

School Safety and Security Specialists

Onboarding and School Safety Needs Assessment

October 16, 2024 | 2:30 - 3:30 PM



Utah State
Board of
Education



SCHOOL
SAFETY
CENTER

508 Compliant: 11/5/2024

Welcome!

Housekeeping:

- Please update your Zoom name to **First Name Last Initial, LEA Name**.
- Throughout our training, if you are in Zoom use the Q and A feature to ask questions.
- If you are in YouTube, use the Chat feature. (We love to keep track of all questions!)
 - Melissa will facilitate all questions in the Q and A feature.
- Check your SPAM folder for emails from schoolsafetyprograms@schools.utah.gov.



Utah School Safety Center (1)

- Spring of 2019, the Utah State Legislature passed House Bill (H.B.) 120: Student and School Safety Assessment and formed the Utah School Safety Center.
- The Utah School Safety Center is a group of professionals from USBE, Utah Department of Public Safety, Utah Office of Substance Use and Mental Health, and SafeUT.



Utah School Safety Center (2)



Mission

The mission of the Utah School Safety Center is to work 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.



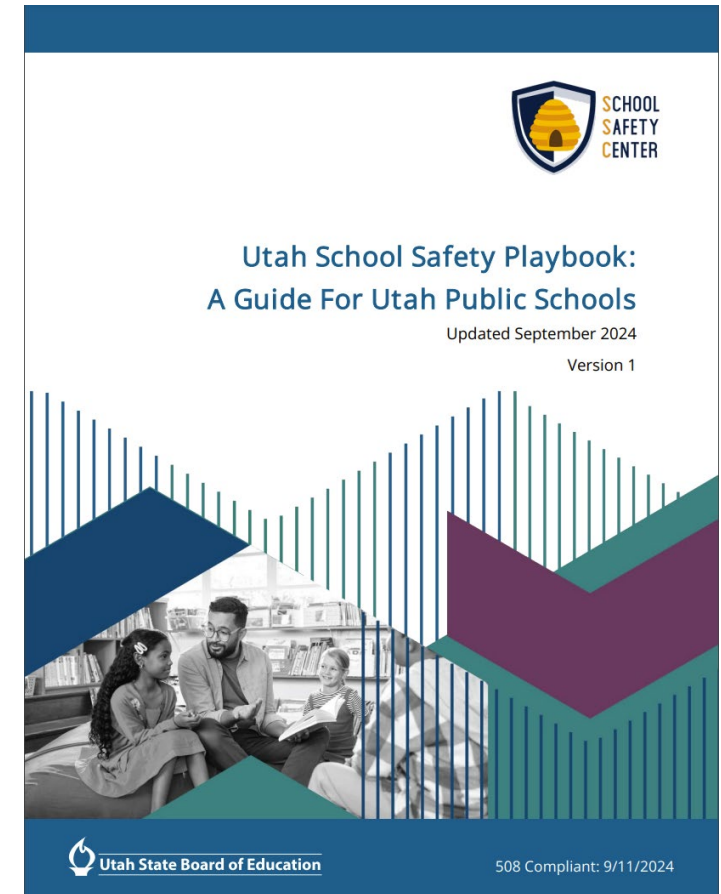
Vision

The vision of the Utah School Safety Center is that each student learns in a safe and healthy school environment.

Utah School Safety Playbook

Utah School Safety Playbook: A Guide For Utah Public Schools

- Since 2019, Utah has increased focus on school safety.
- This Playbook helps LEAs and stakeholders understand the relevant laws and policies.
- It is updated as needed, with reviews at least annually.



School Safety **and Security** Specialist (1)

Required Duties:

- Attending School Safety Center school safety-related training
- Participating in behavioral threat assessment as part of the school's multidisciplinary team
- Ensuring the school has adopted standard response protocol
- Updating school's emergency preparedness and emergency response plan
- Supporting and communicating with the school community what the school is doing for school safety

School Safety **and Security** Specialist (2)

Required Duties (continued):

- **Collaborating with the County Security Chief to conduct a school safety needs assessment**

This position DOES NOT:

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

School Safety and Security Specialist Stipend Distribution

- H.B. 61 (2023) requires every public primary and secondary school to designate a School Safety and Security Specialist
 - Designees cannot be a principal.
- To receive your stipend, make sure to have a conversation with your building administrator and LEA director
- Ongoing funds are available for stipend grants.
- The stipend is \$3,000 total, including benefits. The final amount will vary depending on LEA and benefit deductions.

