SCHOOLSAFETY.GOV

Physical Security Resources



Schools can work to prepare for potential acts of violence and other threats by improving their campuses' physical security and involving school personnel who are trained to prevent, recognize, and respond to threats of violence, as well as implementing other prevention strategies.

While there is not a universal plan for every school's unique needs, implementing physical security measures can mitigate threats at schools and reduce the amount of harm inflicted if incidents occur. Proactive measures include conducting regular site assessments and developing building security plans to identify existing vulnerabilities and enhance overall school security.

Additionally, schools should prioritize information sharing between stakeholders and community partners to help build in best practices around the security and resilience of physical spaces.



Visit <u>SchoolSafety.gov</u> and follow <u>@SchoolSafetyGov</u> on Twitter for additional physical security resources.

Resources

SchoolSafety.gov offers resources, programs, and tools school communities can use to improve their physical security.

- K-12 School Security Guide (2nd Edition) and School Security Survey: This
 guidance provides preventive and protective measures to address the threat of
 gun violence in schools and offers action-oriented security best practices and
 options for consideration.
- SITE ASSESS: This free, secure mobile app designed specifically for education
 agencies allows personnel to walk around buildings and grounds and examine
 their safety, security, accessibility, and emergency preparedness. It generates a
 customized to-do list that may be used to address facility improvements, prompts
 teams to share pertinent information with first responders, and contains relevant
 resources on several education facility and preparedness topics.
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) School Assessment
 (CSA): CPTED is an approach that focuses on improving the design of the built
 environment to help reduce opportunities for disputes and violence and promote
 positive behavior. The CSA is a tool that assesses the use of CPTED principles in
 three areas of schools: grounds, buildings, and interiors.
- <u>Campus Resilience Program: K-12 Active Shooter Exercise Starter Kits</u>: This tool
 helps K-12 school communities self-conduct a tabletop exercise and reinforces a
 school's specific emergency plans, protocols, and procedures, while also testing
 and strengthening its preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities when
 responding to an active shooter incident.
- Active Shooter Preparedness: School Security and Resilience: This video provides information geared towards educators, school resource officers, and school administrators who serve in important roles in safeguarding schools.
- Bomb-Making Materials Awareness Program (BMAP): BMAP prevents bad actors
 from using everyday household products to build bombs. Through engaging
 videos, posters, and other materials, BMAP educates people on how to recognize
 and report suspicious bomb-making activity to keep communities safe across the
 country.
- Free Bomb Prevention Trainings: CISA's Office for Bombing Prevention (OBP) training programs have equipped over 140,000 participants in more than 100 major U.S. cities with the tools they need to prevent, protect against, respond to, and mitigate bombing incidents. Take a free, online training at https://cdp.dhs.gov/obp to learn how to protect your institution against improvised explosive devices, or find out about OBP trainings by emailing Obp-Training@cisa.dhs.gov or visiting www.cisa.gov/bombing-prevention-training.
- The Design of Safe, Secure, and Welcoming Learning Environments: This report
 follows a summit that brought together architects, policymakers, students,
 educators, school administrators, law enforcement and building code officials,
 mental health experts, and others to examine violence in schools and explore
 ways to holistically improve safety and security in our school communities.







