



INDIANA
DEPARTMENT *of*
EDUCATION

Indiana School Safety Laws Reference Guide

2024-2025

Indiana Department of Education

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Indianapolis, IN 46204



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Indiana School Safety Specialist Academy

IC 10-21-1-9 School safety specialist; duties

Sec. 9. (a) Each school corporation shall designate at least one (1) individual who is not a school resource officer as described in [IC 20-26-18.2-2](#) to serve as the school safety specialist for the school corporation.

(b) Each charter school shall designate at least one (1) individual who is not a school resource officer as described in [IC 20-26-18.2-2](#) to serve as the school safety specialist for the charter school. A charter school in operation on July 1, 2023, shall comply with this subsection on or before July 1, 2024.

(c) All school safety specialists shall be chosen by the superintendent of the school corporation or leadership of the charter school with the approval of the governing body or organizer.

(d) A school safety specialist shall perform the following duties:

- (1) Serve on the county school safety commission with jurisdiction over the school corporation if that individual school safety specialist is chosen by the superintendent of the school corporation with the approval of the governing body. Except as provided in section 12 of this chapter, the school safety specialists of charter schools do not serve on a county school safety commission.
- (2) Participate each year in a number of days of school safety training that the department of education determines necessary under section 13 of this chapter.
- (3) With the assistance of the county school safety commission with jurisdiction over the school corporation or charter school, develop, implement, and improve a school safety plan for each school building in the school corporation or charter school.
- (4) Coordinate the school safety plans of each school building in the school corporation or charter school as required under this chapter and under rules adopted by the Indiana state board of education.
- (5) Act as a resource for the school corporation's or charter school's safe school committees and other individuals in the school corporation or charter school on issues related to school discipline, safety, and security.
- (6) Serve as a liaison for the school corporation or charter school regarding school safety matters with the board, the department of homeland security, the department of education, the Indiana criminal justice institute, and other state agencies, as applicable.

As added by P.L.150-2023, SEC.10.

IC 10-21-1-13 School safety specialist training and certification program; curriculum and standards

Sec. 13. (a) The school safety specialist training and certification program is established.

(b) The school safety specialist training and certification program shall provide:

- (1) annual training sessions, which may be conducted through distance learning or at regional centers; and
- (2) information concerning best practices and available resources;

for school safety specialists and county school safety commissions.

(c) The department of education, in consultation with the board, shall do the following:

- (1) Assemble an advisory group of school safety specialists from around the state to make recommendations concerning the curriculum and standards for school safety specialist training.
- (2) Develop an appropriate curriculum and the standards for the school safety specialist training and certification program. The department of education may consult with national school safety experts in developing the curriculum and standards. The curriculum developed under this subdivision must include training in:
 - (A) identifying, preventing, and intervening in bullying and cyberbullying;
 - (B) identifying, preventing, and intervening in criminal organization activity;
 - (C) identifying, preventing, and intervening in actions by a person who is present on school property with the intent to harm another person;
 - (D) developing and implementing a school safety plan in accordance with this chapter;
 - (E) using a county school safety commission to improve school safety and emergency preparedness; and
 - (F) using safe school committees to improve safety and emergency preparedness for each school building.
- (3) Administer the school safety specialist training and certification program, including the following duties:
 - (A) Establish a school safety specialist certificate for candidates eligible under section 9 of this chapter who have successfully completed the training program.
 - (B) Review the qualifications of each candidate, determine their eligibility for certification, and present a certificate to each school safety specialist eligible for certification.

As added by P.L.150-2023, SEC.14.

IC 20-19-3-14 Division of school building physical security and safety; establishment; duties

Sec. 14. (a) As used in this section, "division" refers to the division of school building physical security and safety established by subsection (c).

- (b) As used in this section, "physical security" refers to security measures that are designed to deny unauthorized access to a building or facility, including equipment and resources, and to protect individuals and property from damage or harm.
- (c) The division of school building physical security and safety is established within the department.
- (d) The division shall:
- (1) establish and maintain guidelines for using professional architectural and engineering services to integrate physical security improvements and safety practices in the construction, renovation, repair, or alteration of a school facility;
 - (2) carry out the department's responsibilities with regards to the school safety specialist training and certification program established in [IC 10-21-1-13](#);
 - (3) establish and maintain guidelines for establishing emergency response protocols in cooperation with other state agencies;
 - (4) carry out the department's responsibilities to safe school committees under [IC 10-21-1-14](#);
 - (5) coordinate the department's response and recovery assistance to a school in the event of a manmade or natural disaster;
 - (6) provide information and guidance to assist school corporations or schools to establish mutual aid disaster assistance agreements with other schools or school corporations;
 - (7) study and collect information to integrate lessons learned from previous school disasters throughout the country into the curriculum of the school safety specialist training and certification program established in [IC 10-21-1-13](#) and guidelines established by the division under this subsection;
 - (8) establish and maintain guidelines, in consultation with the department of homeland security and institute for criminal justice, for developing and maintaining school safety plans as described in [IC 10-21-1-10](#) and [IC 10-21-1-11](#); and
 - (9) assist the secured school safety board established by [IC 10-21-1-3](#) in conducting the review and submitting the report as described in [IC 10-21-1-8](#).
- (e) The division may:
- (1) request a meeting with a school corporation or charter school to review a school safety plan as described in [IC 10-21-1-10](#);
 - (2) request to provide an onsite safety review for a school corporation or charter school;
 - (3) request to provide guidance or assistance relating to school safety matters to a school corporation or charter school;
 - (4) provide assistance or guidance relating to school safety matters upon request by a nonpublic school that has voluntarily become accredited under [IC 20-31-4.1](#) or is accredited by a national or regional accrediting agency that is recognized by the state board; and
 - (5) provide assistance or guidance relating to school safety matters upon request by a county school safety commission under [IC 10-21-1-12](#).
- (f) The division shall maintain a secure Internet web site to provide school officials and public safety officials access to information that is considered classified under [IC 5-14-3-4\(b\)\(1\)](#), [IC 5-14-3-4\(b\)\(18\)](#), and [IC 5-14-3-4\(b\)\(19\)](#) or other sensitive information that may assist school officials and public safety officials in improving school safety or responding to a manmade or natural disaster.
- (g) The division shall maintain a public website that contains:
- (1) the guidelines established by the division under subsection (d);
 - (2) best practices pertaining to school safety; and
 - (3) any other information the division determines may be necessary to carry out the division's duties or responsibilities under this section.

As added by P.L.36-2014, SEC.1. Amended by P.L.150-2023, SEC.

Indiana State Board of Education Rules

511 IAC 6.1-2-2.5 Safe schools and emergency preparedness planning

Authority: IC 20-19-2-8; IC 20-31-4-17

Affected: IC 20-31-4-1 Sec. 2.5.

- (a) Each school corporation shall, in consultation with local public safety agencies, develop a written emergency preparedness plan for the school corporation and each school in the corporation. An emergency preparedness plan shall, at a minimum, contain the following:
- (1) Appropriate warning systems.
 - (2) Procedures for notifying other agencies and organizations.
 - (3) Posting of evacuation routes.
 - (4) Emergency preparedness instruction for staff and students.
 - (5) Public information procedures.
 - (6) Steps that will be taken prior to a decision to evacuate buildings or dismiss classes.
 - (7) Provisions to protect the safety and well-being of staff, students, and the public in case of:

- (A) fire;
 - (B) natural disaster, such as tornado, flood, or earthquake;
 - (C) adverse weather conditions, such as winter storms or extreme heat;
 - (D) nuclear contamination, such as power plant or transport vehicle spills;
 - (E) exposure to chemicals, such as pesticides, industrial spills and contaminants, laboratory chemicals, and cleaning agents;
- and
- (F) manmade occurrences, such as student disturbance, weapon, weapon of mass destruction, contamination of water supply or air supply, hostage, and kidnaping incidents.
- (b) Within sixty (60) days after the beginning date of each school year, the superintendent shall certify to the department that the emergency preparedness plans for the school corporation and each school in the school corporation have been reviewed and revised, if necessary. Within sixty (60) days of opening a new or significantly remodeled school, the superintendent shall certify to the department that a new plan has been developed or that the existing plan has been reviewed and revised, if necessary.
- (c) Emergency preparedness plans shall be available for inspection by the department. (Indiana State Board of Education; 511 IAC 6.1-2-2.5; filed Aug 28, 1998, 4:58 p.m.: 22 IR 91; readopted filed Sep 7, 2004, 5:10 p.m.: 28 IR 323; readopted filed Nov 20, 2007, 11:36 a.m.: 20071219-IR-511070386RFA; readopted filed Dec 2, 2013, 3:26 p.m.: 20140101-IR-511130419RFA; readopted filed Dec 1, 2020, 1:48 p.m.: 20201230-IR-511200548RFA)

Students with Disabilities Safety Planning

511 IAC 7-36-6 Facilities

Authority: IC 20-19-2-8; IC 20-19-2-16

Affected: IC 20-19-2; IC 20-34-3-20; IC 20-35

Sec. 6. (a) The public agency shall provide instructional space for students with disabilities that is:

- (1) not less than the per student instructional space for general education students of the same chronological age in the same building;
- (2) comparable to the general space and instructional environment of the general education students in the same building; and
- (3) sufficient to accommodate a student's:
 - (A) special equipment;
 - (B) assistive devices; or
 - (C) curricular needs.

(b) Each public agency, when developing written emergency preparedness plans in accordance with 511 IAC 6.1-2-2.5, shall include provisions for warning and evacuating students whose disabilities require special warning or evacuation procedures. Special warning and evacuation provisions shall:

- (1) address individual needs of students;
- (2) be reviewed on an annual and as needed basis; and
- (3) be implemented during tornado (shelter) preparedness drills, fire drills, and manmade occurrence disaster drills as required by IC 20-34-3-20.

511 IAC 4-1.5-7 Crisis intervention plans Authority: IC 20-19-2-8 Affected: IC 20-31

Sec. 7. Each school corporation shall, in concert with the emergency preparedness plan developed under 511 IAC 6.1-2-2.5, develop a crisis intervention plan for the school corporation and for each school in the school corporation. The plan, which should be developed by student services personnel in conjunction with school administrators and community crisis intervention personnel, shall include crisis management and intervention provisions. (Indiana State Board of Education; 511 IAC 4-1.5-7; filed Jun 19, 2000, 10:37 a.m.: 23 IR 2717; readopted filed Aug 15, 2006, 8:44 a.m.: p.m.: 20060830-IR-511060144RFA; readopted filed Nov 30, 2012, 3:16 20121226-IR-511120541RFA; readopted filed Oct 23, 2018, 2:37 p.m.: 20181121-IR-511180327RFA)

County School Safety Commissions

IC 10-21-1-12 County school safety commission establishment; members; duties; school safety plans

Sec. 12. (a) Not later than December 31, 2023, a county shall establish a county school safety commission. Unless otherwise specified in subsection (b)(1) through (b)(11), the members described in subsection (b) are appointed by the school corporation having the largest ADM (as defined in [IC 20-18-2-2](#)), as determined in the fall count of ADM in the school year ending in the current calendar year.

(b) The members of the commission are as follows:

- (1) A school safety specialist for each school corporation located in whole or in part in the county.

- (2) The judge of the court having juvenile jurisdiction in the county or the judge's designee.
 - (3) The sheriff of the county or the sheriff's designee.
 - (4) The chief officer of every other law enforcement agency in the county, or the chief officer's designee.
 - (5) A representative of the juvenile probation system, appointed by the judge described in subdivision (2).
 - (6) Representatives of community agencies that work with children within the county.
 - (7) A representative of the Indiana state police district that serves the county, appointed by the Indiana state police.
 - (8) A prosecuting attorney or deputy prosecuting attorney who specializes in the prosecution of juveniles, appointed by the prosecuting attorney.
 - (9) A school safety specialist of a charter school representing the interests and viewpoints of charter schools within the commission's jurisdiction if at least one (1) charter school within the commission's jurisdiction requests to participate.
 - (10) A school safety specialist of an accredited nonpublic school representing the interests and viewpoints of accredited nonpublic schools within the commission's jurisdiction if at least one (1) accredited nonpublic school requests to participate.
 - (11) Other appropriate individuals selected by the commission.
- (c) Once a commission is established, the school safety specialist of the school corporation having the largest ADM (as defined in [IC 20-18-2-2](#)), as determined in the fall count of ADM in the school year ending in the current calendar year, in the county shall convene the initial meeting of the commission.
- (d) The members shall annually elect a chairperson.
- (e) A commission shall perform the following duties:
- (1) Periodically perform a cumulative analysis of school safety needs within the county.
 - (2) Coordinate and make recommendations for the following:
 - (A) Prevention of juvenile offenses and improving the reporting of juvenile offenses within the schools.
 - (B) Proposals for identifying and assessing children who are at high risk of experiencing a mental health or behavioral health crisis or becoming juvenile offenders.
 - (C) Methods to meet the educational needs of children who have been detained as juvenile offenders.
 - (D) Methods to improve communications among agencies that work with children.
 - (E) Methods to improve school security and emergency preparedness.
 - (F) Additional equipment or personnel that are necessary to carry out school safety plans.
 - (G) Pooling resources, combining purchases, using shared administrative services, or collaborating among participating school corporations, school corporation career and technical education schools described in [IC 20-37-1-1](#), and charter schools to improve the maintenance of safe schools.
 - (H) Implementing best practices and procedures to use critical incidence digital mapping in the event of an emergency within the county.
 - (I) Any other topic the commission considers necessary to improve school safety within the commission's jurisdiction.
 - (3) Provide assistance to school safety specialists and school resource officers within the commission's jurisdiction in developing and:
 - (A) implementing school safety plans; and
 - (B) requesting grants from the fund.
 - (4) Assist accredited nonpublic schools within the commission's jurisdiction that voluntarily submit a school safety plan or a local school safety and emergency plan (described in [IC 20-34-3-23](#)) to the commission seeking assistance in carrying out the school safety plan.
- (f) The affirmative votes of a majority of the voting members of the commission are required for the commission to take action on a measure.
- (g) A commission shall receive the school safety plans for the school corporations and charter schools located in the county.
- (h) A commission may receive from an accredited nonpublic school within the commission's jurisdiction a school safety plan or a local school safety and emergency plan described in [IC 20-34-3-23](#).
- (i) The commission shall keep the school safety plans compiled and retained under this section confidential and shall withhold the information from public disclosure.
- (j) The commission may share the school safety plans under subsections (g) and (h) with law enforcement and first responder agencies that have jurisdiction over the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school. For the purposes of [IC 5-14-3](#), the entities receiving a school safety plan under this subsection shall keep information compiled and retained under subsections (g) and (h) confidential and shall withhold the information from public disclosure.
- (k) A commission shall annually submit to the board on a date established by the board:
- (1) meeting minutes;
 - (2) any meeting agenda materials directly related to taking action on a measure under this section; and

(3) a brief annual summary of its activities and accomplishments.
As added by P.L.150-2023, SEC.13. Amended by P.L.148-2024, SEC.7.

Safe School Committees

IC 10-21-1-14 Safe school committee establishment; school safety plan participation; school policy development

Sec. 14. (a) Each school operated by a school corporation shall establish a safe school committee. The committee may be a subcommittee of the committee that develops the strategic and continuous school improvement and achievement plan under [IC 20-31-5](#). Each committee may include at least one (1) member who is a member of the support staff of the school or school corporation career and technical education school.

(b) Each school operated by a charter school shall establish a safe school committee. A charter school in operation on July 1, 2023, shall comply with this subsection not later than July 1, 2024.

(c) The safe school committee shall actively participate in and assist with the development of the school safety plan.

(d) The department of education, the school corporation's or charter school's school safety specialist or specialists, and a school resource officer, if one (1) is employed by the school corporation or charter school, shall provide materials and guidelines to assist a safe school committee in developing a policy for a particular school that addresses the following issues:

- (1) Implementation of the school safety plan.
- (2) Addressing outside and internal threats to the physical safety of students, faculty, staff, and the public, including unsafe conditions, crime prevention, school violence, bullying and cyberbullying, criminal organization activity, child abuse and child sexual abuse, mental health and behavioral health, suicide awareness and prevention, violence prevention and training, situational awareness, and other issues that prevent the maintenance of a safe school.
- (3) Addressing the professional development needs for faculty and staff to implement methods that decrease problems identified under subdivision (2).
- (4) Identifying and implementing methods to encourage:
 - (A) involvement by the community, families, and students;
 - (B) development of relationships between students and school faculty and staff; and
 - (C) use of problem solving teams.
- (5) Consideration of the effect of armed intruder drills on the safety and mental health of students, faculty, and staff.

(e) The guidelines developed under subsection (d) must include age appropriate, trauma informed, evidence based information (as defined in 34 U.S.C. 10554(4)) that assists school corporations or charter schools and safe school committees in:

- (1) developing and implementing bullying and cyberbullying prevention programs;
- (2) establishing investigation and reporting procedures related to bullying and cyberbullying; and
- (3) adopting discipline rules that comply with [IC 20-33-8-13.5](#).

(f) In addition to developing guidelines under subsection (d), the department of education shall establish categories of types of bullying incidents to allow school corporations to use the categories in making reports under [IC 20-20-8-8](#) and [IC 20-34-6-1](#).

(g) The materials and guidelines provided under subsection (d) must include the model educational materials and model response policies and reporting procedures on child abuse and child sexual abuse developed or identified under [IC 20-19-3-11](#).

As added by P.L.150-2023, SEC.15. Amended by P.L.135-2024, SEC.2.

511 IAC 6.1-2-2.5 Safe schools and emergency preparedness planning

Authority: IC 20-19-2-8; IC 20-31-4-17

Affected: IC 20-31-4-1 Sec. 2.5.

