



Utah School Safety Playbook: A Guide For Utah Public Schools

Updated September 2024

Version 1



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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL SAFETY CENTER

In the Spring of 2019, the Utah State Legislature passed the Student and School Safety Assessment Bill. This formed the School Safety Center (SSC), a group of professionals from the Utah State Board of Education (USBE), the Utah Department of Public Safety (DPS), the Utah Office of Substance Use and Mental Health (OSUMH), and SafeUT at the Huntsman Mental Health Institute (HMHI).

MISSION AND VISION

The mission of the 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.

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



PURPOSE OF THE PLAYBOOK

This is considered a living document, and it is anticipated that there will be updates as decisions are made. Reviews will be done at least annually, or as needed. The most updated version can be found on the School Safety Center website on the [Resources page](#).

Since 2019, there has been an ongoing focus in the state on school safety, which has increased school safety requirements in Utah. This Playbook is intended to support Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and stakeholders in understanding laws and policies surrounding school safety.

TIMETABLE OF STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS AND UPDATES

*This is not an all-inclusive list.

Table 1: Timetable of Statutory Requirements and Updates

Statutory Requirement	Existing Requirements	New in Leg. Session 2023	New in Leg. Session 2024	Ongoing
Armed and Trained School Personnel (School Resource Officer, School Guardian, Armed School Security Officer)	No	No	Yes	Yes
Behavioral Threat Assessment	No	Yes	No	Yes
Building and Safety Standards (New)	No	No	Yes	Yes
County Security Chief	No	No	Yes	Yes
Emergency Response Plans	Yes	No	No	Yes
Emergency Evacuation Drills	Yes	No	No	Yes

Statutory Requirement	Existing Requirements	New in Leg. Session 2023	New in Leg. Session 2024	Ongoing
LEA School Safety and Security Director	No	No	Yes	Yes
School-level Multidisciplinary Team	Yes	No	No	Yes
School Safety and Security Specialist (formerly School Safety Specialist)	No	Yes	No	Yes
School Safety Needs Assessment (Annual)	No	No	Yes	Yes
Standard Response Protocol (SRP)	No	Yes	No	Yes
Wearable Panic Button	No	No	Yes	Yes

SECTION 2: SCHOOL SAFETY PERSONNEL (ALL NEW PERSONNEL CREATED)

OVERVIEW

In addition to existing LEA and school safety personnel who support school safety, Utah law creates new or further defines the following school safety positions:

1. State Security Chief
2. County Security Chief
3. LEA School Safety and Security Director*
4. School Safety and Security Specialist*
5. Armed and Trained School Personnel*
 - a. School Resource Officer (SRO)
 - b. School Guardian**
 - c. Armed School Security Officer

*Unless an [alternative](#) has been approved, if a school has more than 350 students, the same school employee may not serve in more than one of the abovementioned roles.

**Eligible for an [alternative via application](#).

OTHER STATUTORY INFORMATION FOR THESE POSITIONS

1. The State Security Chief, in collaboration with the School Safety Center, shall:
 - a. Ensure the school safety personnel requirements are implemented by respective counties and LEAs; and
 - b. Establish a timeline for LEAs to comply with the implementation of the school safety personnel requirements.
2. LEAs and schools may [apply for alternatives](#) through the State Security Chief. Alternatives may be considered for the following:
 - a. Population size
 - b. Staffing needs or capacity
 - c. Geographic location
 - d. Available funding

- e. General demonstration of the need for an alternative to the requirements in statute
- 3. Private schools will not need to satisfy the safety personnel requirements listed above. However, they shall identify an individual at the private school to serve as the School Safety Liaison with the local law enforcement of the respective jurisdiction and the State Security Chief.

COUNTY SECURITY CHIEF

Per [Utah Code Section 53-22-103](#), each county sheriff shall identify an individual as a County Security Chief within the sheriff's office to coordinate security responsibilities, protocols, and required training between the State Security Chief, the county sheriff's office, and the corresponding police chiefs whose jurisdiction includes an LEA within the county.

LEA SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY DIRECTOR**

**Eligible for an [alternative via application](#).

SUMMARY

Per [Utah Code Section 53G-8-701.8](#), an LEA shall designate a School Safety and Security Director as the LEA point of contact for the County Security Chief, local law enforcement, and the state security chief.



REQUIREMENTS

LEA Requirements

LEA must:

1. Designate a School Safety and Security Director as the point of contact for the County Security Chief, local law enforcement, and the State Security Chief.
 - a. A school may temporarily use the services of the LEA School Safety and Security Director to satisfy the school safety personnel requirement of [Utah Code Section 53G-8-701.5\(2\)](#).

