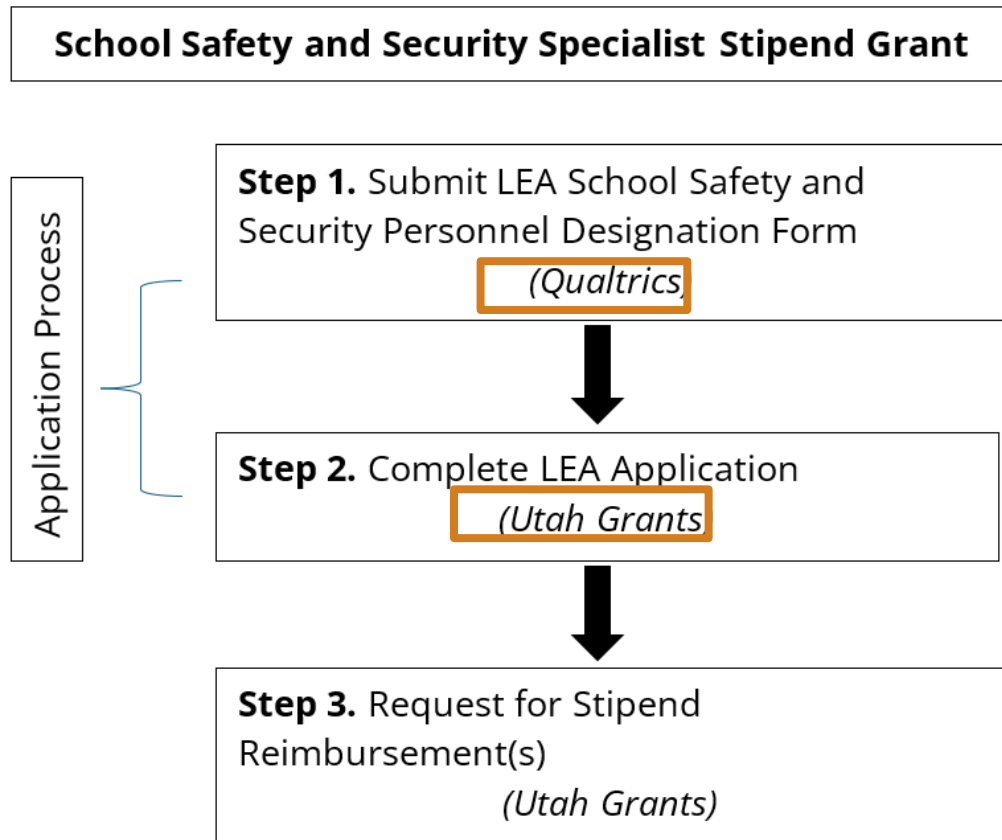
School Safety and Security Personnel Designation Form (SSSPDF)

LEAs shall submit the School Safety and Security Personnel Designation Form by **September 15, 2026**.

- Sent in email to all School Safety and Security Directors and also available through Utah Grants
- Provide School Guardian information instead of leaving blank
- Organizer template provided (optional)
- A copy of the Qualtrics submission will be needed to submit the 27SAST SSSS Stipend grant application in Utah Grants

[illegible]

School Safety and Security Specialist Stipend Grant Process



27SAST School Safety and Security Specialist Stipend Grant now available in Utah Grants.

- Complete FY27 SSSPDF (Qualtrics)
- Attach the emailed copy of your responses to the Utah Grants application. Check SPAM folder!
- Due: **September 15, 2026**
- If applying for an alternative, all applications were due by August 31, 2026.

Utah Code Section 63G-6b-201: Requirements for All Grants

- USBE may not:
 - disburse all grant funds in a single payment, unless the single payment is submitted **after** the grant recipient satisfies the grant requirements, or
 - make a grant recipient's final disbursement before the grant recipient satisfies the grant requirements.
- When submitting for reimbursement, please complete and attach the [LEA NAME_FY27 SSSS Stipend\(s\) Reimbursement TEMPLATE](#).

School Safety and Security Specialist (SSSS) Training Program Information

The SSSS Onboarding podcast will be sent to all Specialists via email. Viewing is required for all **new** Specialists and may be helpful for returning Specialists.