(a) Each school corporation shall, in consultation with local public safety agencies, develop a written emergency preparedness plan for the school corporation and each school in the corporation. An emergency preparedness plan shall, at a minimum, contain the following:

- (1) Appropriate warning systems.
- (2) Procedures for notifying other agencies and organizations.
- (3) Posting of evacuation routes.
- (4) Emergency preparedness instruction for staff and students.
- (5) Public information procedures.
- (6) Steps that will be taken prior to a decision to evacuate buildings or dismiss classes.
- (7) Provisions to protect the safety and well-being of staff, students, and the public in case of:
 - (A) fire;
 - (B) natural disaster, such as tornado, flood, or earthquake;
 - (C) adverse weather conditions, such as winter storms or extreme heat;

- (D) nuclear contamination, such as power plant or transport vehicle spills;
 - (E) exposure to chemicals, such as pesticides, industrial spills and contaminants, laboratory chemicals, and cleaning agents; and
 - (F) manmade occurrences, such as student disturbance, weapon, weapon of mass destruction, contamination of water supply or air supply, hostage, and kidnapping incidents.
- (b) Within sixty (60) days after the beginning date of each school year, the superintendent shall certify to the department that the emergency preparedness plans for the school corporation and each school in the school corporation have been reviewed and revised, if necessary. Within sixty (60) days of opening a new or significantly remodeled school, the superintendent shall certify to the department that a new plan has been developed or that the existing plan has been reviewed and revised, if necessary.
- (c) Emergency preparedness plans shall be available for inspection by the department. (Indiana State Board of Education; 511 IAC 6.1-2-2.5; filed Aug 28, 1998, 4:58 p.m.: 22 IR 91; readopted filed Sep 7, 2004, 5:10 p.m.: 28 IR 323; readopted filed Nov 20, 2007, 11:36 a.m.: 20071219-IR-511070386RFA; readopted filed Dec 2, 2013, 3:26 p.m.: 20140101-IR-511130419RFA; readopted filed Dec 1, 2020, 1:48 p.m.: 20201230-IR-511200548RFA)

Bullying Definition and Discipline Rules

IC 20-33-8-0.2 "Bullying"

Sec. 0.2. (a) As used in this chapter, "bullying" means overt, unwanted, repeated acts or gestures, including verbal or written communications or images transmitted in any manner (including digitally or electronically), physical acts committed, aggression, or any other behaviors, that are committed by a student or group of students against another student with the intent to harass, ridicule, humiliate, intimidate, or harm the targeted student and create for the targeted student an objectively hostile school environment that:

- (1) places the targeted student in reasonable fear of harm to the targeted student's person or property;
 - (2) has a substantially detrimental effect on the targeted student's physical or mental health;
 - (3) has the effect of substantially interfering with the targeted student's academic performance; or
 - (4) has the effect of substantially interfering with the targeted student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, and privileges provided by the school.
- (b) The term may not be interpreted to impose any burden or sanction on, or include in the definition of the term, the following:
- (1) Participating in a religious event.
 - (2) Acting in an emergency involving the protection of a person or property from an imminent threat of serious bodily injury or substantial danger.
 - (3) Participating in an activity consisting of the exercise of a student's rights protected under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution or Article I, Section 31 of the Constitution of the State of Indiana, or both.
 - (4) Participating in an activity conducted by a nonprofit or governmental entity that provides recreation, education, training, or other care under the supervision of one (1) or more adults.
 - (5) Participating in an activity undertaken at the prior written direction of the student's parent.
 - (6) Engaging in interstate or international travel from a location outside Indiana to another location outside Indiana.

As added by P.L.106-2005, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.285-2013, SEC.5.

IC 20-26-5-34.2 Bullying prevention; training for employees and volunteers

Sec. 34.2. A school corporation shall provide training to the school corporation's employees and volunteers who have direct, ongoing contact with students concerning the school's bullying prevention and reporting policy adopted under [IC 20-33-8-13.5](#). The training shall be conducted in a manner prescribed by the state board under [IC 20-28-5.5-1](#) or [IC 20-28-5.5-1.5](#).

As added by P.L.285-2013, SEC.3. Amended by P.L.92-2020, SEC.26; P.L.250-2023, SEC.18.

IC 20-30-5-5.5 Bullying prevention; student instruction

Sec. 5.5. (a) Not later than October 15 of each year, each public school shall provide age appropriate, research based instruction as provided under [IC 10-21-1-14\(d\)](#) focusing on bullying prevention for all students in grades 1 through 12.

(b) The department, in consultation with school safety specialists and school counselors, shall prepare outlines or materials for the instruction described in subsection (a) and incorporate the instruction in grades 1 through 12.

(c) Instruction on bullying prevention may be delivered by a school safety specialist, school counselor, or any other person with training and expertise in the area of bullying prevention and intervention.

As added by P.L.285-2013, SEC.4. Amended by P.L.150-2023, SEC.24.

IC 20-33-8-13.5 Discipline rules prohibiting bullying required

Sec. 13.5. (a) Discipline rules adopted by the governing body of a school corporation under section 12 of this chapter must:

- (1) prohibit bullying; and

- (2) include:
- (A) provisions concerning education, parental involvement, and intervention;
 - (B) a detailed procedure for the expedited investigation of incidents of bullying that includes:
 - (i) appropriate responses to bullying behaviors, wherever the behaviors occur;
 - (ii) provisions for anonymous and personal reporting of bullying to a teacher or other school staff;
 - (iii) provisions that require a school to prioritize the safety of the victim;
 - (iv) timetables for reporting of bullying incidents to the parents of both the targeted student and the alleged perpetrator in an expedited manner that is not later than five (5) business days after the incident is reported;
 - (v) timetables for reporting of bullying incidents to school counselors, school administrators, the superintendent, or law enforcement, if it is determined that reporting the bullying incident to law enforcement is necessary;
 - (vi) discipline provisions for teachers, school staff, or school administrators who fail to initiate or conduct an investigation of a bullying incident; and
 - (vii) discipline provisions for false reporting of bullying; and
 - (C) a detailed procedure outlining the use of follow-up services that includes:
 - (i) support services for the victim; and
 - (ii) bullying education for the alleged perpetrator.
- (b) The discipline rules described in subsection (a) may be applied regardless of the physical location in which the bullying behavior occurred, whenever:
- (1) the individual committing the bullying behavior and any of the intended targets of the bullying behavior are students attending a school within a school corporation; and
 - (2) disciplinary action is reasonably necessary to avoid substantial interference with school discipline or prevent an unreasonable threat to the rights of others to a safe and peaceful learning environment.
- (c) The discipline rules described in subsection (a) must prohibit bullying through the use of data or computer software that is accessed through a:
- (1) computer;
 - (2) computer system;
 - (3) computer network; or
 - (4) cellular telephone or other wireless or cellular communications device.
- (d) The discipline rules described in subsection (a) must include policies to allow a parent of a child in the school corporation to review any materials used in any bullying prevention or suicide prevention program.
- (e) The discipline rules described in subsection (a) may include provisions to determine:
- (1) the severity of an incident of bullying; and
 - (2) whether an incident of bullying may warrant the transfer of the victim or the alleged perpetrator to another school in the school corporation.
- (f) This section may not be construed to give rise to a cause of action against a person or school corporation based on an allegation of noncompliance with this section. Noncompliance with this section may not be used as evidence against a school corporation in a cause of action.
- (g) A record made of an investigation, a disciplinary action, or a follow-up action performed under rules adopted under this section is not a public record under [IC 5-14-3](#).
- (h) The department shall periodically review each policy adopted under this section to ensure the policy's compliance with this section.

As added by P.L.106-2005, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.180-2011, SEC.2; P.L.285-2013, SEC.6; P.L.211-2018(ss), SEC.9; P.L.238-2023, SEC.1.

IC 20-34-6-2 Notice of reporting requirements; audits

Sec. 2. (a) Not later than June 1, 2018, and each June 1 thereafter, the department shall send notification via electronic mail or a letter to each school corporation explaining:

- (1) the school corporation's obligation to report bullying incidents under section 1(a)(8) of this chapter; and
- (2) that the department may conduct an audit of a school corporation under subsection (b) to ensure the school corporation's compliance with the requirements of section 1(a)(8) of this chapter.

(b) The department may conduct an audit of a school corporation to ensure that the school corporation is accurately reporting bullying incidents under section 1(a)(8) of this chapter. If the department finds discrepancies in the school corporation's reporting of bullying incidents under section 1(a)(8) of this chapter, the department shall post a copy of the department's findings on the department's Internet web site.

As added by P.L.83-2018, SEC.3. Amended by P.L.10-2019, SEC.87.

Cyberbullying

IC 20-19-3-11.5 Cyberbullying Resources

Sec. 11.5. (a) As used in this section, "cyberbullying" refers to bullying (as defined in [IC 20-33-8-0.2](#)) that occurs through the use of data or computer software that is accessed through a:

- (1) computer;
- (2) computer system;
- (3) computer network; or
- (4) cellular telephone or other wireless or cellular communications device.

(b) The department shall maintain a link on the department's website that provides parents and school officials with resources or best practices regarding the prevention and reporting of bullying and cyberbullying. The resources must include guidance on how to report to law enforcement agencies instances of bullying and cyberbullying that occur off campus. The department shall also include guidelines developed by the department under [IC 10-21-1-14](#)(d).

(c) The department shall consult with law enforcement agencies, school officials, and organizations that have expertise in the prevention or reporting of bullying or cyberbullying for purposes of developing or providing the resources or best practices described in subsection (b).

(d) The following entities shall maintain a link on their websites to the website described in subsection (b):

- (1) The state board.
- (2) A school corporation.

As added by P.L.211-2018(ss), SEC.6. Amended by P.L.150-2023, SEC.17.

Suspension and Expulsion

IC 20-33-8-14 Grounds for suspension or expulsion

Sec. 14. (a) The following are the grounds for student suspension or expulsion, subject to the procedural requirements of this chapter and as stated by school corporation rules:

- (1) Student misconduct.
 - (2) Substantial disobedience.
- (b) The grounds for suspension or expulsion listed in subsection (a) apply when a student is:
- (1) on school grounds immediately before or during school hours, or immediately after school hours, or at any other time when the school is being used by a school group;
 - (2) off school grounds at a school activity, function, or event; or
 - (3) traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-5.1-8.] *As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17.*

IC 20-33-8-15 Unlawful activity by student

Sec. 15. In addition to the grounds specified in section 14 of this chapter, a student may be suspended or expelled for engaging in unlawful activity on or off school grounds if:

- (1) the unlawful activity may reasonably be considered to be an interference with school purposes or an educational function; or
- (2) the student's removal is necessary to restore order or protect persons on school property;

including an unlawful activity during weekends, holidays, other school breaks, and the summer period when a student may not be attending classes or other school functions.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-5.1-9.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17.

Weapons

IC 20-33-8-16 Possession of firearms, deadly weapons, or destructive devices

Sec. 16. (a) As used in this section, "firearm" has the meaning set forth in [IC 35-47-1-5](#).

(b) As used in this section, "deadly weapon" has the meaning set forth in [IC 35-31.5-2-86](#). The term does not include a firearm or destructive device.

(c) As used in this section, "destructive device" has the meaning set forth in [IC 35-47.5-2-4](#).

(d) Notwithstanding section 20 of this chapter, a student who is:

- (1) identified as bringing a firearm or destructive device to school or on school property; or
- (2) in possession of a firearm or destructive device on school property;

must be expelled for at least one (1) calendar year, with the return of the student to be at the beginning of the first school semester after the end of the one (1) year period.

(e) The superintendent may, on a case by case basis, modify the period of expulsion under subsection (d) for a student who is expelled under this section.

(f) Notwithstanding section 20 of this chapter, a student who is:

- (1) identified as bringing a deadly weapon to school or on school property; or
- (2) in possession of a deadly weapon on school property;

may be expelled for not more than one (1) calendar year.

(g) A superintendent or the superintendent's designee shall immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the property where the school is located if a student engages in a behavior described in subsection (d). The superintendent may give similar notice if the student engages in a behavior described in subsection (f). Upon receiving notification under this subsection, the law enforcement agency shall begin an investigation and take appropriate action.

(h) A student with a disability (as defined in [IC 20-35-1-8](#)) who possesses a firearm on school property is subject to procedural safeguards under 20 U.S.C. 1415.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-5.1-10.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17. Amended by P.L.114-2012, SEC.42; P.L.233-2015, SEC.261.

IC 35-47-9-1 Exemptions from chapter

Sec. 1. (a) This chapter does not apply to the following:

(1) A:

- (A) federal;
- (B) state; or
- (C) local;

law enforcement officer.

(2) A:

- (A) qualified law enforcement officer (as defined in 18 U.S.C. 926B); or
- (B) qualified retired law enforcement officer (as defined in 18 U.S.C. 926C);

if the qualified law enforcement officer or qualified retired law enforcement officer, as applicable, carries the photographic identification required by 18 U.S.C. 926B or 18 U.S.C. 926C.

(3) A person who may legally possess a firearm and who has been authorized by:

- (A) a school board (as defined by [IC 20-26-9-4](#)); or
- (B) the body that administers a charter school established under [IC 20-24](#);

to carry a firearm in or on school property.

(4) Except as provided in subsection (b) or (c), a person who:

- (A) may legally possess a firearm; and
- (B) possesses the firearm in a motor vehicle.

(5) A person who is a school resource officer, as defined in [IC 20-26-18.2-1](#).

(6) Except as provided in subsection (b) or (c), a person who:

- (A) may legally possess a firearm; and
- (B) possesses only a firearm that is:
 - (i) locked in the trunk of the person's motor vehicle;
 - (ii) kept in the glove compartment of the person's locked motor vehicle; or
 - (iii) stored out of plain sight in the person's locked motor vehicle.

(7) A person who:

- (A) may legally possess a firearm; and
- (B) possesses a firearm on school property in connection with or while:
 - (i) attending a worship service or religious ceremony conducted at a house of worship located on the school property; or
 - (ii) carrying out the person's official duties at a house of worship located on the school property, if the person is employed by or a volunteer at the house of worship.

This subdivision does not affect the right of a property owner to prohibit, in whole or in part, the possession of a firearm on a property where a school or house of worship is located.

(b) For purposes of subsection (a)(4) and (a)(6), a person does not include a person who is:

- (1) enrolled as a student in any high school except if the person is a high school student and is a member of a shooting sports team and the school's principal has approved the person keeping a firearm concealed in the person's motor vehicle on the days the person is competing or practicing as a member of a shooting sports team; or

(2) a former student of the school if the person is no longer enrolled in the school due to a disciplinary action within the previous twenty-four (24) months.

(c) For purposes of subsection (a)(4) and (a)(6), a motor vehicle does not include a motor vehicle owned, leased, or controlled by a school or school district unless the person who possesses the firearm is authorized by the school or school district to possess a firearm. *As added by P.L.140-1994, SEC.11. Amended by P.L.172-2013, SEC.12; P.L.157-2014, SEC.4; P.L.107-2019, SEC.11; P.L.218-2023, SEC.7.*

IC 35-47-9-2 Possession of firearms on school property or a school bus; defense to a prosecution; possession of firearms in a motor vehicle parked in a school parking lot

Sec. 2. (a) A person may not be charged with an offense under this subsection if the person may be charged with an offense described in subsection (c). A person who knowingly or intentionally possesses a firearm:

- (1) in or on school property; or
- (2) on a school bus;

commits a Level 6 felony.

(b) It is a defense to a prosecution under subsection (a) that:

- (1) the person is permitted to legally possess the firearm; and
- (2) the firearm is:
 - (A) locked in the trunk of the person's motor vehicle;
 - (B) kept in the glove compartment of the person's locked motor vehicle; or
 - (C) stored out of plain sight in the person's locked motor vehicle.

(c) A person who is permitted to legally possess a firearm and who knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly leaves the firearm in plain view in a motor vehicle that is parked in a school parking lot commits a Class A misdemeanor.

As added by P.L.140-1994, SEC.11. Amended by P.L.172-2013, SEC.13; P.L.158-2013, SEC.601; P.L.157-2014, SEC.5; P.L.168-2014, SEC.89; P.L.109-2015, SEC.54.

IC 35-47-5-2.5 Possession of a knife on school property

Sec. 2.5. (a) As used in this section, "knife" means an instrument that:

- (1) consists of a sharp edged or sharp pointed blade capable of inflicting cutting, stabbing, or tearing wounds; and
- (2) is intended to be used as a weapon.

(b) The term includes a dagger, dirk, poniard, stiletto, switchblade knife, gravity knife, or throwing star.

(c) A person who recklessly, knowingly, or intentionally possesses a knife on:

- (1) school property (as defined in [IC 35-31.5-2-285](#));
- (2) a school bus (as defined in [IC 20-27-2-8](#)); or
- (3) a special purpose bus (as defined in [IC 20-27-2-10](#));

commits a Class B misdemeanor. However, the offense is a Class A misdemeanor if the person has a previous unrelated conviction under this section and a Level 6 felony if the offense results in bodily injury to another person.

(d) This section does not apply to a person who possesses a knife:

- (1) if:
 - (A) the knife is provided to the person by the school corporation or possession of the knife is authorized by the school corporation; and
 - (B) the person uses the knife for a purpose authorized by the school corporation; or
- (2) if the knife is secured in a motor vehicle.

As added by P.L.72-2006, SEC.9. Amended by P.L.114-2012, SEC.140; P.L.158-2013, SEC.592; P.L.22-2023, SEC.3.

Autism Training for School Resource Officers

IC 20-26-5-31 School corporation police; autism and Asperger's syndrome training

Sec. 31. (a) If a school corporation, including a school city (as defined in [IC 20-25-2-12](#)), establishes a school corporation police department, the governing body of the school corporation shall adopt a policy that requires every individual appointed as a school corporation police officer to complete training and education, approved by the state board, that will enable the school corporation police officer to appropriately deal with individuals with autism and Asperger's syndrome.

(b) This subsection applies to a regular or special police officer who is assigned as a security police officer for a school corporation under [IC 36-8-3-7](#). The governing body of the school corporation to which the police officer is assigned shall ensure that the police officer receives training and education, approved by the state board, that will enable the police officer to appropriately deal with individuals with autism and Asperger's syndrome.

As added by P.L.122-2007, SEC.1.

School Corporation Police Departments

IC 20-26-16-1 Application

Sec. 1. This chapter applies to a school corporation, including a school city (as defined in [IC 20-25-2-12](#)) and a charter school.

As added by P.L.132-2007, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.270-2019, SEC.14.

IC 20-26-16-2 Authority to establish police department

Sec. 2. The governing body of a school corporation or charter school may establish a school corporation or charter school police department under this chapter.

As added by P.L.132-2007, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.270-2019, SEC.15.

IC 20-26-16-3 Authority to appoint officers; uniforms; vehicles

Sec. 3. The governing body of a school corporation or the equivalent for a charter school may do the following for the school corporation or charter school police department:

- (1) Appoint school corporation or charter school police officers.
- (2) Prescribe the duties and direct the conduct of school corporation or charter school police officers.
- (3) Prescribe distinctive uniforms.
- (4) Provide emergency vehicles.

As added by P.L.132-2007, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.270-2019, SEC.16.

IC 20-26-16-4 Minimum training requirements

Sec. 4. An individual appointed as a school corporation or charter school police officer must successfully complete at least:

- (1) the pre-basic training course established under [IC 5-2-1-9\(f\)](#); and
- (2) the minimum basic training and educational requirements adopted by the law enforcement training board under [IC 5-2-1-9](#) as necessary for employment as a law enforcement officer.

As added by P.L.132-2007, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.270-2019, SEC.17.

IC 20-26-16-5 Training for certain officers

Sec. 5. (a) Notwithstanding section 4 of this chapter and [IC 5-2-1-9](#), an individual appointed as a school corporation police officer before July 1, 2007, must complete, not later than July 1, 2010, at least:

- (1) the pre-basic training course established under [IC 5-2-1-9\(f\)](#); and
- (2) the minimum basic training and educational requirements adopted by the law enforcement training board under [IC 5-2-1-9](#) as necessary for employment as a law enforcement officer.

(b) As set forth in [IC 5-2-1-9](#), an individual appointed as a school corporation or charter school police officer may not:

- (1) make an arrest;
- (2) conduct a search or a seizure of a person or property; or
- (3) carry a firearm;

unless the school corporation or charter school police officer successfully completes a pre-basic training course under [IC 5-2-1-9\(f\)](#).

As added by P.L.132-2007, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.270-2019, SEC.18.