LEA School Safety and Security Director Requirements

LEA School Safety and Security Director must:

1. Participate in all training requirements, including the annual and biannual requirements described in;
 - a. [Section 53G-8-702](#) for SROs;
 - b. [Section 53-22-105](#) for School Guardians; and
 - c. [Section 53G-8-704](#) for Armed School Security Officers.
2. Have a valid concealed carry permit;
3. If carrying a firearm, it shall be carried concealed while on school grounds unless there is an active threat;
4. Participate in the LEA multidisciplinary team;
5. Coordinate security responses among all applicable parties (i.e. School Safety and Security Specialists, SROs, School Guardians, Armed School Security Officers, and local law enforcement);
6. Maintain effective communication with local law enforcement, the County Security Chief, the LEA, and school-based behavioral and mental health professionals to ensure adherence to all policies, protocols, rules, and regulations related to school safety and security;
7. Does not have the authority to act in a law enforcement capacity;
8. May take action necessary to prevent or abate an active threat; and
9. May temporarily detain an individual when there is reasonable cause to believe the individual has committed or is about to commit a forcible felony.

SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY SPECIALIST**

**Eligible for an [alternative via application](#).

SUMMARY

An LEA shall ensure each school within the LEA has a designated School Safety and Security Specialist, hereafter referred to as “Specialist,” described as a school employee responsible for supporting school safety initiatives ([Utah Code Section 53G-8-701.6](#)). The Specialist may not be a principal, as defined in [Utah Code Section 53G-8-701.6](#).

REQUIREMENTS

Specialists must:

1. Complete training requirements selected by the State Security Chief and School Safety Center.
2. Collaborate with the County Security Chief regarding:
 - a. Conducting the School Safety Needs Assessment at least annually; and
 - b. Using the results of the annual School Safety Needs Assessment to recommend and implement improvements to school facilities, policies, procedures, protocols, rules, and regulations relating to school safety and security.
3. Report directly to the school's Principal, as defined in [Utah Code Section 53G-8-701.6](#).
4. Monitor and report to the principal, local law enforcement, and, if applicable, the LEA superintendent or designee on security risks for the school regarding school facilities or the implementation of safety practices.
5. Oversee school safety and security practices to ensure a safe and secure school environment for students and staff.
6. Ensure adherence to all policies, procedures, protocols, rules, and regulations relating to school safety.
7. Be an active member of the school's multidisciplinary team and participate in all duties including, but not limited to:
 - a. Conducting a behavioral threat assessment when deemed necessary using the Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG), which is the evidence-based tool recommended by the State Security Chief.
8. Coordinate with local first responder agencies to implement and monitor safety and security drills.
9. Ensure school staff and students receive training on the school's current safety and security practices.
10. Organize a debriefing with individuals in [H.B. 84 \(2024\) Subsection \(3\)\(c\)](#) regarding strengthening school safety and security practices following an event where the school's security has been significantly compromised.

11. Abide by any LEA, school, or law enforcement agency policy outlining the chain of command.
12. Coordinate with school safety personnel during an emergency.
13. Follow any LEA, school, or law enforcement agency student privacy policies.
14. Participate in an annual training the State Security Chief selects with the School Safety Center.
15. Remain current on:
 - a. CSTAG;
 - b. The duties of a School Safety and Security Specialist; and
 - c. The school's emergency preparedness and emergency response plans.
16. Act subordinate to any responding law enforcement officer during an active emergency at the school.

NOTES

Every LEA will be allocated funds annually to distribute one Specialist stipend per school. Each stipend will be \$3,000, and the stipend cannot be split amongst multiple individuals. LEAs will determine the stipend amount with their Business Administrator, as final amounts distributed may differ after benefits are withheld.

ARMED AND TRAINED SCHOOL PERSONNEL **

**Eligible for an [alternative via application](#).

SUMMARY

An LEA shall ensure every school has **either** a School Resource Officer (SRO), a School Guardian, or an Armed School Security Officer who is physically present at the school's campus while school is in session, as required by [Utah Code Section 53G-8-701\(5\)](#).



REQUIREMENTS

School Resource Officer (SRO) Requirements

School Resource Officer (SRO) must:

1. A law enforcement officer who contracts with or whose law enforcement agency contracts with an LEA to provide law enforcement services for the LEA.