1. **Training #1:** TBD
 - a. Wednesday, September 23, 2026 | 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
2. **Training #2:** TBD
 - a. Wednesday, December 9, 2026 | 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
3. **Training #3 (Optional):** TBD
 - a. Wednesday, March 17, 2027 | 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
4. **Training #4:** Updates from the 2027 Legislative Session
 - a. Wednesday, April 28, 2027 | 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Principal and SSSS Collaboration Forms



PRINCIPAL - SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY SPECIALIST
COLLABORATION FORM
Beginning of School Year - **Due in the FY27 SSSS Canvas course by 10/31/2026.**
Date: _____

Purpose: To establish shared expectations, strengthen collaboration, and identify school safety priorities for the year.

Principal Name: _____ Specialist Name: _____ School: _____

1. EXPECTATIONS OF THE SPECIALIST

What are your top expectations of your School Safety & Security Specialist this year?

- _____
- _____

2. COLLABORATION IDEAS

What are some ways we can work together this year to support school safety and security?

- _____
- _____

3. GOALS FOR THIS SCHOOL YEAR

What are your top 1-2 goals related to school safety and security this year?

- _____
- _____

4. SPECIALIST'S NEEDS

What resources, support, communication, or information do you need most from the principal this year?

- _____
- _____

5. PRINCIPAL'S NEEDS

What resources, support, communication, or information do you need most from the Specialist this year?

- _____
- _____

6. CURRENT PRIORITIES

Rate the current state of each area at your school. Select one response per row.

Area	1 Needs improvement	2 Somewhat adequate	3 Adequate	4 Good	5 Excellent
Emergency preparedness planning	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Communication and information sharing	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Safety procedures and drills	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Campus security (physical and digital)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐



PRINCIPAL - SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY SPECIALIST
EXIT FEEDBACK FORM
End of School Year - **Due in the FY27 SSSS Canvas course by 5/31/2027.**
Date: _____

Purpose: To reflect on the year, identify effective collaboration practices, and plan for continued partnership.

Principal Name: _____ Specialist Name: _____ School: _____

1. WHAT HELPED OUR COLLABORATION?

What aspects of our collaboration were most helpful or effective this year?

- _____
- _____
- _____

2. OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

What could we do differently or improve next year?

- _____
- _____
- _____

3. GOALS FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

What are your top 2-3 goals related to school safety and security for next year?

- _____
- _____
- _____

4. ADDITIONAL FEEDBACK

Please share any additional comments or suggestions.

- _____
- _____
- _____

Thank you for your leadership and collaboration. Together, we can strengthen safe, secure, and welcoming school environments.

School Safety and Security Specialist Canvas Course (1)



FY27-SSSS

[Home](#)[Modules](#)[Grades](#)

Recent Announcements

FY27 School Safety and Security Specialists



Congratulations on being designated as your school's School Safety and Security Specialist! A School Safety and Security Specialist is described as a school employee responsible for supporting school safety initiatives ([Utah Code Section 53G-8-701.6](#)), and the Utah School Safety Center (SSC) is excited to be working with you this year. This Canvas course will be used throughout the school year to share training recordings, exit tickets, resources, and more! To receive a certificate of completion, each School Safety and Security Specialist must:

- View **all required** trainings (either by attending live or watching the recording);
- Complete **all** exit tickets and score at least 4/5;
- View all Q&A boards (**posting a question is optional**); and
- **Complete the Evaluation Form** at the end of the course.

Some additional duties of a School Safety and Security Specialist include:

- Attending required trainings provided by the Utah School Safety Center;
- Participating in behavioral threat assessment as part of the school's multidisciplinary team;
- Ensuring the school has adopted the Standard Response Protocol™;
- Collaborating with the County Security Chief to conduct a school safety needs assessment;
- Organizing a debriefing regarding strengthening school safety and security practices, after an event when the school's security was significantly compromised;
- Updating the school's emergency preparedness and emergency response plan; and
- Communicating with the school community about what the school is doing for school safety.

For more information regarding roles and responsibilities, visit our resources on the [School Safety Center page](#).