IC 20-26-16-6 School corporation police officers; oath; powers and duties; jurisdiction

Sec. 6. (a) A school corporation or charter school police officer appointed under this chapter:

- (1) is a law enforcement officer (as defined in [IC 5-2-1-2\(1\)](#));
- (2) must take an appropriate oath of office in a form and manner prescribed by the governing body or the equivalent for a charter school;
- (3) serves at the governing body's (or the equivalent for a charter school) pleasure; and
- (4) performs the duties that the governing body or the equivalent for a charter school assigns.

(b) School corporation or charter school police officers appointed under this chapter have general police powers, including the power to arrest, without process, all persons who within their view commit any offense. They have the same common law and statutory powers, privileges, and immunities as sheriffs and constables, except that they are empowered to serve civil process only to the extent authorized by the employing governing body or the equivalent for a charter school; however, any powers may be expressly forbidden them by the governing body (or the equivalent for a charter school) employing them. In addition to any other powers or duties, such police officers shall enforce and assist the educators and administrators of their school corporation or charter school in the enforcement of the rules and regulations of the school corporation or charter school and assist and cooperate with other law enforcement agencies and officers.

(c) Such police officers may exercise the powers granted under this section only upon any property owned, leased, or occupied by the school corporation or charter school, including the streets passing through and adjacent to the property. Additional jurisdiction may be established by agreement with the chief of police of the municipality or sheriff of the county or the appropriate law enforcement agency where the property is located, dependent upon the jurisdiction involved.

As added by P.L.132-2007, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.270-2019, SEC.19; P.L.156-2020, SEC.76.

IC 20-26-16-7 Existing school corporation police departments

Sec. 7. A school corporation police department established before July 1, 2007, shall be considered, after June 30, 2007, a school corporation police department established under this chapter.

As added by P.L.132-2007, SEC.7.

Information Sharing

IC 20-33-7-3 Report of educational records without parental consent

Sec. 3. (a) As used in this section, "juvenile justice agency" has the meaning set forth in [IC 10-13-4-5](#).

(b) A school corporation or other entity to which the education records privacy provisions of the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g) apply may disclose or report on the education records of a child, including personally identifiable information contained in the education records, without the consent of the child's parent under the following conditions:

- (1) The disclosure or reporting of education records is to a state or local juvenile justice agency.
- (2) The disclosure or reporting relates to the ability of the juvenile justice system to serve, before adjudication, the student whose records are being released.
- (3) The juvenile justice agency receiving the information certifies, in writing, to the entity providing the information that the agency or individual receiving the information has agreed not to disclose it to a third party, other than another juvenile justice agency, without the consent of the child's parent.

(c) For purposes of subsection (b)(2), a disclosure or reporting of education records concerning a child who has been adjudicated as a delinquent child shall be treated as related to the ability of the juvenile justice system to serve the child before adjudication if the juvenile justice agency seeking the information provides sufficient information to enable the keeper of the education records to determine that the juvenile justice agency seeks the information in order to identify and intervene with the child as a juvenile at risk of delinquency rather than to obtain information solely related to supervision of the child as an adjudicated delinquent child.

(d) A school corporation to which the education records privacy provisions of the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g) apply may disclose or report on the education records of a child, including personally identifiable information contained in the education records, without the consent of the child's parent, if the child has been suspended or expelled and referred to a court in accordance with an agreement for court assisted resolution of suspension and expulsion cases under [IC 20-33-8.5](#). The request for the education records of a child by a court must be for the purpose of assisting the child before adjudication.

(e) A school corporation or other entity to which the education records privacy provisions of the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g) apply that:

- (1) discloses or reports on the education records of a child, including personally identifiable information contained in the education records, in violation of this section; and
- (2) makes a good faith effort to comply with this section;

is immune from civil liability.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-10.1-22.4-3.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17. Amended by P.L.242-2005, SEC.21.

IC 31-37-4-3 Law enforcement notification to schools of student arrests

Sec. 3. (a) This section applies if a child is arrested or taken into custody for allegedly committing an act that would be any of the following crimes if committed by an adult:

- (1) Murder ([IC 35-42-1-1](#)).
- (2) Attempted murder ([IC 35-41-5-1](#)).
- (3) Voluntary manslaughter ([IC 35-42-1-3](#)).
- (4) Involuntary manslaughter ([IC 35-42-1-4](#)).
- (5) Reckless homicide ([IC 35-42-1-5](#)).
- (6) Aggravated battery ([IC 35-42-2-1.5](#)).
- (7) Battery ([IC 35-42-2-1](#)).
- (8) Kidnapping ([IC 35-42-3-2](#)).
- (9) A sex crime listed in [IC 35-42-4-1](#) through [IC 35-42-4-8](#).
- (10) Sexual misconduct with a minor ([IC 35-42-4-9](#)).

- (11) Incest ([IC 35-46-1-3](#)).
- (12) Robbery as a Level 2 felony or a Level 3 felony ([IC 35-42-5-1](#)).
- (13) Burglary as a Level 1 felony, Level 2 felony, Level 3 felony, or Level 4 felony ([IC 35-43-2-1](#)).
- (14) Assisting a criminal as a Level 5 felony ([IC 35-44.1-2-5](#)).
- (15) Escape ([IC 35-44.1-3-4](#)) as a Level 4 felony or Level 5 felony.
- (16) Trafficking with an inmate as a Level 5 felony ([IC 35-44.1-3-5](#)).
- (17) Causing death or catastrophic injury when operating a vehicle ([IC 9-30-5-5](#)).
- (18) Criminal confinement ([IC 35-42-3-3](#)) as a Level 2 or Level 3 felony.
- (19) Arson ([IC 35-43-1-1](#)) as a Level 2 felony, Level 3 felony, or Level 4 felony.
- (20) Possession, use, or manufacture of a weapon of mass destruction ([IC 35-47-12-1](#)) (before its repeal).
- (21) Terroristic mischief ([IC 35-47-12-3](#)) as a Level 2 or Level 3 felony (before its repeal).
- (22) Hijacking or disrupting an aircraft ([IC 35-47-6-1.6](#)).
- (23) A violation of [IC 35-47.5](#) (controlled explosives) as a Level 2 felony, Level 3 felony, or Level 4 felony.
- (24) A controlled substances offense under [IC 35-48](#).
- (25) A criminal organization offense under [IC 35-45-9](#).
- (26) Domestic battery ([IC 35-42-2-1.3](#)).
- (27) A felony terrorist offense (as defined in [IC 35-50-2-18](#)).

(b) If a child is taken into custody under this chapter for a crime or act listed in subsection (a) or a situation to which [IC 12-26-5-1](#) applies, the law enforcement agency that employs the law enforcement officer who takes the child into custody shall notify the chief administrative officer of the primary or secondary school, including a public or nonpublic school, in which the child is enrolled or, if the child is enrolled in a public school, the superintendent of the school district in which the child is enrolled:

- (1) that the child was taken into custody; and
- (2) of the reason why the child was taken into custody.

(c) The notification under subsection (b) must occur within forty-eight (48) hours after the child is taken into custody.

(d) A law enforcement agency may not disclose information that is confidential under state or federal law to a school or school district under this section.

(e) A law enforcement agency shall include in its training for law enforcement officers training concerning the notification requirements under subsection (b).

As added by P.L.67-2007, SEC.2. Amended by P.L.3-2008, SEC.240; P.L.125-2012, SEC.404; P.L.126-2012, SEC.42; P.L.172-2013, SEC.8; P.L.158-2013, SEC.326; P.L.168-2014, SEC.44; P.L.25-2016, SEC.12; P.L.65-2016, SEC.18; P.L.66-2019, SEC.3; P.L.184-2019, SEC.9; P.L.211-2019, SEC.41; P.L.205-2023, SEC.26.

IC 31-39-2-13.8 School's access to juvenile court records; notice; confidentiality

Sec. 13.8. (a) The juvenile court may grant a school access to all or a portion of the juvenile court records of a child who is a student at the school if:

- (1) the superintendent, or the superintendent's designee;
- (2) the chief administrative officer of a nonpublic school, or the chief administrative officer's designee; or
- (3) the individual with administrative control within a charter school, or the individual's designee;

submits a written request that meets the requirements of subsection (b).

(b) A written request must establish that the juvenile court records described in subsection (a) are necessary for the school to:

- (1) serve the educational needs of the child whose records are being released; or
- (2) protect the safety or health of a student, an employee, or a volunteer at the school.

(c) A juvenile court that releases juvenile court records under this section shall provide notice to the child and to the child's parent, guardian, or custodian that the child's juvenile records have been disclosed to the school.

(d) A juvenile court that releases juvenile court records under this section shall issue an order requiring the school to keep the juvenile court records confidential. A confidentiality order issued under this subsection does not prohibit a school that receives juvenile court records from forwarding the juvenile records to:

- (1) another school;
- (2) a person if a parent, guardian, or custodian of the child consents to the release of the juvenile court records to the person; or
- (3) an entity listed in [IC 31-39-9-1](#).

A school or a person that receives juvenile court records under this subsection must keep the juvenile court records confidential.

As added by P.L.85-2004, SEC.51. Amended by P.L.67-2007, SEC.5.

IC 31-39-9-1 Exchange of information regarding delinquent children

Sec. 1. The following entities and agencies may exchange records of a child who is a child in need of services or has been determined to be a delinquent child under [IC 31-37-1-2](#), if the information or records are not confidential under state or federal law:

- (1) A court.
- (2) A law enforcement agency.
- (3) The department of correction.
- (4) The department of child services.
- (5) The office of the secretary of family and social services.
- (6) A primary or secondary school, including a public or nonpublic school.
- (7) The department of child services ombudsman established by [IC 4-13-19-3](#).

As added by P.L.67-2007, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.182-2009(ss), SEC.386.

IC 35-50-8-1 Student delinquency and criminal conviction information

Sec. 1. (a) If an individual is enrolled in a primary or secondary school, including a public or nonpublic school, and:

- (1) is convicted of:
 - (A) a Class A felony;
 - (B) a Class B felony;
 - (C) a Class C felony;
 - (D) at least two (2) Class D felonies;
 - (E) a Level 1 felony;
 - (F) a Level 2 felony;
 - (G) a Level 3 felony;
 - (H) a Level 4 felony;
 - (I) a Level 5 felony; or
 - (J) at least two (2) Level 6 felonies; or
 - (2) has been adjudicated as a delinquent child for:
 - (A) an act that would be:
 - (i) a Class A felony;
 - (ii) a Class B felony;
 - (iii) a Class C felony;
 - (iv) a Level 1 felony;
 - (v) a Level 2 felony;
 - (vi) a Level 3 felony;
 - (vii) a Level 4 felony; or
 - (viii) a Level 5 felony; or
 - (B) acts that would be at least two (2):
 - (i) Class D felonies; or
 - (ii) Level 6 felonies;
- if committed by an adult;

the judge who presided over the trial, accepted the plea agreement, or adjudicated the child a delinquent child shall give written notification of the conviction or adjudication to the chief administrative officer of the primary or secondary school, including a public or nonpublic school, or, if the individual is enrolled in a public school, the superintendent of the school district in which the individual is enrolled.

(b) Notification under subsection (a) must occur within seven (7) days after the conclusion of the trial, the date a plea agreement is accepted, or the date the child is adjudicated a delinquent child.

(c) The notification sent to a school or school district under subsection (a) must include only:

- (1) the felony for which the individual was convicted or that the individual would have committed if the individual were an adult; and
- (2) the individual's sentence or juvenile law disposition.

(d) If the court later modifies the individual's sentence or juvenile law disposition after giving notice under this section, the court shall notify the school or the school district in which the individual is enrolled of the sentence or disposition modification.

As added by P.L.67-2007, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.158-2013, SEC.672.

Attendance Records Review and Enforcement

IC 20-33-2-20 Attendance records

Sec. 20. (a) An accurate daily record of the attendance of each student who is subject to compulsory school attendance under this chapter shall be kept by every public and nonpublic school.

(b) In a public school, the record shall be open at all times for inspection by:

- (1) attendance officers;
- (2) school officials;
- (3) agents of the department of labor;
- (4) security police officers appointed under [IC 36-8-3-7](#); and
- (5) school corporation police officers appointed under [IC 20-26-16](#).

Every teacher shall answer fully all lawful inquiries made by an attendance officer, a school official, an agent of the department of labor, a security police officer appointed under [IC 36-8-3-7](#), or a school corporation police officer appointed under [IC 20-26-16](#).

(c) In a nonpublic school, the record shall be required to be kept solely to verify the enrollment and attendance of a student upon request of the:

- (1) secretary of education; or
- (2) superintendent of the school corporation in which the nonpublic school is located.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-3-23.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17. Amended by P.L.34-2008, SEC.1; P.L.109-2015, SEC.41; P.L.43-2021, SEC.108.

IC 20-33-2-26 Enforcement of chapter

Sec. 26. (a) It is the duty of each:

- (1) superintendent;
- (2) attendance officer;
- (3) state attendance official;
- (4) security police officer appointed under [IC 36-8-3-7](#); and
- (5) school corporation police officer appointed under [IC 20-26-16](#);

to enforce this chapter in their respective jurisdictions and to execute the affidavits authorized under this section. The duty is several, and the failure of one (1) or more to act does not excuse another official from the obligation to enforce this chapter. The duty includes reporting to the prosecuting attorney that a child is a habitual truant.

(b) An affidavit:

- (1) against a parent for a violation of this chapter; and
- (2) concerning a child being a habitual truant;

shall be prepared and filed in the same manner and under the procedure prescribed for filing affidavits for the prosecution of public offenses.

(c) An affidavit under this section shall be filed in a court with jurisdiction in the county in which the affected child resides.

(d) The prosecuting attorney shall notify each parent of a child regarding an affidavit described in subsection (b) when the affidavit is filed under this section.

(e) The prosecuting attorney shall file and prosecute actions under this section as in other criminal cases.

(f) The court shall promptly hear cases brought under this section.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-3-32.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17. Amended by P.L.34-2008, SEC.2; P.L.125-2024, SEC.2.

Locker Searches

IC 20-33-8-32 Locker searches

Sec. 32. (a) A school corporation must provide each:

- (1) student; and
- (2) student's parent;

a copy of the rules of the governing body on searches of students' lockers and locker contents.

(b) A student who uses a locker that is the property of a school corporation is presumed to have no expectation of privacy in:

- (1) that locker; or
- (2) the locker's contents.

(c) In accordance with the rules of the governing body, a principal may search:

- (1) a student's locker; and
- (2) the locker's contents;

at any time.

(d) A law enforcement agency having jurisdiction over the geographic area having a school facility containing a student's locker may:

- (1) at the request of the school principal; and

(2) in accordance with rules of the governing body of the school corporation; assist a school administrator in searching a student's locker and the locker's contents.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-5.1-25.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17.

Duty to Report Substance Abuse and Threats

IC 20-33-9-5 Controlled substance violations; reports by school employees

Sec. 5. If a person other than a member of the administrative staff who is an employee of a school corporation has personally observed:

(1) a violation described in section 1 of this chapter; or

(2) a delinquent act that would be a violation under section 1 of this chapter if the violator were an adult;

in, on, or within one thousand (1,000) feet of the school property of the school corporation employing the person, the person shall immediately report the violation in writing to a member of the administrative staff of the school corporation employing the person.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-12-2.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17.

IC 20-33-9-6 Controlled substance violations; reports by members of administrative staffs

Sec. 6. A member of the administrative staff who, based on personal knowledge or on the report of another employee of the school corporation, believes that a person has committed a violation described in section 1 of this chapter or a delinquent act that would be a violation described in section 1 of this chapter if the violator were an adult in, on, or within one thousand (1,000) feet of the school property of the school corporation employing the member, shall immediately report:

(1) a general description of the violation;

(2) the name or a general description of each violator known to the member;

(3) the date, time, and place of the violation;

(4) the name or a general description of each person who the member knows witnessed any part of the violation; and

(5) a general description and the location of any property that the member knows was involved in the violation;

in writing to a law enforcement officer.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-12-3.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17. Amended by P.L.9-2022, SEC.37

IC 20-33-9-10 Duty to report threat

Sec. 10. In addition to any other duty to report arising under this article, an individual who has reason to believe that a school employee:

(1) has received a threat;

(2) is the victim of intimidation;

(3) is the victim of battery; or

(4) is the victim of harassment;

shall report that information as required by this chapter.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-12.5-3.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17. Amended by P.L.72-2006, SEC.4.

IC 20-33-9-11 Procedure to make report

Sec. 11. (a) If an individual who is required to make a report under this chapter is a member of the staff of a school, the individual shall make the report by immediately notifying the principal of the school that a school employee may have received a threat or may be the victim of intimidation, battery, or harassment.

(b) An individual who receives a report under subsection (a) shall immediately make a report or cause a report to be made under section 13 of this chapter.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-12.5-4.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17. Amended by P.L.72-2006, SEC.5.

IC 20-33-9-12 Relief of obligation to report

Sec. 12. This chapter does not relieve an individual of the obligation to report a threat, intimidation, a battery, or harassment on the individual's own behalf, unless a report has already been made to the best of the individual's belief.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-12.5-5.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17. Amended by P.L.72-2006, SEC.6.

IC 20-33-9-13 Oral report to local law enforcement agency

Sec. 13. An individual who has a duty under sections 10 through 12 of this chapter to report that a school employee may have received a threat or may be the victim of intimidation, battery, or harassment shall immediately make an oral report to the local law enforcement agency.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-12.5-6.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17. Amended by P.L.72-2006, SEC.7.

IC 20-33-9-14 Immunity from liability

Sec. 14. Except as provided in section 15 of this chapter, an individual, other than a person accused of making a threat against a school employee, intimidating a school employee, committing a battery against a school employee, or harassing a school employee, who:

- (1) makes, or causes to be made, a report under this chapter; or
- (2) participates in any judicial proceeding or other proceeding:
 - (A) resulting from a report under this chapter; or
 - (B) relating to the subject matter of the report;

is immune from any civil or criminal liability that might otherwise be imposed because of such actions.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-12.5-7.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17. Amended by P.L.72-2006, SEC.8.

IC 20-33-9-15 Liability

Sec. 15. An individual who has acted maliciously or in bad faith is not immune from civil or criminal liability under this chapter.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-12.5-8.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17.

IC 20-33-9-16 Good faith

Sec. 16. An individual making a report under sections 10 through 14 of this chapter or assisting in any requirement of sections 10 through 14 of this chapter is presumed to have acted in good faith.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-12.5-9.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17.

Sex Offenders

IC 35-42-4-10 Unlawful employment by a sexual predator

Sec. 10. (a) As used in this section, "offender against children" means a person who is an offender against children under section 11 of this chapter.

(b) As used in this section, "sexually violent predator" means a person who is a sexually violent predator under [IC 35-38-1-7.5](#).

(c) A sexually violent predator or an offender against children who knowingly or intentionally works for compensation or as a volunteer:

- (1) on school property;
- (2) at a youth program center;
- (3) at a public park;
- (4) as a child care provider (as defined by [IC 31-33-26-1](#));
- (5) for a child care provider (as defined by [IC 31-33-26-1](#)); or
- (6) as a provider of:
 - (A) respite care services and other support services for primary or family caregivers; or
 - (B) adult day care services;

commits unlawful employment by a sexual predator, a Level 6 felony. However, the offense is a Level 5 felony if the person has a prior unrelated conviction based on the person's failure to comply with any requirement imposed on an offender under [IC 11-8-8](#).