School Guardian Requirements

School Guardian must:

1. School guardian as described in [Title 53-22-105](#):
 - a. Does not include a principal, teacher, or individual whose primary responsibilities require presence in the classroom to teach, care, or interact; exceptions based on student enrollment;
 - b. Is a school employee who volunteers for the program, and:
 - i. Has a valid concealed carry permit;
 - ii. Successfully completes the [recommended mental health screening](#); and
 - iii. Successfully completes the School Guardian Training Program requirements.
2. The selection of a School Guardian is protected information.
 - a. An individual who intentionally or knowingly provides the information regarding the identity of a School Guardian to an individual or entity is guilty of a class B misdemeanor [Title 53-22-105\(15\)](#).

Armed School Security Officer

Armed School Security Officer must:

1. An armed private security officer licensed as an Armed School Security Officer has met the requirements of [Utah Code Section 53G-8-704](#) and:
 - a. Has a valid concealed carry permit; and
 - b. Successfully completes the School Guardian Training requirements.

NOTES

The School Guardian Training Program is complete and has been disseminated to County Security Chiefs for implementation.

SECTION 3: SCHOOL SAFETY NEEDS ASSESSMENT**



**Eligible for an [alternative via application](#).

SUMMARY

H.B. 84 (2024) requires each school to complete a School Safety Needs Assessment at least annually to determine the safety needs and deficiencies of the school. The School Safety and Security Specialist will collaborate with the County Security Chief to conduct the assessment, and the results will be submitted to the School Safety Center and the State Security Chief. Based on available funding, the awarding of school safety grant funds to LEAs will be determined using the results of the School Safety Needs Assessment.

Any intention in applying for an alternative must be indicated with the School Safety Needs Assessment Summary form (see [Section 8: Application for Alternatives](#)).

REQUIREMENTS

SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Schools must:

1. Conduct a School Safety Needs Assessment, in collaboration with the County Security Chief:
 - a. At least annually;

- b. Submit their completed assessments to the LEA School Safety and Security Director to be submitted to the state level.
 - i. First Year
 - 1. Preferably use a nationally-recognized assessment tool (see [Section 9: Resources and Technical Assistance](#))
 - a. If the LEA completed a school safety needs assessment to apply for the *Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 School Safety and Support Grant*, the same tool may be used for this first year.
 - 2. Due to the School Safety Center by **December 31, 2024**
 - ii. Ongoing
 - 1. Complete using the tool created by the State Security Chief, in collaboration with the School Safety Center.
 - a. To be created.
 - 2. Due to the School Safety Center by **October 15th each year**
- c. To determine the needs and deficiencies regarding:
 - i. Appropriate school safety personnel, including necessary support, training, and policy creation for the personnel;
 - ii. Physical building security and safety, including required upgrades to facilities and safety technology; and
 - iii. The school's current threat and emergency response protocols, including any emergency response agreements with local law enforcement.
- 2. The results of the School Safety Needs Assessment is protected information.
 - a. An individual who intentionally or knowingly provides any information or record detailing a school's needs assessment results to an individual or entity is guilty of a class B misdemeanor per [Utah Code Section 53G-8-701.5\(f\)](#).

COUNTY SECURITY CHIEF REQUIREMENTS

County Security Chiefs must:

- 1. Collaborate with the School Safety and Security Specialist to:

- a. Conduct, or coordinate with a designee from the local law enforcement agency of relevant jurisdiction to conduct the School Safety Needs Assessment at least annually; and
- b. Use the results of the School Safety Needs Assessment to recommend and implement improvements to school facilities, policies, procedures, protocols, rules, and regulations relating to school safety and security.

SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY SPECIALIST REQUIREMENTS

School Safety and Security Specialists must:

1. Collaborate with the County Security Chief to:
 - a. Conduct, or coordinate with a designee from the local law enforcement agency of relevant jurisdiction to conduct the School Safety Needs Assessment at least annually; and
 - b. Use the results of the School Safety Needs Assessment to recommend and implement improvements to school facilities, policies, procedures, protocols, rules, and regulations relating to school safety and security.

SECTION 4: BUILDING AND SAFETY STANDARDS

SUMMARY

H.B. 84 (2024) updates building safety standards and establishes additional protocols for school safety incidents regarding data, reporting, and policies.