FY25 School Safety and Security Specialists Canvas Course

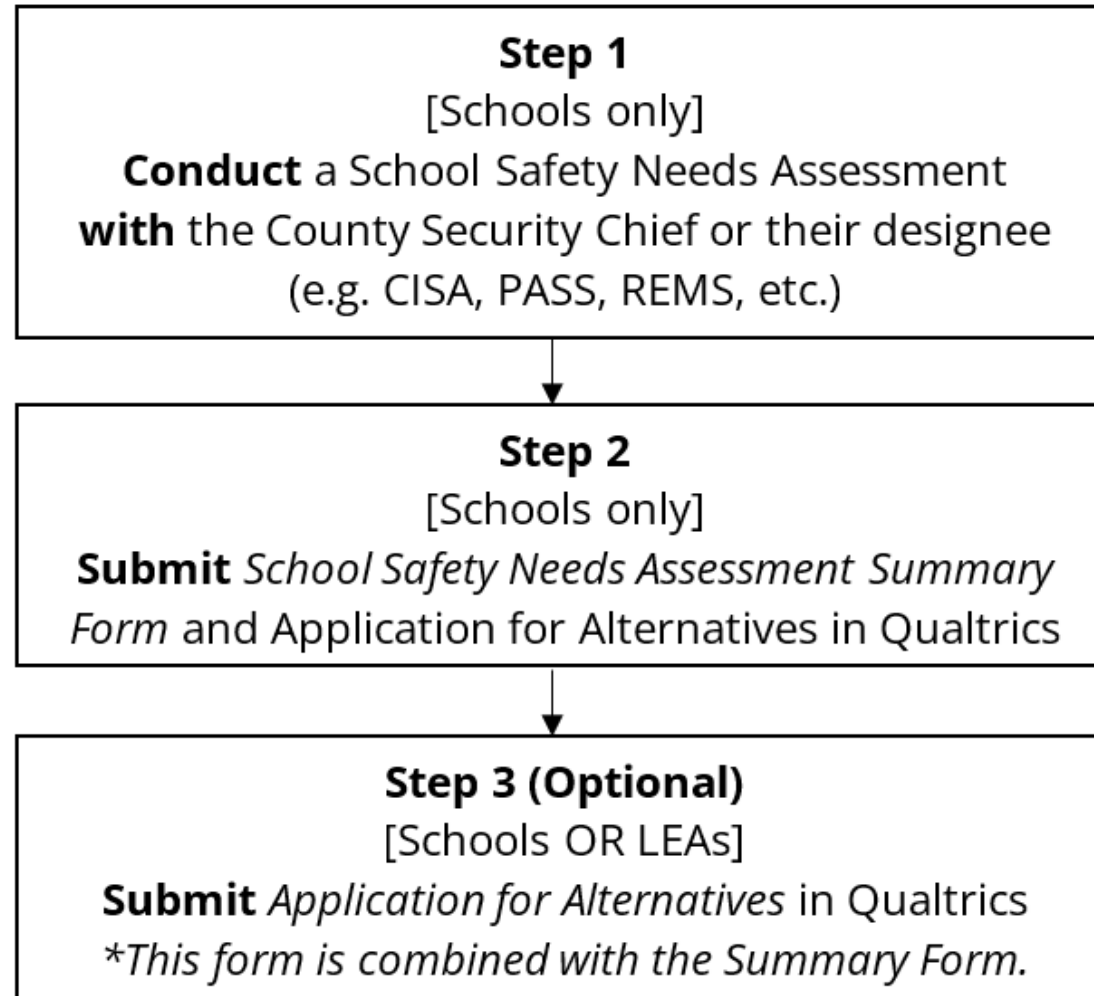
- Receive a course invitation via email from Instructure Canvas to join our course.
- Modules
 - FY25 Recordings (always available)
 - Resources (always available)
 - Training #1 (available after 3:30p today)
 - Viewing Confirmation Quiz
 - Exit Ticket #1
 - Discussion Viewing (participation optional)
 - Training #2 (locked until previous Module is complete)
 - Training #3 (locked until previous Module is complete)



2025 School Safety Needs Assessment Summary Form and Application for Alternatives

Now accepting submissions through December 31, 2024

Overview of School Safety Needs Assessment



School Safety Needs Assessment: General Information

- H.B. 84 (2024) School Safety Needs Assessment
 - The assessments are required to be completed by **December 31, 2024**.
 - Assessments must be conducted no earlier than **May 1, 2024**.
 - Ongoing annual assessments will be due October 15, of every year moving forward.
 - Acceptable platforms include REMS SITE ASSESS, CISA SSAT, and PASS.
 - These assessments must be completed by the School Safety and Security Specialist **and** the County Security Chief, or their designee.
 - Needs assessment is PROTECTED and shall not be shared with anyone without a “need to know.”