As added by P.L.6-2006, SEC.3; P.L.140-2006, SEC.31 and P.L.173-2006, SEC.31. Amended by P.L.1-2007, SEC.231; P.L.216-2007, SEC.46; P.L.158-2013, SEC.446; P.L.220-2019, SEC.3; P.L.156-2020, SEC.130.

IC 35-42-4-11 Sex offender residency restrictions

Sec. 11. (a) As used in this section, and except as provided in subsection (d), "offender against children" means a person required to register as a sex or violent offender under [IC 11-8-8](#) who has been:

- (1) found to be a sexually violent predator under [IC 35-38-1-7.5](#); or
- (2) convicted of one (1) or more of the following offenses:
 - (A) Child molesting ([IC 35-42-4-3](#)).
 - (B) Child exploitation ([IC 35-42-4-4](#)(b) or [IC 35-42-4-4](#)(c)).
 - (C) Child solicitation ([IC 35-42-4-6](#)).

(D) Child seduction ([IC 35-42-4-7](#)).

(E) Kidnapping ([IC 35-42-3-2](#)), if the victim is less than eighteen (18) years of age, and the person is not the child's parent or guardian.

A person is an offender against children by operation of law if the person meets the conditions described in subdivision (1) or (2) at any time.

(b) As used in this section, "reside" means to spend more than three (3) nights in:

- (1) a residence; or
- (2) if the person does not reside in a residence, a particular location;

in any thirty (30) day period.

(c) An offender against children who knowingly or intentionally:

- (1) resides within one thousand (1,000) feet of:
 - (A) school property, not including property of an institution providing post-secondary education;
 - (B) a youth program center;
 - (C) a public park; or
 - (D) a day care center licensed under [IC 12-17-2](#);
- (2) establishes a residence within one (1) mile of the residence of the victim of the offender's sex offense; or
- (3) resides in a residence where a child care provider (as defined by [IC 31-33-26-1](#)) provides child care services;

commits a sex offender residency offense, a Level 6 felony.

(d) This subsection does not apply to an offender against children who has two (2) or more unrelated convictions for an offense described in subsection (a). A person who is an offender against children may petition the court to consider whether the person should no longer be considered an offender against children. The person may file a petition under this subsection not earlier than ten (10) years after the person is released from incarceration or parole, whichever occurs last (or, if the person is not incarcerated, not earlier than ten (10) years after the person is released from probation). A person may file a petition under this subsection not more than one (1) time per year. A court may dismiss a petition filed under this subsection or conduct a hearing to determine if the person should no longer be considered an offender against children. If the court conducts a hearing, the court shall appoint two (2) psychologists or psychiatrists who have expertise in criminal behavioral disorders to evaluate the person and testify at the hearing. After conducting the hearing and considering the testimony of the two (2) psychologists or psychiatrists, the court shall determine whether the person should no longer be considered an offender against children. If a court finds that the person should no longer be considered an offender against children, the court shall send notice to the department of correction that the person is no longer considered an offender against children.

As added by P.L.6-2006, SEC.8. Amended by P.L.140-2006, SEC.32 and P.L.173-2006, SEC.32; P.L.216-2007, SEC.47; P.L.214-2013, SEC.39; P.L.158-2013, SEC.447; P.L.168-2014, SEC.72; P.L.13-2016, SEC.16; P.L.220-2019, SEC.4; P.L.142-2020, SEC.66.

IC 35-42-4-13 Inappropriate communication with a child

Sec. 13. (a) This section does not apply to the following:

- (1) A parent, guardian, or custodian of a child.
- (2) A person who acts with the permission of a child's parent, guardian, or custodian.
- (3) A person to whom a child makes a report of abuse or neglect.
- (4) A person to whom a child reports medical symptoms that relate to or may relate to sexual activity.

(b) As used in this section, "sexual activity" means sexual intercourse, other sexual conduct (as defined in [IC 35-31.5-2-221.5](#)), or the fondling or touching of the buttocks, genitals, or female breasts.

(c) A person at least eighteen (18) years of age who knowingly or intentionally communicates with an individual whom the person believes to be a child less than fourteen (14) years of age concerning sexual activity with the intent to gratify the sexual desires of the person or the individual commits inappropriate communication with a child, a Class B misdemeanor. However, the offense is:

- (1) a Class A misdemeanor if the person commits the offense by using a computer network (as defined in [IC 35-43-2-3\(a\)](#)); and
- (2) a Level 6 felony if the person has a prior unrelated conviction for a sex offense (as defined in [IC 11-8-8-5.2](#)).

As added by P.L.119-2008, SEC.19. Amended by P.L.247-2013, SEC.9; P.L.158-2013, SEC.449; P.L.168-2014, SEC.74.

IC 35-42-4-14 Unlawful entry of school property by a serious sex offender

Sec. 14. (a) As used in this section, "serious sex offender" means a person required to register as a sex offender under [IC 11-8-8](#) who is:

- (1) found to be a sexually violent predator under [IC 35-38-1-7.5](#); or
- (2) convicted of one (1) or more of the following offenses:
 - (A) Child molesting ([IC 35-42-4-3](#)).
 - (B) Child exploitation ([IC 35-42-4-4\(b\)](#) or [IC 35-42-4-4\(c\)](#)).
 - (C) Possession of child pornography ([IC 35-42-4-4\(d\)](#) or [IC 35-42-4-4\(e\)](#)).
 - (D) Vicarious sexual gratification ([IC 35-42-4-5\(a\)](#) and [IC 35-42-4-5\(b\)](#)).

(E) Performing sexual conduct in the presence of a minor ([IC 35-42-4-5\(c\)](#)).

(F) Child solicitation ([IC 35-42-4-6](#)).

(G) Child seduction ([IC 35-42-4-7](#)).

(H) Sexual misconduct with a minor ([IC 35-42-4-9](#)).

(b) A serious sex offender who knowingly or intentionally enters school property commits unlawful entry by a serious sex offender, a Level 6 felony.

(c) It is a defense to a prosecution under subsection (b) that:

(1) a religious institution or house of worship is located on the school property; and

(2) the person:

(A) enters the school property or other entity described in [IC 35-31.5-2-285\(1\)\(A\)](#) through [IC 35-31.5-2-285\(1\)\(D\)](#) when classes, extracurricular activities, or any other school activities are not being held:

(i) for the sole purpose of attending worship services or receiving religious instruction; and

(ii) not earlier than thirty (30) minutes before the beginning of the worship services or religious instruction; and

(B) leaves the school property not later than thirty (30) minutes after the conclusion of the worship services or religious instruction.

As added by P.L.235-2015, SEC.4. Amended by P.L.13-2016, SEC.17; P.L.87-2018, SEC.2; P.L.142-2020, SEC.67.

Background Checks

IC 20-26-2-1.5 "Expanded criminal history check"

Sec. 1.5. "Expanded criminal history check" means a criminal history background check of an individual that includes:

(1) a background check by a consumer reporting agency regulated under 15 U.S.C. 1681 et seq. that does not include a written, oral, or other communication of information concerning the individual's credit score, creditworthiness, credit standing, or credit capacity, but does include a:

(A) verification of the applicant's identity;

(B) search of all names associated with the applicant;

(C) search of the records maintained by all counties in Indiana in which the individual who is the subject of the background check resided;

(D) search of the records maintained by all counties or similar governmental units in another state, if the individual who is the subject of the background check resided in another state;

(E) search of United States district court records from the districts in which the applicant resided;

(F) check of sex offender registries in every state or the national sex offender registry maintained by the United States Department of Justice; and

(G) multistate criminal data base search; or

(2) a:

(A) national criminal history background check (as defined in [IC 10-13-3-12](#)); and

(B) check of:

(i) sex offender registries in all fifty (50) states; or

(ii) the national sex offender registry maintained by the United States Department of Justice.

As added by P.L.121-2009, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.98-2015, SEC.1.

IC 20-26-5-10 Adoption of criminal history background and child protection index check policy; implementation of policy

Sec. 10. (a) This section applies to a:

(1) school corporation;

(2) charter school; or

(3) nonpublic school that employs one (1) or more employees.

(b) A school corporation, a charter school, and a nonpublic school shall adopt a policy concerning criminal history information for individuals who:

(1) apply for:

(A) employment with the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school; or

(B) employment with an entity with which the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school contracts for services;

(2) seek to enter into a contract to provide services to the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school; or

(3) are employed by an entity that seeks to enter into a contract to provide services to the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school;

if the individuals are likely to have direct, ongoing contact with children within the scope of the individuals' employment.

(c) Except as provided in subsections (f) and (g), a school corporation, a charter school, and a nonpublic school shall administer a policy adopted under this section uniformly for all individuals to whom the policy applies.

(d) A policy adopted under this section must require that the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school conduct an expanded criminal history check concerning each applicant for employment who is likely to have direct, ongoing contact with children within the scope of the individual's employment before or not later than thirty (30) days after the start date of the applicant's employment by the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school. If a vendor providing an expanded criminal history check offers more than one (1) type of expanded criminal history check, the policy shall require that the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school evaluate all available types of criminal history checks and determine whether a more comprehensive expanded criminal history check would better protect the students.

(e) A policy adopted under this section:

- (1) must require that the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school conduct an Indiana expanded child protection index check; and
- (2) may require that the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school conduct an expanded child protection index check in other states;

concerning each applicant for employment who is likely to have direct, ongoing contact with children within the scope of the individual's employment. An Indiana expanded child protection index check must be completed before or not later than sixty (60) days after the start date of the applicant's employment by the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school.

(f) A policy adopted under this section must state that the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school requires an expanded criminal history check concerning an employee of the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school who is likely to have direct, ongoing contact with children within the scope of the employee's employment. The checks must be conducted every five (5) years. A school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school may adopt a policy to require an employee to obtain an expanded child protection index check every five (5) years.

(g) In implementing subsection (f), and subject to subsection (j), a school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school may update the checks required under subsection (f) for employees who are employed by the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school as of July 1, 2017, over a period not to exceed five (5) years by annually conducting updated expanded criminal history checks and expanded child protection index checks for at least one-fifth (1/5) of the number of employees who are employed by the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school on July 1, 2017.

(h) An applicant or employee may be required to provide a written consent for the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school to request an expanded criminal history check and an expanded child protection index check concerning the individual before the individual's employment by the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school. The school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school may require the individual to provide a set of fingerprints and pay any fees required for the expanded criminal history check and expanded child protection index check. Each applicant for employment or employee described in subsection (f) may be required:

- (1) at the time the individual applies or updates an expanded criminal history check under subsection (f); or
- (2) while an expanded criminal history check or expanded child protection index check is being conducted;

to answer questions concerning the individual's expanded criminal history check and expanded child protection index check. The failure to answer honestly questions asked under this subsection is grounds for termination of the employee's employment.

(i) An applicant is responsible for all costs associated with obtaining the expanded criminal history check and expanded child protection index check unless the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school agrees to pay the costs. A school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school may agree to pay the costs associated with obtaining an expanded criminal history background check for an employee. An employee of a school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school may not be required to pay the costs of an expanded child protection index check.

(j) An applicant or employee may not be required by a school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school to obtain an expanded criminal history check more than one (1) time during a five (5) year period. However, a school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school may obtain an expanded criminal history check or an expanded child protection index check at any time if the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school has reason to believe that the applicant or employee:

- (1) is the subject of a substantiated report of child abuse or neglect; or
- (2) has been charged with or convicted of a crime listed in section 11.2(b) of this chapter or [IC 20-28-5-8\(c\)](#).

(k) As used in this subsection, "offense requiring license revocation" means an offense listed in [IC 20-28-5-8\(c\)](#). A policy adopted under this section must prohibit a school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school from:

- (1) hiring;
- (2) continuing the employment of;
- (3) contracting with; or
- (4) continuing to contract with;

a person who has been convicted of an offense requiring license revocation, unless the conviction has been reversed, vacated, or set aside on appeal.

(l) Information obtained under this section must be used in accordance with law.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-5-2-7.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.10. Amended by P.L.121-2009, SEC.8; P.L.106-2016, SEC.4; P.L.185-2017, SEC.2; P.L.167-2018, SEC.2; P.L.125-2022, SEC.4; P.L.110-2023, SEC.2; P.L.9-2024, SEC.389.

IC 20-26-5-10.5 Adoption of policy to check employment references

Sec. 10.5. Each school corporation, charter school, and nonpublic school that employs one (1) or more employees, shall adopt a policy requiring the school employer of the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school to contact employment references and, if applicable, the most recent employer provided by a prospective employee, before the school corporation, charter school, or nonpublic school may hire the prospective employee.

As added by P.L.185-2017, SEC.3.

IC 20-26-5-11.5 Confidentiality agreements void as to substantiated reports of abuse or neglect

Sec. 11.5. (a) As used in this section, "school" includes:

- (1) a charter school, as defined in [IC 20-24-1-4](#);
- (2) a nonpublic school, as defined in [IC 20-18-2-12](#), that employs one (1) or more employees;
- (3) a public school, as defined in [IC 20-18-2-15](#)(1); and
- (4) an entity in another state that carries out a function similar to an entity described in subdivisions (1) through (3).

(b) Notwithstanding any confidentiality agreement entered into by a school and an employee of the school, a school that receives a request for an employment reference, from another school, for a current or former employee, shall disclose to the requesting school any incident known by the school in which the employee committed an act resulting in a substantiated report of abuse or neglect under [IC 31-6](#) (before its repeal) or [IC 31-33](#) if the employee is likely to have direct, ongoing contact with children within the scope of the employee's new employment.

(c) A school may not disclose information under this section that:

- (1) identifies a student; or
- (2) is confidential student information under the federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (20 U.S.C. 1232g et seq.).

(d) A confidentiality agreement entered into or amended after June 30, 2016, by a school and an employee is not enforceable against the school if the employee committed an act resulting in a substantiated report of abuse or neglect under [IC 31-6](#) (before its repeal) or [IC 31-33](#).

(e) Notwithstanding any confidentiality agreement entered into by a school and an employee of the school, a school that receives a request for an employment reference, from another school, for a current or former employee, shall disclose to the requesting school any incident known by the school in which the employee was:

- (1) arrested;
- (2) charged with a criminal offense;
- (3) convicted of a criminal offense;
- (4) under court supervision or the supervision of a community correction program as the result of a conviction for a criminal offense (including being placed on home detention, work release, or intermittent incarceration);
- (5) the subject of a protection order; or
- (6) named as a defendant in a civil action if the civil action could affect the safety of students;

if the employee is likely to have direct, ongoing contact with children within the scope of the employee's new employment. This provision of this subsection concerning a confidentiality agreement applies to a confidentiality agreement entered into or amended after June 30, 2023.

As added by P.L.106-2016, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.110-2023, SEC.5.

Child Abuse

IC 20-19-3-11 Development and implementation of child abuse and child sexual abuse education program

Sec. 11. (a) The department, in collaboration with the department of child services and organizations that have expertise in child abuse, including child sexual abuse, shall identify or develop:

- (1) research and evidence based model educational materials on child abuse and child sexual abuse; and
- (2) a model for child abuse and child sexual abuse response policies and reporting procedures.

The model for child abuse and child sexual abuse response policies and reporting procedures described in subdivision (2) must include information on the duty to report suspected child abuse or neglect under [IC 31-33-5](#). To identify or develop models under this subsection, the department may not hire additional staff members or expend funds not already included in the department's budget.

(b) Not later than July 1, 2018, the department shall make the models developed or identified under this section available to assist schools with the implementation of:

- (1) child abuse and child sexual abuse education programs in kindergarten through grade 12 as provided in [IC 20-30-5-5.7](#); and
- (2) child abuse and child sexual abuse response and reporting policies.

(c) The model educational materials on child abuse and child sexual abuse identified or developed under subsection (a) may include the following topics:

- (1) Warning signs of a child who is being abused or sexually abused.
- (2) The basic principles of child abuse and child sexual abuse prevention.
- (3) Methods of student, teacher, and parental education and outreach.

(d) The model child abuse and child sexual abuse response and reporting policies referred to in subsection (b) may include the following topics:

- (1) Actions that a child who is a victim of abuse or sexual abuse may take to obtain assistance.
- (2) Interventions.
- (3) Counseling options.
- (4) Educational support available for a child who is a victim of abuse or sexual abuse to enable the child to continue to be successful in school.
- (5) Reporting procedures.

(e) A school that chooses to use the model educational materials developed under subsection (a) shall inform the parents of students in the grade levels in which the materials could be used, in writing and by posting on the school's Internet web site, that a parent may:

- (1) examine and review the model educational materials before the materials are taught; and
- (2) decide if the parent's child will be instructed with the model educational materials.

(f) If a parent decides that the parent's child may be taught using the model educational materials, the parent shall notify the school of the parent's decision in writing or electronically.

As added by P.L.46-2012, SEC.1. Amended by P.L.13-2013, SEC.54; P.L.115-2017, SEC.2.

IC 20-26-5-35.5 Prohibition on policy that delays an individual's duty to report child abuse or neglect

Sec. 35.5. (a) This section applies to a:

- (1) school corporation;
- (2) charter school; or
- (3) nonpublic school that employs one (1) or more employees.

(b) A school corporation, including a charter school and a nonpublic school, may not establish any policy that restricts or delays the duty of an employee or individual to report suspected child abuse or neglect as required under [IC 31-33-5](#).

As added by P.L.115-2017, SEC.4.

IC 20-30-5-5.7 Instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse

Sec. 5.7. (a) Not later than December 15, 2020, and each December 15 thereafter, each public school, including a charter school, and state accredited nonpublic school shall provide age appropriate:

- (1) research and evidence based; or
- (2) research or evidence based;

instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse to students in kindergarten through grade 12.

(b) The department, in consultation with school safety specialists, school counselors, school social workers, or school psychologists, shall identify outlines or materials for the instruction described in subsection (a) and incorporate the instruction in kindergarten through grade 12.

(c) Any outlines and materials identified under subsection (b) must be demonstrated to be effective and promising.

(d) Instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse may be delivered by a school safety specialist, school counselor, or any other person with training and expertise in the area of child abuse and child sexual abuse.

As added by P.L.115-2017, SEC.5. Amended by P.L.92-2020, SEC.55; P.L.76-2020, SEC.1; P.L.32-2021, SEC.55.

IC 20-28-3-4.5 Training on child abuse and neglect

Sec. 4.5. (a) Each school corporation, charter school, and state accredited nonpublic school shall require each school employee likely to have direct, ongoing contact with children within the scope of the employee's employment to attend or participate in training on child abuse and neglect, including:

- (1) training on the duty to report suspected child abuse or neglect under [IC 31-33-5](#); and
- (2) training on recognizing possible signs of child abuse or neglect;

in a manner prescribed by the state board under [IC 20-28-5.5-1](#) or [IC 20-28-5.5-1.5](#).

(b) The training required under this section must count toward the requirements for professional development required by the governing body.