REQUIREMENTS

SCHOOL BUILDING STANDARDS: PHYSICAL FACILITIES

LEA REQUIREMENTS

LEAs must:

1. Require certain state buildings and schools to have emergency external communication systems, such as;
 - a. Repeaters for first responder radios to ensure signal strength within each school.
2. Provide the lead teacher in each classroom with a wearable panic alert device that must communicate directly with Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP).
3. Ensure before the school year begins, all school building personnel receive training on the protocol and appropriate use of panic alert devices.
4. Ensure all security cameras within a school building are accessible by a Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP); and
 - a. Coordinate with local law enforcement agency to establish appropriate access protocols.



SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Schools must:

1. Meet minimum safety and security standards for all public school facilities, including:

- a. Limited entry points, including, if applicable, secured entry points for specific student grades or groups;
- b. Internal video surveillance of entrances when school is in session;
- c. Ground-level windows protected by security film or ballistic windows;
- d. Internal classroom door locks;
- e. Bleed kits and first aid kits;
- f. Exterior cameras on entrances, parking areas, and campus grounds; and
- g. Fencing around playgrounds.

CONSIDERATIONS

1. As measures are implemented, adhering to SRP requires locking down a classroom or learning area (e.g. an all glass classroom in a pod setting with no egress is a problem).

SCHOOL SAFETY STANDARDS: INCIDENT POLICY

INCIDENT TYPES

Incident types in [Utah Code Section 53G-9-601](#), hereafter referred to as “incident(s):”

1. Bullying
2. Hazing
3. Cyberbullying
4. Abusive conduct
5. Retaliation



LEA REQUIREMENTS

LEAs must:

1. Update their policy language outlining the incidents per [Utah Code Section 53G-9-605](#).
 - a. Develop the policy with input from:
 - i. Students;
 - ii. Parents;

- iii. Teachers;
 - iv. School administrators;
 - v. School staff; or
 - vi. Local law enforcement agencies.
- b. Provide protection to a student, regardless of the student's legal status.
- c. Include the following components in the policy:
- i. Definitions of the incidents;
 - ii. Language prohibiting the incidents;
 - iii. Language prohibiting falsely reporting the incidents;
 - iv. Language outlining appropriate punishments for a student who shares a recording of an incident listed above to impact or encourage future incidents;
 - 1. Note: LEAs may need to determine whether a student who shares a recording of an incident meets the threshold as defined in LEA policy requiring disciplinary action.
 - v. Process for parental notification of:
 - 1. A student's threat of suicide;
 - 2. An incident involving the parent's student; and
 - 3. Implementation of the school's action plan to address the incident.
 - vi. A grievance process for a school employee who has experienced abusive conduct;
 - vii. A requirement that the school or LEA create and implement an action plan for each incident in accordance with [Utah Code Section 53G-9-605.5](#);
 - viii. A communication process requiring the school or LEA regularly updates each parent of a student involved in an incident regarding the implementation of an action plan, including:
 - 1. The outcome of the school's or LEA's investigation;
 - 2. A discussion of safety considerations for the student who is the subject of the incident; and

3. An explanation of the school's or LEA's process for addressing the incident.
 - ix. A requirement for a signed statement annually, indicating that the individual signing the statement has received the LEA governing board's policy, from each:
 1. School employee;
 2. Student who is at least eight years old; and
 3. Parent of a student enrolled in the LEA.
- d. In relation to the policy described:
 - i. Include a copy in student conduct handbooks;
 - ii. Include a copy in employee handbooks; and
 - iii. Provide a copy to a parent of a student enrolled in the LEA.

SCHOOL SAFETY STANDARDS: TRAINING, EDUCATION, AND PREVENTION

LEA REQUIREMENTS

LEAs must:

1. Designate at least one individual at the LEA level for bullying incident response who:
 - a. Provides training to school employees;
 - b. Oversees the implementation of an action plan;
 - c. For each incident, monitors implementation of the LEA's policy regarding a communication process with a parent described in [Utah Code Section 53G-9-605](#);
 - d. Acts as the LEA liaison to the state board regarding incidents; and
 - e. Assists a school with case-specific needs when the school is addressing an incident.

SECTION 5: EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

SUMMARY

An Early Warning System (EWS) is an online data reporting tool that provides information for student early interventions. An EWS is intended to enhance online data reporting and provide additional formative and actionable data on student outcomes. Data from the LEA's Student Information Management System (SIMS) is displayed in an EWS, allowing education staff to easily identify which students may need interventions or supports. EWS data will include discipline, school safety violations, attendance, behavior, course failures, and other criteria as determined by local school boards or charter school governing boards.