[Immersive Reader](#)
[View Course Stream](#)
[View Course Calendar](#)
[View Course Notifications](#)
To Do

- [Exit Ticket #1: TBD](#) ×
FY27 School Safety and Security Specialists
5 points |
Dec 9 at 2:30pm
- [Training #1: Viewing Co...](#) ×
FY27 School Safety and Security Specialists
1 points |
Dec 9 at 2:30pm

School Safety and Security Specialist Canvas Course (2)

This screenshot shows the 'Modules' page for the 'FY27-SSSS' course. The left sidebar contains navigation links: Home, Modules (selected), Grades, Notebook, Courses, Calendar, Inbox, History, Studio, and Help. The main content area has a 'Collapse All' button and a list of modules:

- FY27 Recordings**
- Resources**
- Onboarding (Required for new Specialists)** with a 'Complete All Items' button.
- Training #1 (REQUIRED): TBD** with a 'Complete All Items' button.

The 'Training #1 (REQUIRED): TBD' module is expanded, showing three items:

- Training #1: Viewing Confirmation** (Dec 9, 1 pts, Score at least 1.0)
- Exit Ticket #1: TBD** (Dec 9, 5 pts, Score at least 4.0)
- Training #1 Q&A: Organizing an After Action Debrief** (View)

This screenshot shows a list of training modules in the Canvas course. The left sidebar is identical to the previous screenshot. The main content area shows a list of modules with their prerequisites and completion status:

- Principal and SSSS Collaboration Form** (Oct 31, 5 pts)
- Training #2 (REQUIRED): TBD** (Prerequisites: Training #1 (REQUIRED): TBD, Principal and SSSS Collaboration Form) with a 'Complete All Items' button.
- Training #3 (OPTIONAL): TBD** (Prerequisites: Training #2 (REQUIRED): TBD)
- Training #4 (REQUIRED): TBD** (Prerequisites: Training #2 (REQUIRED): TBD) with a 'Complete All Items' button.
- Principal and SSSS Exit Feedback Form** (Prerequisites: Training #1 (REQUIRED): TBD, Principal and SSSS Collaboration Form, Training #2 (REQUIRED): TBD)
- FY27 SSSS Training Program Evaluation and Feedback Form (and Certificate of Completion) (REQUIRED)** (Prerequisites: Training #4 (REQUIRED): TBD, Principal and SSSS Exit Feedback Form)

School Safety and Security Training Program (1)

Utah Code Annotated 53G-8-702

- Annual program:
 - School principals
 - School personnel
 - School safety and security personnel
 - School resource officers
- At least a **four (4) hour, in-person** training requirement
- Topics Include:
 - Comprehensive School Safety Framework
 - Standard Response Protocol (SRP)
 - Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG)
 - PREPaRE Workshop 1: *Comprehensive School Safety Planning Through Recovery*
 - Legal updates

School Safety and Security Training Program (2)

Train-the-Trainer Opportunities:

- **September 17, 2026** | 8:30a.m. - 12:30 pm.
 - Canyons School District
 - [Register in Altitude.](#)
- **September 21, 2026** | 8:30a.m. - 12:30 pm.
 - Iron County School District
 - [Register in Altitude.](#)
- **September 29, 2026** | 8:30a.m. - 12:30 pm.
 - Utah State University - Moab
 - [Register in Altitude.](#)
 - Utah State University - Brigham City
 - [Register in Altitude.](#)