(c) In the event the state board does not require training to be completed as part of a teacher preparation program under [IC 20-28-5.5-1](#), the training required under this section must be during the school employee's contracted day or at a time chosen by the employee.

As added by P.L.183-2017, SEC.3. Amended by P.L.92-2020, SEC.46; P.L.250-2023, SEC.23.

IC 31-33-5-2 Report; notification of individual in charge of institution, school, facility, or agency

Sec. 2. (a) This section does not apply to an individual required to make a report under this article in the individual's capacity as a member of the staff of a hospital licensed under [IC 16-21-2](#). An individual required to make a report under this article in the individual's capacity as a member of the staff of a hospital licensed under [IC 16-21-2](#) is subject to section 2.5 of this chapter.

(b) If an individual is required to make a report under this article in the individual's capacity as a member of the staff of a medical or other public or private institution, school, facility, or agency, the individual shall immediately make a report to:

- (1) the department; or
- (2) the local law enforcement agency.

After making the report, the individual shall notify the individual in charge of the institution, school, facility, or agency or the designated agent of the individual in charge of the institution, school, facility, or agency that the report was made.

[Pre-1997 Recodification Citation: 31-6-11-3(b) part.]

As added by P.L.1-1997, SEC.16. Amended by P.L.106-2016, SEC.24; P.L.183-2017, SEC.32.

IC 31-33-5-3 Effect of compliance on individual's own duty to report

Sec. 3. This chapter does not relieve an individual of the obligation to report on the individual's own behalf, unless a report has already been made to the best of the individual's belief.

[Pre-1997 Recodification Citation: 31-6-11-3(b) part.]

As added by P.L.1-1997, SEC.16.

IC 31-33-5-4 Immediate oral or written report to department of child services or law enforcement agency

Sec. 4. A person who has a duty under this chapter to report that a child may be a victim of child abuse or neglect shall immediately make an oral or written report to:

- (1) the department; or
- (2) the local law enforcement agency.

[Pre-1997 Recodification Citation: 31-6-11-4.]

As added by P.L.1-1997, SEC.16. Amended by P.L.234-2005, SEC.107; P.L.183-2017, SEC.34.

IC 31-33-5-5 Prohibition on policy that restricts or delays an individual's duty to report

Sec. 5. (a) This section does not apply to a hospital licensed under [IC 16-21-2](#).

(b) A medical institution or other public or private institution, public or nonpublic school, school corporation, facility, or agency may not establish any policy that restricts or delays the duty of an employee or individual to report under this chapter.

As added by P.L.183-2017, SEC.35.

Suicide Awareness and Prevention

IC 20-26-5-34.4 Child suicide awareness and prevention policy

Sec. 34.4. Each school corporation shall adopt a policy addressing measures intended to increase child suicide awareness and prevention. The policy must address the following:

- (1) Counseling services for the child and the child's family related to suicide prevention.
- (2) Availability of referral information for crisis intervention to children, parents, and school corporation staff.
- (3) Increasing awareness of the relationship between suicide and drug and alcohol use.
- (4) Training on warning signs and tendencies that may evidence that a child is considering suicide.
- (5) Availability of information concerning suicide prevention services in the community.
- (6) Cooperation among the school corporation and suicide prevention services in the community.
- (7) Development of a plan to assist survivors of attempted suicide and to assist children and school corporation staff in coping with an attempted suicide or death of a student or school employee.
- (8) Development of any other program or activity that is appropriate.

As added by P.L.254-2017, SEC.5.

IC 20-28-3-6 Youth suicide awareness and prevention training

Sec. 6. (a) For purposes of this section, "teacher" includes the following:

- (1) A superintendent who holds a license under [IC 20-28-5](#).
 - (2) A principal.
 - (3) A teacher.
 - (4) A librarian.
 - (5) A school counselor.
 - (6) A school psychologist.
 - (7) A school nurse.
 - (8) A school social worker.
- (b) Beginning after June 30, 2018, each school corporation, charter school, and state accredited nonpublic school:
- (1) shall require all teachers; and
 - (2) may require any other appropriate school employees;

who are employed at schools that provide instruction to students in any combination of grade 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12 to attend or participate in research based inservice youth suicide awareness and prevention training in a manner prescribed by the state board under [IC 20-28-5.5-1](#) or [IC 20-28-5.5-1.5](#). The training required under this subsection must be during the teacher's or school employee's contracted day or at a time chosen by the teacher or employee.

(c) The inservice training required under this section shall count toward the requirements for professional development required by the governing body.

(d) A school or school corporation may leverage any:

- (1) existing or new state and federal grant funds; or
- (2) free or reduced cost evidence based youth suicide awareness and prevention training provided by any state agency or qualified statewide or local organization;

to cover the costs of the training required under this section.

As added by P.L.254-2017, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.56-2018, SEC.3; P.L.92-2020, SEC.47; P.L.250-2023, SEC.24.

Multi-Disciplinary Threat Assessment Teams

IC 10-21-1-1 Definition

Sec. 1. The following definitions apply throughout this chapter:

- (1) "Accredited nonpublic school" means a nonpublic school that:
 - (A) has voluntarily become accredited under [IC 20-31-4.1](#); or
 - (B) is accredited by a national or regional accrediting agency that is recognized by the state board of education.
- (2) "Active event warning system" refers to a system that includes services and technology that will notify available law enforcement agencies in the area of a school building of a life threatening emergency.
- (3) "ADM" refers to average daily membership determined under [IC 20-43-4-2](#). In the case of a school corporation career and technical education school described in [IC 20-37-1-1](#), "ADM" refers to the count on a full-time equivalency basis of students attending the school on the date ADM is determined under [IC 20-43-4-2](#).
- (4) "Board" refers to the secured school safety board established by section 3 of this chapter.
- (5) "Bullying prevention program" refers to a program that must contain one (1) or more of the following components:
 - (A) Offers students and school personnel opportunities to develop the skills and strategies to prevent bullying and potential bullying situations in digital and physical spaces, including the usage of research based models.
 - (B) Enables school personnel, including school safety specialists, safe school committee members, and school resource officers, to identify and acquire the programs, technology software, resources, and training necessary concerning the:
 - (i) development and implementation of bullying and cyberbullying prevention programs and school violence, human trafficking, and self-harm mitigation programs;
 - (ii) establishment of bullying and cyberbullying investigation, intervention, and reporting procedures;
 - (iii) adoption of discipline rules that comply with [IC 20-33-8-13.5](#); and
 - (iv) integration of the program into wider school efforts, including a school safety plan, to promote educational progress and the physical safety and well-being of school students, families, faculty, and staff.
- (6) "County school safety commission" has the meaning set forth in section 12 of this chapter.
- (7) "Critical incidence digital mapping" means the digitized mapping of a school building and school grounds to best assist first responders in an emergency that must:
 - (A) include accurate floor plans overlaid on or current aerial imagery of a school building or school plan with surrounding school grounds;
 - (B) include site-specific labeling that matches:
 - (i) the structure of the school building, including room labels, hallway names, room numbers, external doors, interior doors, stairwell numbers, locations of hazardous materials, key utility locations, key boxes, automated external defibrillators, and trauma kits; and
 - (ii) the school grounds, including parking areas, athletic fields, surrounding roads, and neighboring properties;
 - (C) be compatible with platforms and applications used by local, state, and federal public safety agencies;
 - (D) be verified for accuracy through a walk through of a school building and school grounds;
 - (E) not require the purchase of additional software for use;
 - (F) be accessible in a printable format;
 - (G) be shared with:
 - (i) the law enforcement agency and fire department that have jurisdiction over the mapped school building; and
 - (ii) the statewide 911 system as described in [IC 36-8-16.7-22](#) through the public safety answer point, or "PSAP", described in [IC 36-8-16.7-20](#) that has jurisdiction over the mapped school building; and
 - (H) be kept confidential and withheld from public disclosure.
- (8) "Fund" refers to the Indiana secured school fund established by section 2 of this chapter.
- (9) "Law enforcement agency" refers to a state, local, or federal agency or department that would respond to an emergency event at a school, including both on duty and off duty officers within the agency or department.
- (10) "Multi-disciplinary threat assessment team" means a group of individuals with expertise in school physical security, school administration, educational instruction, youth counseling, mental health and behavioral health, and law enforcement established by the leadership of the school corporation or charter school that may serve one (1) or more schools, that must meet the following requirements:

(A) Be comprised of at least:

- (i) a school safety specialist or an individual designated by the school safety committee;
- (ii) a member of a safe school committee;
- (iii) a school building level administrator;
- (iv) a school resource officer, if one (1) is either employed by or assigned to the school corporation or charter school;
- (v) an individual with expertise in special education; and
- (vi) a school counselor or social worker.

(B) Conduct multi-disciplinary threat assessments that shall:

- (i) provide guidance to students, faculty, and staff regarding the recognition of threatening or aberrant behavior that may represent a threat to the community, school, or self;
- (ii) identify members of the school community to whom threatening behavior should be reported;
- (iii) establish procedures to assess, identify, and intervene with individuals whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of school students, families, faculty, and staff; and
- (iv) inform the adoption, implementation, and updating of policies adopted by the school corporation or charter school, including school safety plans and the policies of a safe school committee for a particular school.

(11) "Safe school committee" means a safe school committee established under section 14 of this chapter.

(12) "School corporation or charter school" refers to an individual school corporation, a school corporation career and technical education school described in [IC 20-37-1-1](#), or a charter school but also includes:

- (A) a coalition of school corporations;
- (B) a coalition of charter schools; or
- (C) a coalition of both school corporations and charter schools;

that intend to jointly employ a school resource officer or to jointly apply for a matching grant under this chapter, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

(13) "School official" refers to an employee of a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school who has access to an active event warning system.

(14) "School resource officer" has the meaning set forth in [IC 20-26-18.2-1](#).

(15) "School safety plan" means the school safety plan described in section 10 of this chapter.

(16) "School safety specialist" means a school safety specialist designated under section 9 of this chapter.

(17) "Site vulnerability assessment" means an examination of the physical safety, security, accessibility, and emergency preparedness of buildings and grounds.

(18) "Student safety management technology" refers to an information technology platform and related services to improve student safety by mitigating cyberbullying, school violence, human trafficking, and self-harm.

As added by P.L.172-2013, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.40-2014, SEC.6; P.L.109-2015, SEC.30; P.L.50-2019, SEC.1; P.L.92-2020, SEC.8; P.L.150-2023, SEC.2.

Criminal Organizations

IC 35-45-9-1 "Criminal organization"

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "criminal organization" means a formal or informal group with at least three (3) members that specifically:

- (1) either:
 - (A) promotes, sponsors, or assists in;
 - (B) participates in; or
 - (C) has as one (1) of its goals; or

(2) requires as a condition of membership or continued membership;

the commission of a felony, an act that would be a felony if committed by an adult, or a battery offense included in [IC 35-42-2](#).

As added by P.L.180-1991, SEC.11. Amended by P.L.140-1994, SEC.5; P.L.192-2007, SEC.9; P.L.25-2016, SEC.21; P.L.65-2016, SEC.35.

IC 20-19-3-12 Identification, development, and availability of model education materials on criminal organization activity

Sec. 12. (a) The department, in collaboration with the Indiana criminal justice institute, the department of child services, the center for evaluation and education policy at Indiana University, the state police department, and any organization that has expertise in providing criminal organization education, prevention, or intervention that the department determines to be appropriate, shall:

- (1) identify or develop evidence based model educational materials on criminal organization activity; and
- (2) develop and maintain a model policy to address criminal organizations and criminal organization activity in schools.
- (b) Not later than July 1, 2015, the department shall make the model policy developed under subsection (a)(2) available to assist schools in the development and implementation of a criminal organization policy.
- (c) The model educational materials on criminal organization activity identified or developed under subsection (a)(1) must include information:
 - (1) to educate students and parents on the extent to which criminal organization activity exists;
 - (2) regarding the negative societal impact that criminal organizations have on the community;
 - (3) on methods to discourage participation in criminal organizations; and
 - (4) on methods of providing intervention to a child suspected of participating in criminal organization activity.
- (d) The model criminal organization policy developed under subsection (a)(2) must include:
 - (1) a statement prohibiting criminal organization activity in schools;
 - (2) a statement prohibiting reprisal or retaliation against an individual who reports suspected criminal organization activity;
 - (3) definitions of "criminal organization" as set forth in [IC 35-45-9-1](#) and "criminal organization activity";
 - (4) model procedures for:
 - (A) reporting suspected criminal organization activity; and
 - (B) the prompt investigation of suspected criminal organization activity;
 - (5) information about the types of support services, including family support services, available for a student suspected of participating in criminal organization activity; and
 - (6) recommendations concerning criminal organization prevention and intervention services and programs for students that maximize community participation and the use of federal funding.

As added by P.L.190-2013, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.233-2015, SEC.36; P.L.25-2016, SEC.5.

IC 20-26-18-1 Application

Sec. 1. This chapter applies to every school corporation and to a school city to which [IC 20-25](#) applies.

As added by P.L.190-2013, SEC.7.

IC 20-26-18-2 Establishment of written policy

Sec. 2. (a) Not later than June 1, 2016, the governing body of each school corporation shall establish a written policy to address criminal organizations and criminal organization activity in schools. The governing body of a school corporation shall develop the policy in consultation with:

- (1) parents;
 - (2) school employees;
 - (3) local law enforcement officials;
 - (4) the prosecuting attorney;
 - (5) the county public defender;
 - (6) organizations that have expertise in criminal organization education, prevention, or intervention;
 - (7) a juvenile court judge;
 - (8) a school behavioral health or community mental health professional; and
 - (9) any other person or entity the governing body of the school corporation determines to be appropriate.
- (b) The policy must meet all the requirements for the department's model criminal organization policy set forth in [IC 20-19-3-12](#)(d).

(c) Not later than September 1, 2016, each school corporation shall submit a copy of its criminal organization policy to the department.

As added by P.L.190-2013, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.25-2016, SEC.6; P.L.148-2024, SEC.11.

IC 20-26-18-3 Publication of policy

Sec. 3. A school corporation shall put a copy of the school corporation's criminal organization policy established under section 2 of this chapter:

- (1) on its Internet web site;
- (2) in school student handbooks; and
- (3) in any location the school corporation determines to be appropriate.

As added by P.L.190-2013, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.25-2016, SEC.7.

IC 20-26-18-5 Establishment of criminal organization intervention program

Sec. 5. To foster the continuing coordination of criminal organization prevention, intervention, and suppression efforts, the governing body of a school corporation may establish a program to provide criminal organization intervention services to students. If a school corporation chooses to develop a program under this section, the governing body shall establish an advisory committee that includes the following members:

- (1) Parents.
- (2) School employees.
- (3) Local law enforcement officials.
- (4) The prosecuting attorney.
- (5) The county public defender.
- (6) A juvenile court judge.
- (7) A school behavioral health or community mental health professional.
- (8) Representatives of organizations that have expertise in criminal organization education, prevention, or intervention.
- (9) Any other person or entity the governing body determines is appropriate.

As added by P.L.190-2013, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.25-2016, SEC.9; P.L.148-2024, SEC.12.

IC 20-26-18-6 Reporting requirements

Sec. 6. (a) Not later than June 1, 2017, and before June 2 of each year thereafter, each school corporation shall submit to the department a written report, on forms developed by the department, outlining the activities undertaken as part of the school corporation's compliance with this chapter. The report must include school based data to monitor for disproportionality, with each school reporting the number of investigations disposed of internally and the number of cases referred to local law enforcement, disaggregated by race, ethnicity, age, and gender.

(b) Not later than November 1, 2017, and before November 2 of each year thereafter, the department shall submit a comprehensive report concerning criminal organization activity in schools to the governor and the general assembly. A report submitted to the general assembly under this subsection must be in an electronic format under [IC 5-14-6](#). The report must include the following:

- (1) A summary of the activities reported to the department under subsection (a).
- (2) Any recommendations or conclusions made by the department to assist in the prevention of, education about, and intervention in criminal organization activity in schools.

As added by P.L.190-2013, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.25-2016, SEC.10.

IC 20-33-9-10.5 Criminal organization activity; duty to report; maintaining safe school environment

Sec. 10.5. (a) This section does not apply to a charter school or a state accredited nonpublic school.

(b) A school employee shall report any incidence of suspected criminal organization activity, criminal organization intimidation, or criminal organization recruitment to the principal and the school safety specialist.

(c) The principal and the school safety specialist may take appropriate action to maintain a safe and secure school environment, including providing appropriate intervention services.

As added by P.L.190-2013, SEC.8. Amended by P.L.25-2016, SEC.11; P.L.92-2020, SEC.81.

IC 35-45-9-5 Criminal organization recruitment

Sec. 5. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), an individual who knowingly or intentionally solicits, recruits, entices, or intimidates another individual to join a criminal organization or remain in a criminal organization commits criminal organization recruitment, a Level 6 felony.

(b) The offense under subsection (a) is a Level 5 felony if:

- (1) the solicitation, recruitment, enticement, or intimidation occurs within one thousand (1,000) feet of school property; or
- (2) the individual who is solicited, recruited, enticed, or intimidated is less than eighteen (18) years of age.

As added by P.L.192-2007, SEC.10. Amended by P.L.158-2013, SEC.540; P.L.25-2016, SEC.24.

Human Trafficking

IC 20-28-3-7 Training on human trafficking

Sec. 7. (a) Each school corporation and state accredited nonpublic school shall require all school employees likely to have direct, ongoing contact with children within the scope of the employee's employment to attend or participate in inservice training pertaining to the identification and reporting of human trafficking. The training shall be conducted in a manner prescribed by the state board under [IC 20-28-5.5-1](#) or [IC 20-28-5.5-1.5](#).

(b) The inservice training required under this section shall count toward the requirements for professional development required by the governing body or the equivalent authority for a state accredited nonpublic school.

As added by P.L.211-2018(ss), SEC.8. Amended by P.L.92-2020, SEC.48; P.L.200-2023, SEC.9; P.L.250-2023, SEC.25.

Drills

IC 20-34-3-20 Emergency preparedness drills

Sec. 20. (a) The governing body of a school corporation and an organizer of a charter school shall require each school in the governing body's jurisdiction or organizer's responsibility to conduct periodic emergency preparedness drills during the school year in compliance with rules adopted under [IC 4-22-2](#) by the state board.

(b) Each school and attendance center shall conduct at least:

- (1) one (1) tornado preparedness drill; and
- (2) one (1) manmade occurrence disaster drill;

during each semester.

(c) At least one (1) manmade occurrence disaster drill required under subsection (b) must be an armed intruder drill and must be conducted in conformity with the requirements of section 27 of this chapter and within ninety (90) calendar days after the beginning of the school year.

(d) Each:

- (1) state accredited nonpublic school; and
- (2) charter school;

must conduct at least one (1) armed intruder drill in conformity with the requirements of section 27 of this chapter during each school year.

(e) Notwithstanding rules established by the state fire marshal under [IC 12-17-12-19](#), a drill conducted under subsection (b) may be conducted instead of a periodic or monthly fire evacuation drill requirement established by the state fire marshal. However, a drill conducted under subsection (b) may not be made:

- (1) instead of more than two (2) periodic or monthly fire evacuation drills in a particular school semester; and
- (2) in two (2) consecutive months.