Schools already implementing an EWS may continue to use the tool they have in place. Schools that do not have an EWS may work with their multidisciplinary teams to determine the school's EWS needs.

USBE is currently contracting with Panorama to inform early warning indicators. Due to H.B. 84 (2024), USBE will be issuing a new Request for Proposals (RFP) to



select a vendor that meets new requirements. Once a vendor has been selected, the information will be updated within this Playbook and shared with LEAs and other stakeholders.

LEAs will have the option to work with the vendor selected by USBE, or select a different vendor that meets the same requirements as outlined in [Utah Code Section 53F-4-207](#). It should be noted that 50% of the cost will be covered only when LEAs use the vendor selected by USBE.



REQUIREMENTS

LEA REQUIREMENTS

LEAs must:

1. Implement an early warning system for their schools;
2. Provide notice to a parent/guardian if the LEA chooses to implement a survey associated with the EWS, including the following described in Subsection (7)(a):
 - a. The administration of a survey;
 - b. If applicable, that the survey may request information from students that is non-academic in nature;
 - c. Where the parent/guardian may access the survey to be administered;
 - d. The opportunity to opt a student out of participating in a survey; and
 - e. Provide annual notice to parents/guardians on how the participating LEA uses student data gathered on the survey withing the EWS to provide instruction and interventions to students.

SECTION 6: REQUIRED REPORTING OF SUBSTANTIAL THREATS AGAINST A SCHOOL

SUMMARY

State employees or persons in a position of special trust must report substantial threats against a school to the appropriate authorities.

A "substantial threat" means a threat made with serious intent to cause harm.



REQUIREMENTS

STATE EMPLOYEES OR PERSONS IN POSITION OF SPECIAL TRUST REQUIREMENTS

State employees or persons in a position of special trust as defined in [Utah Code Section 76-5-404.1](#) must:

1. If they have reason to believe a substantial threat is made against a school, school employee, or student attending a school or is aware of circumstances that would reasonably result in a substantial threat against a school, school employee, or student attending a school,
 - a. Immediately report the suspected substantial threat to:
 - i. The nearest peace officer or law enforcement agency;
 - ii. The LEA that the substantial threat would impact; or
 - iii. The State Security Chief.

Any agency receiving notification of substantial threat made against a school must follow procedures outlined in [Utah Code Section 53-22-106\(3\)](#).

SECTION 7: EMERGENCY EVACUATION DRILLS

SUMMARY

An LEA must follow all guidelines regarding emergency evacuation drills created by the State Fire Marshal, in collaboration with the School Safety Center. Guidelines differ for general classrooms at elementary schools, general classrooms at secondary schools, and special education classrooms at all schools.



REQUIREMENTS

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, GENERAL CLASSROOM REQUIREMENTS

Elementary Schools—General Classrooms must:

1. Have a drill within the first 10 days of school starting;
2. Have a drill within the first 10 days when students come back to school after winter break;
3. Have a drill once a month:
 - a. Every other drill can be something other than a fire drill. A fire drill may be substituted with a security or safety drill, such as shelter in place, earthquake drill, or lockdown for violence.
 - b. Every emergency drill will end with an evacuation.
 - i. Evacuations can be modified if the weather does not permit leaving the building.
 - ii. To enhance the evacuation portion of a drill, an exit door can be locked to evaluate the level of execution.

NOTES

1. Teachers may delay evacuation upon fire alarm activation for up to 60 seconds when **all** of the following conditions are met:
 - a. There is no visible flame or evidence of products of combustion (smoke);
 - b. The building is protected throughout by an approved fire sprinkler system;
 - c. The building is protected throughout by an approved fire alarm system; and
 - d. Students are in the safe zone of the room, lined up, and prepared for immediate evacuation.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS, GENERAL CLASSROOM REQUIREMENTS

Secondary Schools—General Classrooms must:

1. Conduct an emergency evacuation drill at least every two months, to a total of four emergency evacuation drills during the nine-month school year;
 - a. The first drill shall be conducted within 10 school days after the beginning of classes.
 - b. The third drill, weather permitting, shall be conducted 10 school days after the beginning of the next calendar year.
 - c. The second and fourth drills may be substituted by a security or safety drill to include shelter in place, earthquake drill, or lockdown for violence.
 - i. If inclement weather causes a secondary school to miss the 10-day deadline for the third drill, the secondary school shall perform the third drill as soon as practicable after the missed deadline.