Step 1: School Safety Needs Assessment

- Conduct needs assessment with County Security Chief, or their designee
- Select School Safety Personnel
 - LEA School Safety and Security Director
 - School Safety and Security Specialist
 - Armed and Trained School Personnel
 - School Resource Officer (SRO)
 - School Guardian
 - Armed School Security Guard

Step 2 & 3: School Safety Needs Assessment Summary Form and Application for Alternatives

- Step 2:
 - Schools will use the Qualtrics form, *2025 School Safety Needs Assessment Summary Form and Application for Alternatives*, to report their safety needs assessment summary for the 2024-2025 school year.
- Step 3:
 - This form is also used to submit an Application for Alternatives to the State Security Chief for any eligible areas for school-level alternatives, as listed in Utah Code Section 53G-8-701.5.
 - LEAs will use the same form to submit applications for LEA-level alternatives.

Resources

*PDFs containing the list of questions in the form have been compiled into two resources:

- **School** Resource Guide - School Safety Needs Assessment Summary Form and Application for Alternatives
- **LEA** Resource Guide - School Safety Needs Assessment Summary Form and Application for Alternatives

*Resources can be found in the Resources Module of the FY25 School Safety and Security Specialist Canvas course.

Application for Alternatives - Overview (1)

- School-level Alternatives:
 - [Section 53-22-105](#): *School Guardian Program* requirements
 - [Section 53G-8-701.5](#): *School Safety Needs Assessment* requirements
 - [Section 53G-8-701.6](#): *School Safety and Security Specialist* requirements
- LEA-level Alternatives:
 - [Section 53G-8-701.8](#): *School Safety and Security Director* requirements
 - [Section 53G-8-704](#): *Contracts between an LEA and a contract security company for armed school security guard.*

Application for Alternatives - Overview (2)

The State Security Chief may consider applications for alternatives based upon:

- population size
- staffing needs or capacity
- geographic location
- available funding
- general demonstration of need
- beginning FY26, any previous application(s) for alternatives

Application for Alternatives: Pre-Determined Exceptions (1)

The following exceptions are listed in H.B. 84 (2024) and require a **completed application** for documentation purposes:

1. If a school has 350 or fewer enrolled students, the same individual may serve in more than one of the following roles:
 - a. A School Safe and Security Specialist;
 - b. At least one of the following:
 - i. A School Resource Officer (SRO);
 - ii. A School Guardian; or
 - iii. An Armed School Security Officer.
 - c. An LEA School Safety and Security Director



Application for Alternatives: Pre-Determined Exceptions (2)

2. If a school has 100 or fewer enrolled students, when referring to the School Guardian Program, “school employee” can include a principal, teacher, or individual whose primary responsibilities require the employee to be primarily present in a classroom to teach, care for, or interact with students.

Application for Alternatives: Qualtrics

- Identify which alternatives you are applying for:
 - School-level
 - LEA-level
- Identify and justify reasons for alternatives:
 - Population size
 - Staffing needs or capacity
 - Geographic location
 - General demonstration of need for an alternative to the requirements
 - Beginning FY26, any previous application(s) for alternatives
- Explain what alternative looks like

All applications for alternatives are due on or before **December 31, 2024**.

Application for Alternatives: Review Process

- The State Security Chief will review applications for alternatives as they are submitted.
- Decision will be made and notification to the applicant will be done in writing via email.



Call to Action

By December 31, 2024, School Safety and Security Specialists will:

1. Join the FY25 School Safety and Security Specialist Canvas course; and
2. Identify and connect with your County Security Chief* to:
 - a. update them with your contact information; and
 - b. coordinate with them to conduct your school safety needs assessment.

*For questions regarding your County Security Chief or DPS Regional Training Specialist, reach out to Lieutenant Barnes at jerbarnes@utah.gov.



Exit Ticket #1

1. Complete the Viewing Confirmation quiz in Canvas to unlock Exit Ticket #1.
2. Take Exit Ticket #1 with at least a score of 4/5 to pass.
 - a. Specialists interested in earning relicensure hours will need to score 5/5.
 - i. All hours will be entered into MIDAS at the **end** of the Canvas course in spring 2025.

Questions

Reach the Utah School Safety Center at
schoolsafetyprograms@schools.utah.gov.

Wrap Up

1. Save the dates:

a. School Safety and Security Specialist Training Dates:

- i. Training 2: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 | 2:30 - 3:30 PM
- ii. Training 3: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 | 2:30 - 3:30 PM

b. Utah School Safety Conference: June 17-18, 2025

2. Training Request and Technical Assistance Requests:

a. Use our [Training Request Portal](#)!

b. We are currently planning a new CSTAG/Train-the-Coach and trainings by The “I Love U Guys” Foundation

- i. Watch for more information to be distributed.