(f) The governing body of a school corporation or an organizer of a charter school may direct schools to conduct emergency preparedness drills in addition to those required under subsection (b).

(g) The governing body of a school corporation or organizer of a charter school shall require each principal to file a certified statement that all drills have been conducted as required under this section.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-8-2.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.18. Amended by P.L.132-2007, SEC.8; P.L.103-2015, SEC.1; P.L.197-2019, SEC.8; P.L.92-2020, SEC.82; P.L.150-2023, SEC.25; P.L.135-2024, SEC.4.

IC 20-34-3-27 Section 27 Verbiage

Sec. 27. (a) As used in this section, "sensory components or activities" refers to aspects of an armed intruder drill intended to simulate a real armed intruder scenario that include:

- (1) simulations of gunfire;
- (2) simulations of gunshot wounds or other injuries;
- (3) the use of a prop firearm;
- (4) the use of a pellet gun; or
- (5) participation in the drill by law enforcement personnel with drawn firearms.

(b) An armed intruder drill conducted under section 20 of this chapter that includes sensory components or activities may not:

- (1) require student participation; or
- (2) take place during regular school hours if a majority of the student body is present on school property.

As added by P.L.135-2024, SEC.5.

IC 22-11-17-2 Obstruction of exits; special egress control device; inoperative fire alarms; unplanned fire alarm activation

Sec. 2. (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (d) and section 2.5 of this chapter, an owner of a public building shall not permit an exit to be locked or obstructed in any manner that denies the public a continuous and unobstructed means of egress while lawfully occupied by anyone who is not an officer or an employee.

(b) The commission may adopt rules under [IC 4-22-2](#) that:

- (1) allow the owner of a public building to equip an exit with a special egress control device;

- (2) limit the circumstances under which a special egress control device may be used; and
- (3) allow an exit that was in compliance with the rules of the commission when the exit was constructed to be equipped with a special egress control device.
- (c) An owner of a public building shall not permit a fire alarm to be disconnected or otherwise rendered inoperative, except in cases of routine maintenance or for repair.
- (d) A school that has one (1) or more employees shall develop a plan to address unplanned fire alarm activation as part of its emergency operations plan.
- (e) A school's emergency operations plan for unplanned fire alarm activation shall include procedures for the following:
 - (1) Evacuation of the building when the fire alarm is heard. A school with a fire alarm panel that allows for a positive fire alarm sequence may:
 - (A) develop a plan to investigate an unplanned fire alarm activation before activating the audible and visual alarms requiring evacuation;
 - (B) designate school officials to acknowledge that an alarm has been activated and initiate an investigation within fifteen (15) seconds;
 - (C) secure-in-place for up to three (3) minutes in order for a designated school official to determine, by investigation, if an active shooter is on the property; and
 - (D) following the three (3) minute period under clause (C), the school must evacuate, unless an active shooter has been verified to be on the school's property.
 - (2) Compliance with all provisions of 675 IAC 28-1-28.

As added by Acts 1982, P.L.140, SEC.1. Amended by P.L.169-1996, SEC.2; P.L.211-2018(ss), SEC.14; P.L.187-2021, SEC.66.

Safety Plans

IC 10-21-1-10 School Safety Plan

Sec. 10. (a) A school corporation shall develop a school safety plan in accordance with subsection (c) for review as described in section 11 of this chapter.

(b) Each charter school shall develop a school safety plan in accordance with subsection (c) for review as described in section 11 of this chapter. A charter school in operation on July 1, 2023, shall comply with this subsection on or before July 1, 2024.

(c) The school safety plan:

(1) must be developed by a school safety specialist and the school's safe school committee, including a school resource officer if one (1) is employed by the school corporation or charter school, in consultation with the:

- (A) law enforcement agency; and
- (B) fire department;

that have jurisdiction over the particular school building;

(2) must:

(A) protect against outside and internal threats to the physical safety of students, faculty, staff, and the public, including unsafe conditions, crime prevention, school violence, bullying and cyberbullying, criminal organization activity, child abuse and child sexual abuse, mental health and behavioral health, suicide awareness and prevention, violence prevention and training, situational awareness, and other issues that prevent the maintenance of a safe school;

(B) prevent unauthorized access to school property and interior areas or rooms, including the management of authorized visitors on school property, before, during, and after regular school hours;

(C) secure schools against natural and manmade disasters, including all emergency preparedness drill requirements set forth in [IC 20-34-3-20](#);

(D) establish an armed intruder drill protocol that:

- (i) provides accommodations for students who have mobility restrictions, sensory needs, or auditory or visual limitations;
- (ii) emphasizes the practical nature of the drill;
- (iii) provides access to mental health services on school grounds following the conclusion of a drill;
- (iv) provides advance notice of a drill to parents or legal guardians of students who attend the school; and
- (v) provides alternative exercises for students who are unable to participate in a drill;

(E) include a site vulnerability assessment for each school building;

(F) not later than July 1, 2025, include the establishment of a multi-disciplinary threat assessment team;

(G) include measures to expedite notification of first responders and access to school property for first responders; and

- (H) include any additional requirements required by the Indiana state board of education;
- (3) must be provided to a member of the board if a member requests the school safety plan;
- (4) must be available for inspection by the department of education's division of school building physical security and safety (as established by [IC 20-19-3-14](#));
- (5) must be provided to the law enforcement agency and the fire department that have jurisdiction over the school corporation or charter school;
- (6) must include an attestation that:
- (A) a copy of the floor plans for each building located on the school's property were provided to the law enforcement agency and the fire department that have jurisdiction over the school corporation or charter school that clearly indicates each entrance and exit, the interior rooms and hallways, and the location of any hazardous materials located in the building; or
- (B) the school corporation or charter school has conducted critical incidence digital mapping for each school building within the school corporation or the buildings that are operated by a charter school, including providing the critical incidence digital mapping information to:
- (i) the law enforcement agency and fire department that have jurisdiction over the mapped school buildings; and
- (ii) the statewide 911 system described in [IC 36-8-16.7-22](#) through the public safety answer point, or "PSAP", described in [IC 36-8-16.7-20](#) that has jurisdiction over the mapped school buildings; and
- (7) must be filed with the county school safety commission under section 12 of this chapter having jurisdiction over the school corporation or charter school.
- (d) For purposes of [IC 5-14-3](#), the entities specified in subsection (c) that receive information under this section shall keep the information compiled and retained under this section confidential and shall withhold the information from public disclosure.

As added by P.L.150-2023, SEC.11. Amended by P.L.135-2024, SEC.1.

Items Exempted from Public Disclosure

IC 5-14-3-4 Records and recordings exempted from disclosure; time limitations; destruction of records

Sec. 4. (a) The following public records are excepted from section 3 of this chapter and may not be disclosed by a public agency, unless access to the records is specifically required by a state or federal statute or is ordered by a court under the rules of discovery: ****The Indiana Code in its entirety is not provided in this resource. Only IC 5-14-3-4(a)(18) pertains to school safety and is provided.**

(18) School safety and security measures, plans, and systems, including emergency preparedness plans developed under 511 IAC 6.1-2-2.5.

As added by P.L.19-1983, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.57-1983, SEC.1; P.L.34-1984, SEC.2; P.L.54-1985, SEC.3; P.L.50-1986, SEC.2; P.L.20-1988, SEC.12; P.L.11-1990, SEC.111; P.L.1-1991, SEC.38; P.L.10-1991, SEC.9; P.L.50-1991, SEC.1; P.L.49-1991, SEC.1; P.L.1-1992, SEC.11; P.L.2-1993, SEC.50; P.L.58-1993, SEC.4; P.L.190-1999, SEC.2; P.L.37-2000, SEC.2; P.L.271-2001, SEC.1; P.L.201-2001, SEC.1; P.L.1-2002, SEC.17; P.L.173-2003, SEC.5; P.L.261-2003, SEC.7; P.L.208-2003, SEC.1; P.L.200-2003, SEC.3; P.L.210-2005, SEC.1; P.L.1-2006, SEC.102; P.L.101-2006, SEC.4; P.L.2-2007, SEC.101; P.L.172-2007, SEC.1; P.L.179-2007, SEC.9; P.L.3-2008, SEC.29; P.L.51-2008, SEC.2; P.L.98-2008, SEC.4; P.L.120-2008, SEC.2; P.L.94-2010, SEC.1; P.L.170-2011, SEC.1; P.L.134-2012, SEC.18; P.L.184-2013, SEC.1; P.L.248-2013, SEC.3; P.L.175-2013, SEC.1; P.L.56-2014, SEC.1; P.L.168-2014, SEC.9; P.L.9-2015, SEC.1; P.L.181-2015, SEC.20; P.L.145-2016, SEC.3; P.L.58-2016, SEC.3; P.L.217-2016, SEC.3; P.L.197-2017, SEC.3; P.L.71-2019, SEC.31; P.L.66-2019, SEC.1; P.L.211-2019, SEC.5; P.L.255-2019, SEC.1; P.L.64-2020, SEC.2; P.L.156-2020, SEC.12; P.L.137-2021, SEC.24; P.L.141-2021, SEC.4; P.L.197-2021, SEC.2; P.L.86-2022, SEC.1.; P.L.119-2024, SEC.1.

Emergency Medications

IC 20-34-4.5-0.2 "Emergency medication"

Sec. 0.2. As used in this chapter, "emergency medication" means any of the following:

- (1) Albuterol.
- (2) Epinephrine.
- (3) Naloxone, as an overdose intervention drug that is subject to [IC 16-42-27](#).

As added by P.L.117-2017, SEC.3.

IC 20-34-4.5-0.4 "Emergency stock medication"

Sec. 0.4. As used in this chapter, "emergency stock medication" means emergency medication to which both of the following apply:

(1) The prescription or statewide standing order for the emergency medication is filled by a school or school corporation.

(2) The emergency medication is stored at a school in accordance with this chapter.

As added by P.L.117-2017, SEC.4. Amended by P.L.164-2023, SEC.54.

IC 20-34-4.5-0.6 "School"

Sec. 0.6. As used in this chapter, "school" means a:

- (1) public school;
- (2) charter school; or
- (3) state accredited nonpublic school.

As added by P.L.117-2017, SEC.5. Amended by P.L.92-2020, SEC.84.

IC 20-34-4.5-0.8 "School nurse"

Sec. 0.8. As used in this chapter, "school nurse" has the meaning set forth in [IC 20-34-5-9](#).

As added by P.L.117-2017, SEC.6.

IC 20-34-4.5-1 Prescription for emergency medication; storage

Sec. 1. (a) A school or a school corporation may:

- (1) fill a prescription or statewide standing order for an emergency medication; and
- (2) store the emergency medication:
 - (A) if the prescription or statewide standing order is filled by a school, in the school; or
 - (B) if the prescription or statewide standing order is filled by a school corporation, in a school in the school corporation;

if a health care provider who is licensed in Indiana and whose scope of practice includes the prescribing of medication writes the prescription or the state health commissioner issues a statewide standing order for the emergency medication for the school or school corporation.

(b) The school shall store the emergency medication in a safe location in which only school employees have access.

As added by P.L.92-2014, SEC.1. Amended by P.L.117-2017, SEC.7; P.L.164-2023, SEC.55.

IC 20-34-4.5-1.5 Expiration date for injectable epinephrine

Sec. 1.5. Injectable epinephrine that is filled and used in accordance with this chapter must have an expiration date of not less than twelve (12) months from the date that the pharmacy dispenses the injectable epinephrine to the school or school corporation.

As added by P.L.117-2017, SEC.8.

IC 20-34-4.5-2 Administration of emergency medication; school employees, training

Sec. 2. (a) A school nurse may administer emergency stock medication obtained under section 1 of this chapter to any of the following individuals if the individual is demonstrating signs or symptoms of a life-threatening emergency and the individual does not have emergency medication at the school or the individual's prescription is not available:

- (1) Students at the school.
- (2) School employees.
- (3) Visitors at the school.

(b) School employees may administer emergency stock medication obtained under section 1 of this chapter if the following are met:

- (1) The school employee has voluntarily received training in:
 - (A) recognizing a life-threatening emergency; and
 - (B) the proper administration of emergency medication;
 by a health care provider who is licensed or certified in Indiana, for whom the administration of emergency medication is within the health care provider's scope of practice, who has received training in the administration of emergency medication, and who is knowledgeable in recognizing the symptoms of a life-threatening emergency and the administration of emergency medication.
- (2) The individual to whom the emergency stock medication is being administered is:
 - (A) a student at the school;
 - (B) a school employee; or
 - (C) a visitor at the school.

As added by P.L.92-2014, SEC.1. Amended by P.L.117-2017, SEC.9.

IC 20-34-4.5-3 Prescribing emergency medication; dispensing

Sec. 3. (a) A health care provider who is licensed in Indiana and whose scope of practice includes the prescribing of medication may:

- (1) write; or

(2) transmit in an electronic format for an electronically transmitted prescription; a prescription, drug order, or protocol for an emergency medication for a school or school corporation.

(b) The state health commissioner or the state health commissioner's designee who is a licensed prescriber may issue a statewide standing order, prescription, or protocol for emergency stock medication for schools or school corporations.

(c) A pharmacist licensed under [IC 25-26](#) may dispense a valid prescription, drug order, standing order, or protocol for an emergency medication issued in the name of a school or school corporation.

As added by P.L.92-2014, SEC.1. Amended by P.L.117-2017, SEC.10; P.L.28-2019, SEC.5; P.L.164-2023, SEC.56.

IC 20-34-4.5-4 Civil immunity; school employees; health care providers

Sec. 4. (a) A school nurse or school employee who administers an emergency stock medication in accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines and with this chapter is not liable for civil damages resulting from the administration of the emergency stock medication under this chapter unless the act or omission constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

(b) The state health commissioner, the state health commissioner's designee, or a health care provider described in section 3 of this chapter who:

(1) writes; or

(2) transmits in an electronic format for an electronically transmitted prescription;

a prescription, drug order, statewide standing order, or protocol under this chapter is not liable for civil damages resulting from the administration of an emergency stock medication under this chapter.

(c) A health care provider described in section 2(b)(1) of this chapter who provides training to school employees under this chapter is not liable for civil damages resulting from the administration of an emergency stock medication.

As added by P.L.92-2014, SEC.1. Amended by P.L.117-2017, SEC.11; P.L.28-2019, SEC.6; P.L.164-2023, SEC.57.

IC 20-34-4.5-5 Guidance materials by the department

Sec. 5. The department shall:

(1) develop guidance materials concerning each emergency medication; and

(2) post a copy of the guidance materials on the department's Internet web site.

As added by P.L.117-2017, SEC.12.

IC 20-34-4.5-6 Report on the administration of emergency stock medication

Sec. 6. A school employee described in section 2(b)(1) of this chapter or a school nurse shall:

(1) make a report when an emergency stock medication is administered; and

(2) submit the report to the department in an electronic format not later than ten (10) school days after the emergency stock medication is administered.

As added by P.L.117-2017, SEC.13.

Automated External Defibrillator (AEDs)

IC 20-34-8-9 Sudden cardiac arrest training requirements; immunity from damages; joint events; grants

Sec. 9. (a) This section applies to:

(1) a head coach or assistant coach who coaches an athletic activity;

(2) a marching band leader;

(3) a drama or musical leader; or

(4) a leader of an extracurricular activity in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest activity as determined by the department in consultation with an organization that specializes in the prevention of sudden cardiac arrest.

(b) An individual described in subsection (a) shall complete the sudden cardiac arrest training course offered by a provider approved by the department in a manner specified by the state board under [IC 20-28-5.5-1](#) or [IC 20-28-5.5-1.5](#). The sudden cardiac arrest training course described in this subsection must include training in the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED). An individual described in subsection (a) may not coach or lead the event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest until the individual completes the training course required under this subsection. The provider shall provide the school with a certificate of completion to the school corporation, charter school, or state accredited nonpublic school for each individual who completes a course under this subsection.

(c) Each school corporation, charter school, or state accredited nonpublic school shall maintain all certificates of completion awarded under subsection (b) for each individual described in subsection (a).

(d) An individual described in subsection (a) who complies with this section and provides coaching or leadership services in good faith is not personally liable for damages in a civil action as a result of a sudden cardiac arrest incurred by an applicable student

participating in an event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest for which the head coach, assistant coach, marching band leader, drama or musical leader, or other applicable leader provided coaching or leadership services, except for an act or omission by the individual described in subsection (a) that constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

(e) An individual described in subsection (a) may ensure that an operational automated external defibrillator (AED) is present at each event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest for which the individual described in subsection (a) is providing coaching or leadership.

(f) An automated external defibrillator (AED) described in subsection (e) may be:

- (1) deployed in accordance with the venue specific emergency action plan for sudden cardiac arrest developed under subsection (i);
- (2) except as provided in subsection (g), located on the premises where the event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest occurs; and
- (3) present for the duration of the event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest.

(g) One (1) automated external defibrillator (AED) may be shared by two (2) or more events in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest if the following conditions are met:

- (1) The events in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest occur at the same time.
- (2) The events in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest occur in locations that are in close proximity to each other, as determined by the department.
- (3) The automated external defibrillator (AED) is placed in a designated location that is between the events in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest and meets the requirement of subsection (f)(3).
- (4) Each individual described in subsection (a) who conducts an event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest described in this subsection is aware of the designated location of the automated external defibrillator (AED).

(h) At each event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest, an individual described in subsection (a) may inform all individuals who are coaching or providing leadership at the event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest of the location of the automated external defibrillator (AED).

(i) A school corporation, charter school, and state accredited nonpublic school may do the following:

- (1) Ensure that an automated external defibrillator (AED) described in subsection (e) is properly maintained.
- (2) Develop a venue specific emergency action plan for sudden cardiac arrest that:
 - (A) establishes a goal of responding within three (3) minutes to a sudden cardiac arrest occurring within the venue; and
 - (B) requires the performance of periodic drills at times and locations determined by the governing body.
- (3) Distribute the plan described in subdivision (2) to the school board.
- (4) Share the plan described in subdivision (2) with each individual described in subsection (a).
- (5) Post the plan described in subdivision (2) in a conspicuous place so that it is visible by any participants of an activity at the venue.
- (6) Before the beginning of the season of each event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest, share the plan described in subdivision (2) with all applicable students.

(j) A school corporation, a charter school, a state accredited nonpublic school (as defined in [IC 20-18-2-18.7](#)), or an accredited nonpublic school (as defined in [IC 10-21-1-1](#)) may apply for a grant under [IC 10-21-1-2\(a\)\(1\)\(C\)\(viii\)](#) to purchase an automated external defibrillator (AED) if the school corporation, charter school, state accredited nonpublic school or accredited nonpublic school develops a venue specific emergency action plan for sudden cardiac arrest.

As added by P.L.56-2021, SEC.9. Amended by P.L.187-2023, SEC.2; P.L.250-2023, SEC.39; P.L.9-2024, SEC.396.

IC 20-34-8-9 Sudden cardiac arrest training requirements; immunity from damages

Sec. 9. (a) This section applies to:

- (1) a head coach or assistant coach who coaches an athletic activity;
- (2) a marching band leader;
- (3) a drama or musical leader; or
- (4) a leader of an extracurricular activity in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest activity as determined by the department in consultation with an organization that specializes in the prevention of sudden cardiac arrest.