NOTES

1. Teachers may delay evacuation upon fire alarm activation for up to 60 seconds when **all** of the following conditions are met:
 - a. There is no visible flame or evidence of products of combustion (smoke);

- b. The building is protected throughout by an approved fire sprinkler system;
- c. The building is protected throughout by an approved fire alarm system; and
- d. Students are in the safe zone of the room, lined up, and prepared for immediate evacuation.

ALL SCHOOLS, SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASSROOM REQUIREMENTS

All Schools—Special Education Classrooms must:

- 1. Cause as little disruption as possible;
- 2. Expect students with disabilities to participate in evacuation drills to the extent they are able, given the nature of their disabilities;
 - a. Schools should attempt to develop a modified drill for students whose disabilities preclude them from fully participating in the drill. A safety plan should be in place at the minimum.
- 3. Go through the approval process through the State Fire Marshal's office to modify auditory and visual alarms to appropriately accommodate the needs of special education students. Such accommodations may include:
 - a. A chime; or
 - b. A light that only teachers and adult supervisors can see.



NOTES

- 1. Pre-approved special education classrooms may shelter in place or delay evacuation when **all** of the following conditions are met:
 - a. There is no visible flame or evidence of products of combustion (smoke);
 - b. The building is completely protected by an approved fire sprinkler system;

- c. The building is completely protected by an approved fire alarm system;
- d. The classroom has a minimum of one approved exit that discharges directly to the exterior; and
- e. The classroom has been approved to shelter in place by the fire code official.

SECTION 8: APPLICATION FOR ALTERNATIVES

H.B. 84 (2024) states a LEA, school administrator, or private school may apply to the State Security Chief for an alternative to the requirements described in:

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

In approving or denying an application, the State Security Chief may consider factors that impact a school's or LEA's ability to adhere to the requirements, including the school's or LEA's:

1. Population size;
2. Staffing needs or capacity;
3. Geographic location;
4. General demonstration of need for an alternative to the requirements; or
5. Beginning FY26, any previous year's application(s).



PRE-DETERMINED EXCEPTIONS LISTED IN H.B. 84 (2024)

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 Safety and Security Specialist;
 - b. At least one of the following:
 - i. A school resource officer,
 - ii. A school guardian; or
 - iii. An armed school security guard;
 - c. An LEA School Safety and Security Director.

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.

PROCESS FOR APPLICATION

1. Apply for an alternative while completing the School Safety Needs Assessment Summary form via Qualtrics (USBE).

For questions or additional information, contact Lt. Jeremy Barnes, School Safety Liaison, at jerbarnes@utah.gov.

SECTION 9: RESOURCES AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

[H.B. 84 School Safety Amendments \(2024\)](#)

TRAINING REQUESTS

For all training requests, please use the [Student Services Training Request Portal \(TRP\)](#).



SCHOOL SAFETY NEEDS ASSESSMENT RESOURCES

1. Funding for targeted grants to LEAs under the School Safety Needs Assessment.
 - a. The grant application will be posted on the USBE School Safety website under Grant Opportunities (side menu). Announcements will be sent through multiple listservs.
2. Nationally-Recognized School Safety Assessment Tools:
 - a. [Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools \(REMS\) Site Assess](#)
 - b. [Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency \(CISA\) School Security Assessment Tool](#)
 - c. [Partner Alliance for Safer Schools \(PASS\)](#)

SECTION 10: CONTACTS

[Chief Matt Pennington](#)

State Security Chief
Utah Department of Public Safety (DPS)
Phone: (385) 463-7645 | mpennington@utah.gov

[Meet the School Safety Center](#)

[Shauntelle Cota](#)

Director of School Safety and Student Services
Phone: (801) 538-7502 | shauntelle.cota@schools.utah.gov

[Rhett Larsen](#)

School Safety Center Coordinator
Phone: (801) 538-7997 | rhett.larsen@schools.utah.gov

[Ashley Pistello](#)

School Safety Center Specialist
Phone: (801) 538-7728 | ashley.pistello@schools.utah.gov

[Scott Eyre](#)

School Based Mental Health Specialist
Utah Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
Phone: (801) 450-2667 | saeyre@utah.gov

[Lieutenant Jeremy Barnes](#)

School Safety Liaison
Utah Department of Public Safety (DPS)
Phone: (801) 503-5815 | jerbarnes@utah.gov

[Willie Chen](#)

School Safety Data Analyst
Phone: (385) 295-7919 | willie.chen@schools.utah.gov

[Melissa Muhlestein](#)

Executive Secretary
Phone: (385) 295-7931 | melissa.muhlestein@schools.utah.gov