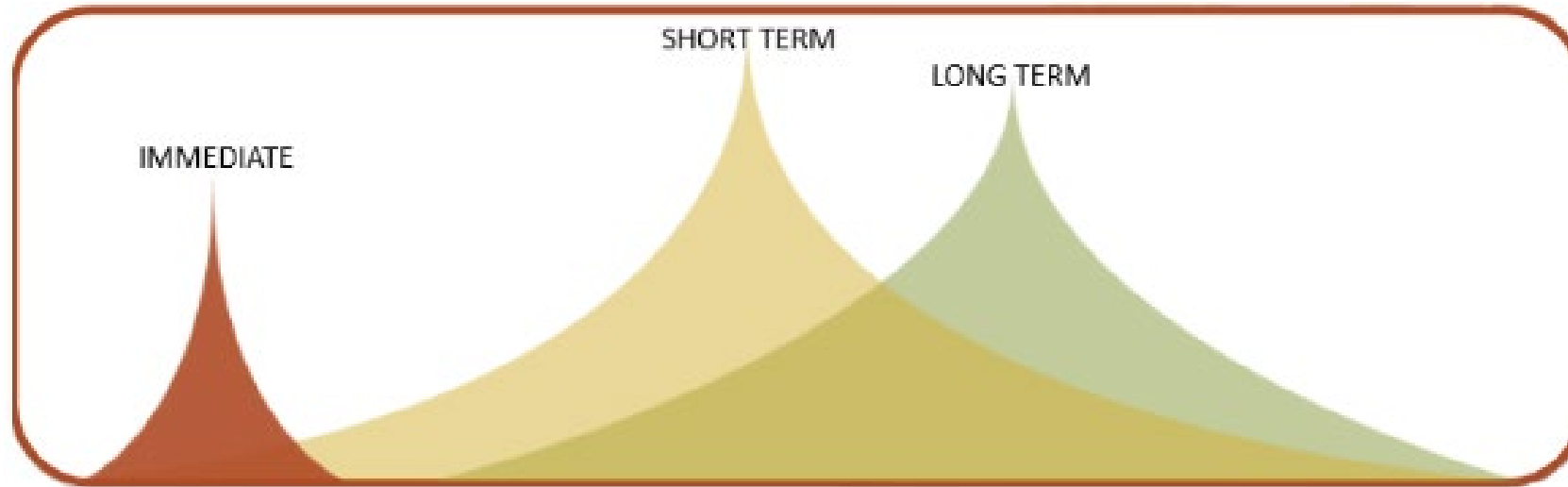
Wearable Panic Alert Devices (WPADs)

- [Utah Code Section 53G-8-805: Panic Alert Device](#)
 - Lead teachers
 - Appropriate school safety personnel
 - School safety and security specialist
 - School resource officer
 - School guardian
 - Armed school security guard
 - July 1, 2027
- [USBE WPADs Website](#)
 - LEAs are not required to utilize the state-procured wearable panic alert devices.
 - Two state contracts
 - **Due Date:** 5:00 p.m. on September 18, 2026

Emergency Recovery Plans

The goal of an emergency recovery plans is to **restore essential systems** and operations after an unforeseen event.

Recovery Management Time Frame



- **Immediate:** Minutes to hours
- **Short-term:** Days to weeks
- **Long-term:** Months to years

New Requirements (1)

Updates passed in September 2025 noted in orange text.

R277-400-3: Establishing LEA Emergency Preparedness, Emergency Response, and Emergency Recovery Plans.

(1) By July 1 of each year, an LEA shall certify to the Superintendent that the LEA's emergency preparedness and, emergency response, and emergency recovery plans have been:

- (a) practiced at the school level; and
- (b) presented to and reviewed by its teachers, administrators, students and parents, local law enforcement, and public safety representatives consistent with Subsection 53G-4-402[(18)](20)(d)

New Requirements (2)

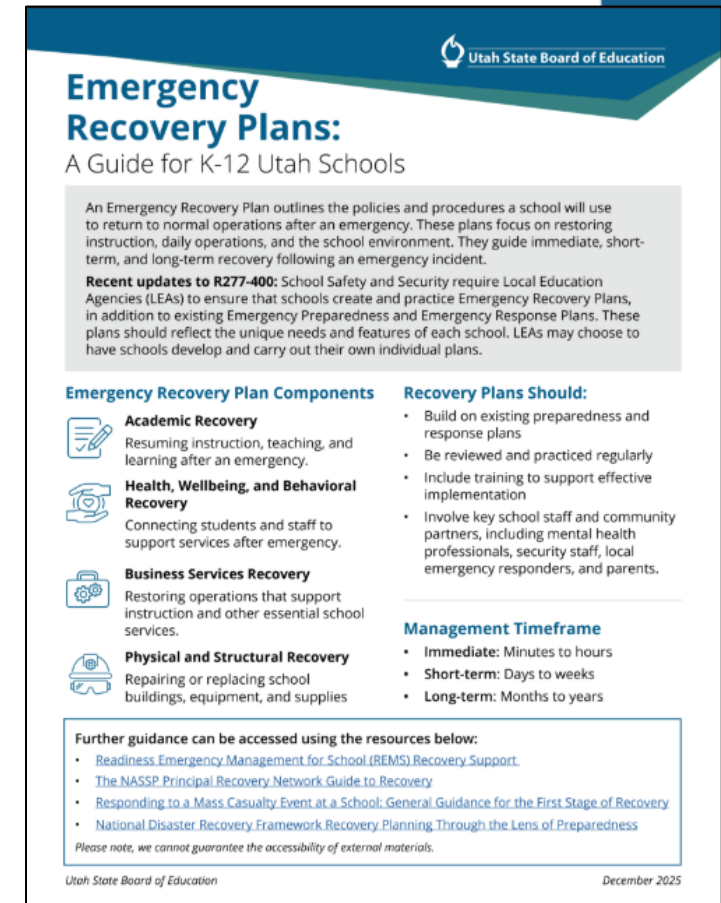
R277-400-3: Establishing LEA Emergency Preparedness, Emergency Response, and Emergency Recovery Plans.