(b) An individual described in subsection (a) shall complete the sudden cardiac arrest training course offered by a provider approved by the department in a manner specified by the state board under [IC 20-28-5.5-1](#) or [IC 20-28-5.5-1.5](#). The sudden cardiac arrest training course described in this subsection must include training in the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED). An individual described in subsection (a) may not coach or lead the event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest until the individual completes the training course required under this subsection. The provider shall provide the school with a certificate of completion to the school corporation, charter school, or state accredited nonpublic school for each individual who completes a course under this subsection.

(c) Each school corporation, charter school, or state accredited nonpublic school shall maintain all certificates of completion awarded under subsection (b) for each individual described in subsection (a).

(d) An individual described in subsection (a) who complies with this section and provides coaching or leadership services in good faith is not personally liable for damages in a civil action as a result of a sudden cardiac arrest incurred by an applicable student participating in an event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest for which the head coach, assistant coach, marching band leader, drama or musical leader, or other applicable leader provided coaching or leadership services, except for an act or omission by the individual described in subsection (a) that constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

(e) An individual described in subsection (a) may ensure that an operational automated external defibrillator (AED) is present at each event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest for which the individual described in subsection (a) is providing coaching or leadership.

(f) An automated external defibrillator (AED) described in subsection (e) may be:

- (1) deployed in accordance with the venue specific emergency action plan for sudden cardiac arrest developed under subsection (i);
- (2) except as provided in subsection (g), located on the premises where the event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest occurs; and
- (3) present for the duration of the event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest.

(g) One (1) automated external defibrillator (AED) may be shared by two (2) or more events in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest if the following conditions are met:

- (1) The events in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest occur at the same time.
- (2) The events in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest occur in locations that are in close proximity to each other, as determined by the department.
- (3) The automated external defibrillator (AED) is placed in a designated location that is between the events in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest and meets the requirement of subsection (f)(3).
- (4) Each individual described in subsection (a) who conducts an event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest described in this subsection is aware of the designated location of the automated external defibrillator (AED).

(h) At each event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest, an individual described in subsection (a) may inform all individuals who are coaching or providing leadership at the event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest of the location of the automated external defibrillator (AED).

(i) A school corporation, charter school, and state accredited nonpublic school may do the following:

- (1) Ensure that an automated external defibrillator (AED) described in subsection (e) is properly maintained.
- (2) Develop a venue specific emergency action plan for sudden cardiac arrest that:
 - (A) establishes a goal of responding within three (3) minutes to a sudden cardiac arrest occurring within the venue; and
 - (B) requires the performance of periodic drills at times and locations determined by the governing body.
- (3) Distribute the plan described in subdivision (2) to the school board.
- (4) Share the plan described in subdivision (2) with each individual described in subsection (a).
- (5) Post the plan described in subdivision (2) in a conspicuous place so that it is visible by any participants of an activity at the venue.
- (6) Before the beginning of the season of each event in which students have an increased risk of sudden cardiac arrest, share the plan described in subdivision (2) with all applicable students.

(j) A school corporation, a charter school, a state accredited nonpublic school (as defined in [IC 20-18-2-18.7](#)), or an accredited nonpublic school (as defined in [IC 10-21-1-1](#)) may apply for a grant under [IC 10-21-1-2\(a\)\(1\)\(C\)\(viii\)](#) to purchase an automated external defibrillator (AED) if the school corporation, charter school, state accredited nonpublic school or accredited nonpublic school develops a venue specific emergency action plan for sudden cardiac arrest.

As added by P.L.56-2021, SEC.9. Amended by P.L.187-2023, SEC.2; P.L.250-2023, SEC.39; P.L.9-2024, SEC.396.

Student Safety Reporting

IC 20-34-6-1 School corporation reports; department reports

Sec. 1. (a) By July 1 of each year, each school corporation shall submit a report to the department detailing the following information for the current school year for each school in the school corporation and for the entire school corporation:

- (1) The number of arrests of students on school corporation property, including arrests made by law enforcement officers, security guards, school safety specialists, and other school corporation employees, and any citizen arrests.
- (2) The offenses for which students were arrested on school corporation property.

- (3) The number of contacts with law enforcement personnel from a school corporation employee that have resulted in arrests of students not on school corporation property.
- (4) Statistics concerning the age, race, and gender of students arrested on school corporation property and categorizing the statistics by offenses.
- (5) Whether the school corporation has established and employs a school corporation police department under [IC 20-26-16](#), and if so, report:
- (A) the number of officers in the school corporation police department; and
 - (B) the training the officers must complete.
- (6) If the school corporation employs private security guards to enforce rules or laws on school property, a detailed explanation of the use of private security guards by the school corporation.
- (7) If the school corporation has an agreement with a local law enforcement agency regarding procedures to arrest students on school property, a detailed explanation of the use of the local law enforcement agency by the school corporation.
- (8) The number of reported bullying incidents involving a student of the school corporation by category. However, nothing in this subdivision may be construed to require all bullying incidents to be reported to a law enforcement agency.
- (b) By August 1 of each year, the department shall submit a report to:
- (1) the legislative council;
 - (2) the board for the coordination of programs serving vulnerable individuals established by [IC 4-23-30.2-8](#); and
 - (3) the criminal justice institute;
- providing a summary of the reports submitted to the department under subsection (a). The report to the legislative council must be in an electronic format under [IC 5-14-6](#).
- (c) By August 1 of each year, the department must post the reports described in subsections (a) and (b) on the department's Internet web site.
- (d) Information reported under subsection (a)(8) may not be used in the calculation of a school corporation's improvement under [IC 20-31-8](#).
- As added by P.L.74-2010, SEC.3. Amended by P.L.285-2013, SEC.7; P.L.213-2015, SEC.201; P.L.83-2018, SEC.2.*

Charter Schools and Accredited Nonpublic Schools

IC 10-21-1-15 Accredited nonpublic schools

Sec. 15. An accredited nonpublic school may do one (1) or more of the following:

- (1) Designate one (1) or more individuals to obtain school safety specialist certification under section 13 of this chapter to perform school safety specialist duties under this chapter.
- (2) Establish a school safety plan in accordance with section 10 of this chapter.
- (3) Establish a safe school committee.
- (4) Submit a school safety plan to the county school safety commission having jurisdiction over the accredited nonpublic school.
- (5) Request to join the county school safety commission having jurisdiction over the accredited nonpublic school or be represented by another accredited nonpublic school's school safety specialist on the same commission.
- (6) Request general guidance relating to school safety matters from one (1) or more of the following:
 - (A) The board.
 - (B) The department of education.
 - (C) The department of homeland security.
 - (D) The county school safety commission having jurisdiction over the accredited nonpublic school.

As added by P.L.150-2023, SEC.16.

IC 20-34-3-23 Charter school and accredited nonpublic school local school safety and emergency plans

Sec. 23. (a) Each charter school and state accredited nonpublic school shall adopt a local school safety and emergency plan that includes:

- (1) safety and emergency training and educational opportunities for school employees; and
- (2) periodic safety and emergency preparedness and evacuation drills.

(b) Each charter school and state accredited nonpublic school shall provide a copy of the floor plans for each building located on the school's property that clearly indicates each exit, the interior rooms and hallways, and the location of any hazardous materials located in the building to the law enforcement agency and the fire department that have jurisdiction over the school.

(c) If a charter school or state accredited nonpublic school has conducted critical incidence digital mapping as described in [IC 10-21-1-1](#) for each school building located on the school's property, it may provide the critical incidence digital mapping information to:

- (1) the law enforcement agency and fire department that have jurisdiction over the mapped school buildings; and
 (2) the statewide 911 system described in [IC 36-8-16.7-22](#) through the public safety answer point, or "PSAP", described in [IC 36-8-16.7-20](#) that has jurisdiction over the mapped school buildings;
- to satisfy the requirement of subsection (b).
- (d) Once a charter school develops a school safety plan under [IC 10-21-1-10](#), the charter school has satisfied the requirements of this section.
- As added by P.L.211-2018(ss), SEC.10. Amended by P.L.92-2020, SEC.83; P.L.150-2023, SEC.26.*

School Resource Officers

IC 20-26-18.2-1 "School resource officer"; training requirements

Sec. 1. (a) As used in this chapter, "school resource officer" means a law enforcement officer who:

- (1) has completed the training described in subsection (b);
- (2) is assigned to one (1) or more school corporations or charter schools during school hours to:
 - (A) assist school safety specialists and the safe school committees with the development and implementation of the school safety plan; and
 - (B) carry out any additional responsibilities assigned to the school resource officer under the employment engagement, contract, or memorandum of understanding and to provide law enforcement services to:
 - (i) protect against outside threats to the physical safety of students;
 - (ii) prevent unauthorized access to school property; and
 - (iii) secure schools against violence and natural disasters; and
- (3) is:
 - (A) employed by a law enforcement agency;
 - (B) appointed as a police reserve officer (as described in [IC 36-8-3-20](#)) or as a special deputy (as described in [IC 36-8-10-10.6](#)) if the police reserve officer or special deputy:
 - (i) is subject to the direction of the sheriff or appointing law enforcement agency;
 - (ii) is required to obey the rules and orders of the sheriff's department or appointing law enforcement agency;
 - (iii) is required to complete all training required of regular full-time law enforcement officers employed by the sheriff's department or appointing law enforcement agency; and
 - (iv) may be removed by the sheriff or appointing law enforcement agency at any time, with or without cause; or
 - (C) a school corporation police officer appointed under [IC 20-26-16-3](#).

The term does not include a law enforcement officer who is assigned to a school to provide security outside a school building for protection from outside threats, traffic duty, or other duties not consistent with the duties of a school resource officer.

(b) Before being appointed as a school resource officer, an individual must have successfully completed the minimum training requirements established for law enforcement officers under [IC 5-2-1-9](#).

(c) The law enforcement officer appointed as a school resource officer must receive at least forty (40) hours of school resource officer training through:

- (1) the Indiana law enforcement training board established by [IC 5-2-1-3](#);
- (2) the National Association of School Resource Officers; or
- (3) another school resource officer training program approved by the Indiana law enforcement training board;

within one hundred eighty (180) days from the date the individual is initially assigned the duties of a school resource officer. However, if the current ADM of a school corporation is less than one thousand (1,000) students, the individual shall complete the school resource officer training within three hundred sixty-five (365) days of the date the individual is initially assigned the duties of a school resource officer.

(d) Training described in subsection (c) must include instruction regarding skills, tactics, and strategies necessary to address the special nature of:

- (1) school campuses; and
- (2) school building security needs and characteristics.

As added by P.L.172-2013, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.30-2014, SEC.2; P.L.139-2022, SEC.10; P.L.150-2023, SEC.21.

IC 20-26-18.2-2 Employment of school resource officer; memorandum of understanding; duties

Sec. 2. (a) A school resource officer may be employed:

- (1) by one (1) or more school corporations or charter schools through a contract between a local law enforcement agency and the school corporation or school corporations or the charter school or charter schools;
- (2) by one (1) or more school corporations or charter schools;

(3) by a local law enforcement agency that assigns the school resource officer to one (1) or more school corporations or charter schools through a memorandum of understanding between the local law enforcement agency and the school corporation or school corporations or the charter school or charter schools; or

(4) through a contract between an Indiana business that employs persons who meet the qualifications of a school resource officer and the school corporation or school corporations or the charter school or charter schools.

(b) This subsection does not apply to a school corporation that only has full-time school resource officers who are either employees of the school corporation's school police department or are employees of the school corporation who have successfully completed the law enforcement basic training requirements described in [IC 5-2-1-9](#)(d). After June 30, 2023, if a school corporation or charter school enters into a contract for a school resource officer, the school corporation or charter school must enter into a memorandum of understanding with the law enforcement agency that employs or appointed the law enforcement officer who will perform the duties of a school resource officer. The memorandum of understanding must state the nature and scope of a school resource officer's duties and responsibilities. A school resource officer's duties and responsibilities include the duty to assist the school corporation's or charter school's school safety specialists and safe school committees with the development and implementation of school safety plans.

(c) A school resource officer shall consult with local law enforcement officials and first responders when assisting the school corporation's or charter school's school safety specialists and safe school committees in the development of the school safety plan.

(d) A school resource officer shall participate in the development and implementation of programs designed to identify, assess, and provide assistance to youth who are at high risk of experiencing a mental health crisis or becoming juvenile offenders.

(e) A school resource officer may not be reassigned to other duties by the school corporation.

As added by P.L.172-2013, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.44-2019, SEC.1; P.L.211-2019, SEC.22; P.L.272-2019, SEC.4; P.L.139-2022, SEC.11; P.L.150-2023, SEC.22; P.L.200-2023, SEC.6; P.L.250-2023, SEC.21.

IC 20-26-18.2-3 School resource officer's police powers

Sec. 3. (a) A school resource officer may:

- (1) make an arrest;
- (2) conduct a search or a seizure of a person or property using the reasonable suspicion standard;
- (3) carry a firearm on or off school property; and
- (4) exercise other police powers with respect to the enforcement of Indiana laws.

(b) A school resource officer has jurisdiction in every county where the school corporation or charter school engaging the officer operates a school or where the school corporation or charter school's students reside. This subsection does not restrict the jurisdiction that a school resource officer may possess due to the officer's employment by a law enforcement agency.

As added by P.L.172-2013, SEC.7.

IC 20-26-18.2-4 Reporting use of restraints and seclusion

Sec. 4. A school corporation, a state accredited nonpublic school, or a charter school shall report all instances of:

- (1) seclusion (as defined in [IC 20-20-40-9](#));
- (2) chemical restraint (as defined in [IC 20-20-40-2](#));
- (3) mechanical restraint (as defined in [IC 20-20-40-4](#)); and
- (4) physical restraint (as defined in [IC 20-20-40-5](#));

involving a school resource officer in accordance with the restraint and seclusion plan adopted by the school corporation, state accredited nonpublic school, or charter school under [IC 20-20-40-14](#).

As added by P.L.227-2017, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.92-2020, SEC.39.

IC 20-26-18.2-5 Reporting; school resource officer

Sec. 5. (a) Beginning on September 1, 2023, and each September 1 thereafter, each school corporation or charter school served by a school resource officer employed for the protection of the school corporation or charter school under section 2 of this chapter shall report on a form prescribed by the department of homeland security:

- (1) the number of school resource officers serving the school corporation or charter school;
- (2) the amount budgeted and the sources of the funds to employ a school resource officer or school resource officers to serve the school corporation or charter school;
- (3) the number of school resource officers serving the school corporation or charter school employed by one (1) or more school corporations or charter schools;
- (4) an attestation that the school resource officers employed by the school corporation or charter school have met the training requirements under section 1 of this chapter;
- (5) the number of school resource officers serving the school corporation or charter school through a contract or memorandum of understanding with a local law enforcement agency or an Indiana business that employs persons who meet the qualifications of a school resource officer under section 2 of this chapter; and

(6) if applicable, the number of law enforcement officers who are not school resource officers also serving the school corporation or charter school through a contract or memorandum of understanding with a local law enforcement agency; to the department of homeland security.

(b) The department of homeland security shall:

(1) annually compile the information reported under subsection (a); and

(2) retain the information reported under subsection (a).

(c) For purposes of [IC 5-14-3](#), the department of homeland security shall keep information compiled and retained under subsection (b) confidential and shall withhold the information from public disclosure.

(d) The secured school safety board established by [IC 10-21-1-3](#) shall include the following aggregate level information in the review and report submitted to the governor and legislative council as required under [IC 10-21-1-8](#):

(1) The total number of school resource officers employed:

(A) in Indiana, including the number of unique school corporations and charter schools employing a school resource officer;

(B) exclusively by a school corporation;

(C) by one (1) or more school corporations;

(D) exclusively by a charter school;

(E) by a coalition of charter schools; and

(F) by a combination of one (1) or more school corporations and one (1) or more charter schools.

(2) A statewide overview of how school corporations and charter schools are budgeting for the employment of school resource officers and the employment of law enforcement officers.

As added by P.L.57-2020, SEC.8. Amended by P.L.150-2023, SEC.23.

Bullying Incidents and Student Safety Reporting

IC 20-34-6-1 School corporation reports; department reports

Sec. 1. (a) By July 1 of each year, each school corporation shall submit a report to the department detailing the following information for the current school year for each school in the school corporation and for the entire school corporation:

(1) The number of arrests of students on school corporation property, including arrests made by law enforcement officers, security guards, school safety specialists, and other school corporation employees, and any citizen arrests.

(2) The offenses for which students were arrested on school corporation property.

(3) The number of contacts with law enforcement personnel from a school corporation employee that have resulted in arrests of students not on school corporation property.

(4) Statistics concerning the age, race, and gender of students arrested on school corporation property and categorizing the statistics by offenses.

(5) Whether the school corporation has established and employs a school corporation police department under [IC 20-26-16](#), and if so, report:

(A) the number of officers in the school corporation police department; and

(B) the training the officers must complete.

(6) If the school corporation employs private security guards to enforce rules or laws on school property, a detailed explanation of the use of private security guards by the school corporation.

(7) If the school corporation has an agreement with a local law enforcement agency regarding procedures to arrest students on school property, a detailed explanation of the use of the local law enforcement agency by the school corporation.

(8) The number of reported bullying incidents involving a student of the school corporation by category. However, nothing in this subdivision may be construed to require all bullying incidents to be reported to a law enforcement agency.

(b) By August 1 of each year, the department shall submit a report to:

(1) the legislative council;

(2) the board for the coordination of programs serving vulnerable individuals established by [IC 4-23-30.2-8](#); and

(3) the criminal justice institute;

providing a summary of the reports submitted to the department under subsection (a). The report to the legislative council must be in an electronic format under [IC 5-14-6](#).

(c) By August 1 of each year, the department must post the reports described in subsections (a) and (b) on the department's Internet web site.

(d) Information reported under subsection (a)(8) may not be used in the calculation of a school corporation's improvement under [IC 20-31-8](#).

As added by P.L.74-2010, SEC.3. Amended by P.L.285-2013, SEC.7; P.L.213-2015, SEC.201; P.L.83-2018, SEC.2.

Child Abuse & Neglect Reporting – Duty to Report

IC 31-33-5-2 Report; notification of individual in charge of institution, school, facility, or agency

Sec. 2. (a) This section does not apply to an individual required to make a report under this article in the individual's capacity as a member of the staff of a hospital licensed under [IC 16-21-2](#). An individual required to make a report under this article in the individual's capacity as a member of the staff of a hospital licensed under [IC 16-21-2](#) is subject to section 2.5 of this chapter.

(b) If an individual is required to make a report under this article in the individual's capacity as a member of the staff of a medical or other public or private institution, school, facility, or agency, the individual shall immediately make a report to:

- (1) the department; or
- (2) the local law enforcement agency.

After making the report, the individual shall notify the individual in charge of the institution, school, facility, or agency or the designated agent of the individual in charge of the institution, school, facility, or agency that the report was made.

[Pre-1997 Recodification Citation: 31-6-11-3(b) part.]