"Emergency Recovery Plan" means policy and procedures developed to return the educational entity back to ordinary daily routine after an emergency by restoring programming, operations, and the school environment. The purpose of which is to manage immediate, short term, and long-term recovery from an emergency incident.

Emergency Recovery Plans: A Guide for K-12 Utah Schools

Overview:

- Designed to help LEAs assess current emergency plans for recovery
- Asks “yes/no” questions to identify potential recovery gaps within your existing plans
- Includes a field for assignees
- Addresses emergency management timeframe for recovery
- Provides LEAs with a starting point for updating current plans





State Charter School Board (SCSB) Updates

The SCSB welcomes three new board members:

Adam Gerlach



Brandon Johnson



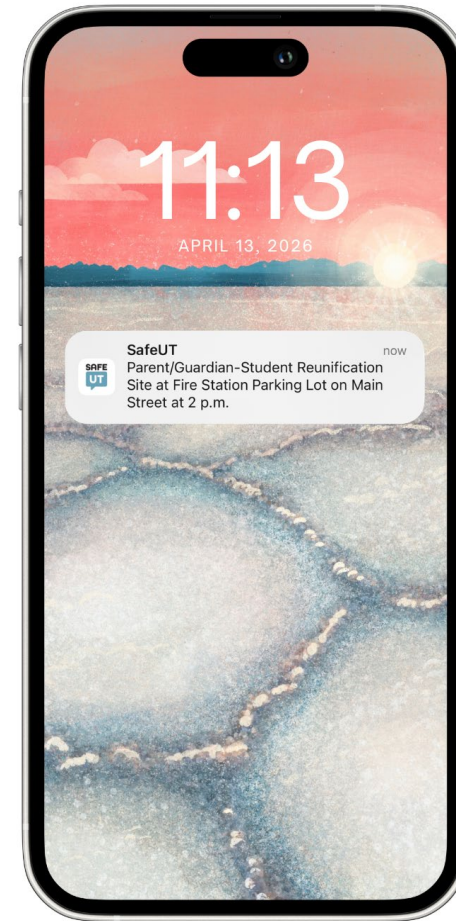
Mickelle Bos



For Charter-Specific Support Contact: Amy Pace
School Safety Center Charter Liaison
amy.pace@charterschools.utah.gov

SafeUT Notification Center Launch

- New Notification Center available in SafeUT School Portal
- Supports H.B. 84 (2026) school safety requirements
- Send alerts to students, parents, and educators using the SafeUT app
- Training available now in the School Portal



Early Warning System (EWS) Webinar Series

- Monthly Prevention Team webinar series
- Focused on strengthening EWS within Multi Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)
- Supports timely, data-informed identification and intervention
- Builds shared workflows, practical skills, and sustainable student support systems
- More information and registration available on the [Prevention EWS webpage](#)

Prevention & Student Services Lunch & Learn Webinar Series (School Year 2026–2027)

- Monthly virtual professional learning (12:00 –1:00 p.m.)
- Register using the [Prevention and Student Services Webinar Series SY 26-27 Registration Zoom Link](#).
 - One registration for the entire series.
- Focus on protective factors, resilience, prevention science, and student success
- Re-licensure points available
- Launch date: **August 27, 2026**

Incident Response Method



Lt. Travis Anderson

Patrol Lieutenant - Orem Police Department

Questions

Contact the School Safety Center at
schoolsafetyprograms@schools.utah.gov.