As added by P.L.1-1997, SEC.16. Amended by P.L.106-2016, SEC.24; P.L.183-2017, SEC.32.

IC 31-33-5-3 Effect of compliance on individual's own duty to report

Sec. 3. This chapter does not relieve an individual of the obligation to report on the individual's own behalf, unless a report has already been made to the best of the individual's belief.

[Pre-1997 Recodification Citation: 31-6-11-3(b) part.]

As added by P.L.1-1997, SEC.16.

IC 31-33-5-4 Immediate oral or written report to department of child services or law enforcement agency

Sec. 4. A person who has a duty under this chapter to report that a child may be a victim of child abuse or neglect shall immediately make an oral or written report to:

- (1) the department; or
- (2) the local law enforcement agency.

[Pre-1997 Recodification Citation: 31-6-11-4.]

As added by P.L.1-1997, SEC.16. Amended by P.L.234-2005, SEC.107; P.L.183-2017, SEC.34.

IC 31-33-5-5 Prohibition on policy that restricts or delays an individual's duty to report

Sec. 5. (a) This section does not apply to a hospital licensed under [IC 16-21-2](#).

(b) A medical institution or other public or private institution, public or nonpublic school, school corporation, facility, or agency may not establish any policy that restricts or delays the duty of an employee or individual to report under this chapter.

As added by P.L.183-2017, SEC.35.

Controlled Substance Violation Reporting

IC 20-33-9-5 Controlled substance violations; reports by school employees

Sec. 5. If a person other than a member of the administrative staff who is an employee of a school corporation has personally observed:

- (1) a violation described in section 1 of this chapter; or
- (2) a delinquent act that would be a violation under section 1 of this chapter if the violator were an adult;

in, on, or within one thousand (1,000) feet of the school property of the school corporation employing the person, the person shall immediately report the violation in writing to a member of the administrative staff of the school corporation employing the person.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-12-2.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17.

IC 20-33-9-6 Controlled substance violations; reports by members of administrative staffs

Sec. 6. A member of the administrative staff who, based on personal knowledge or on the report of another employee of the school corporation, believes that a person has committed a violation described in section 1 of this chapter or a delinquent act that would be a violation described in section 1 of this chapter if the violator were an adult in, on, or within one thousand (1,000) feet of the school property of the school corporation employing the member, shall immediately report:

- (1) a general description of the violation;
- (2) the name or a general description of each violator known to the member;
- (3) the date, time, and place of the violation;
- (4) the name or a general description of each person who the member knows witnessed any part of the violation; and
- (5) a general description and the location of any property that the member knows was involved in the violation;

in writing to a law enforcement officer.

[Pre-2005 Elementary and Secondary Education Recodification Citation: 20-8.1-12-3.]

As added by P.L.1-2005, SEC.17. Amended by P.L.9-2022, SEC.37.

Criminal Organization Reporting

IC 20-26-18-6 Reporting requirements

Sec. 6. (a) Not later than June 1, 2017, and before June 2 of each year thereafter, each school corporation shall submit to the department a written report, on forms developed by the department, outlining the activities undertaken as part of the school corporation's compliance with this chapter. The report must include school based data to monitor for disproportionality, with each school reporting the number of investigations disposed of internally and the number of cases referred to local law enforcement, disaggregated by race, ethnicity, age, and gender.

(b) Not later than November 1, 2017, and before November 2 of each year thereafter, the department shall submit a comprehensive report concerning criminal organization activity in schools to the governor and the general assembly. A report submitted to the general assembly under this subsection must be in an electronic format under [IC 5-14-6](#). The report must include the following:

- (1) A summary of the activities reported to the department under subsection (a).
- (2) Any recommendations or conclusions made by the department to assist in the prevention of, education about, and intervention in criminal organization activity in schools.

As added by P.L.190-2013, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.25-2016, SEC.10.

Emergency Stock Medication Reporting

IC 20-34-4.5-6 Report on the administration of emergency stock medication

Sec. 6. A school employee described in section 2(b)(1) of this chapter or a school nurse shall:

- (1) make a report when an emergency stock medication is administered; and
- (2) submit the report to the department in an electronic format not later than ten (10) school days after the emergency stock medication is administered.

As added by P.L.117-2017, SEC.13.

Autism & Asperger's Syndrome Training for School Corporation Police Department

IC 20-26-5-31 School corporation police; autism and Asperger's syndrome training

Sec. 31. (a) If a school corporation, including a school city (as defined in [IC 20-25-2-12](#)), establishes a school corporation police department, the governing body of the school corporation shall adopt a policy that requires every individual appointed as a school corporation police officer to complete training and education, approved by the state board, that will enable the school corporation police officer to appropriately deal with individuals with autism and Asperger's syndrome.

(b) This subsection applies to a regular or special police officer who is assigned as a security police officer for a school corporation under [IC 36-8-3-7](#). The governing body of the school corporation to which the police officer is assigned shall ensure that the police officer receives training and education, approved by the state board, that will enable the police officer to appropriately deal with individuals with autism and Asperger's syndrome.

As added by P.L.122-2007, SEC.1.

Bullying Prevention Training

IC 20-26-5-34.2 Bullying prevention; training for employees and volunteers

Sec. 34.2. A school corporation shall provide training to the school corporation's employees and volunteers who have direct, ongoing contact with students concerning the school's bullying prevention and reporting policy adopted under [IC 20-33-8-13.5](#). The training shall be conducted in a manner prescribed by the state board under [IC 20-28-5.5-1](#) or [IC 20-28-5.5-1.5](#).

As added by P.L.285-2013, SEC.3. Amended by P.L.92-2020, SEC.26; P.L.250-2023, SEC.18.

IC 20-30-5-5.5 Bullying prevention; student instruction

Sec. 5.5. (a) Not later than October 15 of each year, each public school shall provide age appropriate, research based instruction as provided under [IC 5-2-10.1-12\(d\)\(1\)](#) focusing on bullying prevention for all students in grades 1 through 12.

(b) The department, in consultation with school safety specialists and school counselors, shall prepare outlines or materials for the instruction described in subsection (a) and incorporate the instruction in grades 1 through 12.

(c) Instruction on bullying prevention may be delivered by a school safety specialist, school counselor, or any other person with training and expertise in the area of bullying prevention and intervention.

As added by P.L.285-2013, SEC.4.

Child Abuse & Neglect Training

IC 20-28-3-4.5 Training on child abuse and neglect

Sec. 4.5. (a) Each school corporation, charter school, and state accredited nonpublic school shall require each school employee likely to have direct, ongoing contact with children within the scope of the employee's employment to attend or participate in training on child abuse and neglect, including:

- (1) training on the duty to report suspected child abuse or neglect under [IC 31-33-5](#); and
- (2) training on recognizing possible signs of child abuse or neglect;

in a manner prescribed by the state board under [IC 20-28-5.5-1](#) or [IC 20-28-5.5-1.5](#).

(b) The training required under this section must count toward the requirements for professional development required by the governing body.

(c) In the event the state board does not require training to be completed as part of a teacher preparation program under [IC 20-28-5.5-1](#), the training required under this section must be during the school employee's contracted day or at a time chosen by the employee.

As added by P.L.183-2017, SEC.3. Amended by P.L.92-2020, SEC.46; P.L.250-2023, SEC.23.

Criminal Organization Training

IC 20-26-18-4 REPEALED Establishment of education programs

As added by P.L.190-2013, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.25-2016, SEC.8. Repealed by P.L.200-2023, SEC.5.

Human Trafficking

IC 20-28-3-7 Training on human trafficking

Sec. 7. (a) Each school corporation and state accredited nonpublic school shall require all school employees likely to have direct, ongoing contact with children within the scope of the employee's employment to attend or participate in inservice training pertaining to the identification and reporting of human trafficking. The training shall be conducted in a manner prescribed by the state board under [IC 20-28-5.5-1](#) or [IC 20-28-5.5-1.5](#).

(b) The inservice training required under this section shall count toward the requirements for professional development required by the governing body or the equivalent authority for a state accredited nonpublic school.

As added by P.L.211-2018(ss), SEC.8. Amended by P.L.92-2020, SEC.48; P.L.200-2023, SEC.9; P.L.250-2023, SEC.25.

Suicide Awareness & Prevention Training

IC 20-28-3-6 Youth suicide awareness and prevention training

Sec. 6. (a) For purposes of this section, "teacher" includes the following:

- (1) A superintendent who holds a license under [IC 20-28-5](#).
- (2) A principal.
- (3) A teacher.
- (4) A librarian.
- (5) A school counselor.
- (6) A school psychologist.
- (7) A school nurse.
- (8) A school social worker.

(b) Beginning after June 30, 2018, each school corporation, charter school, and state accredited nonpublic school:

- (1) shall require all teachers; and
- (2) may require any other appropriate school employees;

who are employed at schools that provide instruction to students in any combination of grade 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12 to attend or participate in research based inservice youth suicide awareness and prevention training in a manner prescribed by the state board under [IC 20-28-5.5-1](#) or [IC 20-28-5.5-1.5](#). The training required under this subsection must be during the teacher's or school employee's contracted day or at a time chosen by the teacher or employee.

(c) The inservice training required under this section shall count toward the requirements for professional development required by the governing body.

(d) A school or school corporation may leverage any:

- (1) existing or new state and federal grant funds; or
- (2) free or reduced cost evidence based youth suicide awareness and prevention training provided by any state agency or qualified statewide or local organization;

to cover the costs of the training required under this section.

As added by P.L.254-2017, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.56-2018, SEC.3; P.L.92-2020, SEC.47; P.L.250-2023, SEC.24.

Indiana Secured Schools Fund - IDHS Secured School Safety Grant

IC 10-21-1-1 Definitions

Sec. 1. The following definitions apply throughout this chapter:

- (1) "Accredited nonpublic school" means a nonpublic school that:
 - (A) has voluntarily become accredited under [IC 20-31-4.1](#); or
 - (B) is accredited by a national or regional accrediting agency that is recognized by the state board of education.
- (2) "Active event warning system" refers to a system that includes services and technology that will notify available law enforcement agencies in the area of a school building of a life threatening emergency.
- (3) "ADM" refers to average daily membership determined under [IC 20-43-4-2](#). In the case of a school corporation career and technical education school described in [IC 20-37-1-1](#), "ADM" refers to the count on a full-time equivalency basis of students attending the school on the date ADM is determined under [IC 20-43-4-2](#).
- (4) "Board" refers to the secured school safety board established by section 3 of this chapter.
- (5) "Bullying prevention program" refers to a program that must contain one (1) or more of the following components:

- (A) Offers students and school personnel opportunities to develop the skills and strategies to prevent bullying and potential bullying situations in digital and physical spaces, including the usage of research based models.
- (B) Enables school personnel, including school safety specialists, safe school committee members, and school resource officers, to identify and acquire the programs, technology software, resources, and training necessary concerning the:
- (i) development and implementation of bullying and cyberbullying prevention programs and school violence, human trafficking, and self-harm mitigation programs;
 - (ii) establishment of bullying and cyberbullying investigation, intervention, and reporting procedures;
 - (iii) adoption of discipline rules that comply with [IC 20-33-8-13.5](#); and
 - (iv) integration of the program into wider school efforts, including a school safety plan, to promote educational progress and the physical safety and well-being of school students, families, faculty, and staff.
- (6) "County school safety commission" has the meaning set forth in section 12 of this chapter.
- (7) "Critical incidence digital mapping" means the digitized mapping of a school building and school grounds to best assist first responders in an emergency that must:
- (A) include accurate floor plans overlaid on or current aerial imagery of a school building or school plan with surrounding school grounds;
 - (B) include site-specific labeling that matches:
 - (i) the structure of the school building, including room labels, hallway names, room numbers, external doors, interior doors, stairwell numbers, locations of hazardous materials, key utility locations, key boxes, automated external defibrillators, and trauma kits; and
 - (ii) the school grounds, including parking areas, athletic fields, surrounding roads, and neighboring proprietaries;
 - (C) be compatible with platforms and applications used by local, state, and federal public safety agencies;
 - (D) be verified for accuracy through a walk through of a school building and school grounds;
 - (E) not require the purchase of additional software for use;
 - (F) be accessible in a printable format;
 - (G) be shared with:
 - (i) the law enforcement agency and fire department that have jurisdiction over the mapped school building; and
 - (ii) the statewide 911 system as described in [IC 36-8-16.7-22](#) through the public safety answer point, or "PSAP", described in [IC 36-8-16.7-20](#) that has jurisdiction over the mapped school building; and
 - (H) be kept confidential and withheld from public disclosure.
- (8) "Fund" refers to the Indiana secured school fund established by section 2 of this chapter.
- (9) "Law enforcement agency" refers to a state, local, or federal agency or department that would respond to an emergency event at a school, including both on duty and off duty officers within the agency or department.
- (10) "Multi-disciplinary threat assessment team" means a group of individuals with expertise in school physical security, school administration, educational instruction, youth counseling, mental health and behavioral health, and law enforcement established by the leadership of the school corporation or charter school that may serve one (1) or more schools, that must meet the following requirements:
- (A) Be comprised of at least:
 - (i) a school safety specialist or an individual designated by the school safety committee;
 - (ii) a member of a safe school committee;
 - (iii) a school building level administrator;
 - (iv) a school resource officer, if one (1) is either employed by or assigned to the school corporation or charter school;
 - (v) an individual with expertise in special education; and
 - (vi) a school counselor or social worker.
 - (B) Conduct multi-disciplinary threat assessments that shall:
 - (i) provide guidance to students, faculty, and staff regarding the recognition of threatening or aberrant behavior that may represent a threat to the community, school, or self;
 - (ii) identify members of the school community to whom threatening behavior should be reported;
 - (iii) establish procedures to assess, identify, and intervene with individuals whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of school students, families, faculty, and staff; and
 - (iv) inform the adoption, implementation, and updating of policies adopted by the school corporation or charter school, including school safety plans and the policies of a safe school committee for a particular school.
- (11) "Safe school committee" means a safe school committee established under section 14 of this chapter.
- (12) "School corporation or charter school" refers to an individual school corporation, a school corporation career and technical education school described in [IC 20-37-1-1](#), or a charter school but also includes:
- (A) a coalition of school corporations;

(B) a coalition of charter schools; or

(C) a coalition of both school corporations and charter schools;

that intend to jointly employ a school resource officer or to jointly apply for a matching grant under this chapter, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

(13) "School official" refers to an employee of a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school who has access to an active event warning system.

(14) "School resource officer" has the meaning set forth in [IC 20-26-18.2-1](#).

(15) "School safety plan" means the school safety plan described in section 10 of this chapter.

(16) "School safety specialist" means a school safety specialist designated under section 9 of this chapter.

(17) "Site vulnerability assessment" means an examination of the physical safety, security, accessibility, and emergency preparedness of buildings and grounds.

(18) "Student safety management technology" refers to an information technology platform and related services to improve student safety by mitigating cyberbullying, school violence, human trafficking, and self-harm.

As added by P.L.172-2013, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.40-2014, SEC.6; P.L.109-2015, SEC.30; P.L.50-2019, SEC.1; P.L.92-2020, SEC.8; P.L.150-2023, SEC.2.

IC 10-21-1-2 Indiana secured school fund; matching grant

Sec. 2. (a) The Indiana secured school fund is established to provide:

(1) matching grants to school corporations, charter schools, and accredited nonpublic schools, where the matching grants may be used to:

(A) employ a school resource officer, employ a law enforcement officer, or enter into a contract or a memorandum of understanding with a:

(i) local law enforcement agency;

(ii) private entity; or

(iii) nonprofit corporation;

to employ a school resource officer or a law enforcement officer;

(B) conduct:

(i) a site vulnerability assessment of the buildings within a school corporation or the buildings that are operated by a charter school or accredited nonpublic school; or

(ii) critical incident digital mapping of the buildings within a school corporation or the buildings that are operated by a charter school or accredited nonpublic school;

(C) purchase equipment, hardware, materials, and technology to:

(i) restrict access to school property and classrooms;

(ii) assist with visitor management on school property;

(iii) expedite notification of first responders;

(iv) expedite access to school property for first responders;

(v) provide school staff with information about the open or closed status of interior and exterior doors;

(vi) detect fire, chemical, visual, or audible threats;

(vii) enhance emergency communications inside the building; or

(viii) assist with emergency medical response on school property;

(D) implement a student and parent support services plan as described in [IC 20-34-9](#);

(E) purchase or provide training for a canine trained to detect drugs and illegal substances, explosives, or firearms, or to otherwise provide protection for students and school employees and the canine shall:

(i) be primarily assigned to a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school;

(ii) be primarily assigned to a school resource officer or law enforcement officer described in clause (A) who has received appropriate training for handling a canine trained to detect drugs and illegal substances, explosives, or firearms, or to otherwise provide protection for students and school employees, including training regarding handling a canine in a school setting; and

(iii) receive continuous training as appropriate;

(F) provide funding for school employees to receive training, including expenses for per diem, travel, and lodging, related to:

(i) site vulnerability assessments;

(ii) mental health or behavioral health threat assessments;

(iii) multi-disciplinary threat assessment teams; or

(iv) emergency preparedness or response activities;

- (G) provide funding for school resource officers or law enforcement officers described in clause (A) to receive training, including expenses for per diem, travel, and lodging, related to handling a canine trained to detect drugs and illegal substances, explosives, or firearms, or to otherwise provide protection for students and school employees;
- (H) purchase student safety management technology;
- (I) design and construct additions or renovations on school property if the primary purpose of the construction project is to enhance the physical security of the school building; or
- (J) implement a bullying prevention program; and
- (2) one (1) time grants to enable school corporations, charter schools, and accredited nonpublic schools with the sheriff for the county in which the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school is located, to provide the initial set up costs for an active event warning system.
- (b) A school corporation or charter school may use money received under a matching grant for a purpose listed in subsection (a) to provide a response to a threat in a manner that the school corporation or charter school sees fit, including firearms training or other self-defense training.
- (c) The fund shall be administered by the department of homeland security.
- (d) The fund consists of:
- (1) appropriations from the general assembly;
 - (2) federal grants;
 - (3) amounts deposited from any other public or private source; and
 - (4) amounts deposited under [IC 33-37-9-4](#).
- (e) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from money in the fund.
- (f) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.
- (g) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.
- As added by P.L.172-2013, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.197-2019, SEC.3; P.L.50-2019, SEC.2; P.L.153-2019, SEC.1; P.L.272-2019, SEC.3; P.L.139-2022, SEC.1; P.L.150-2023, SEC.3; P.L.201-2023, SEC.128.*

IC 10-21-1-3 Secured school safety board

- Sec. 3. (a) The secured school safety board is established to approve or disapprove applications for matching grants to fund programs described in section 2(a)(1) of this chapter and grants described in section 2(a)(2) of this chapter to fund the initial set up costs for an active event warning system.
- (b) The board consists of seven (7) members appointed as follows:
- (1) The executive director of the department of homeland security or the executive director's designee. The executive director of the department of homeland security or the executive director's designee serves as the chairperson of the board.
 - (2) The attorney general or the attorney general's designee.
 - (3) The superintendent of the state police department or the superintendent's designee.
 - (4) A local law enforcement officer appointed by the governor.
 - (5) The secretary of education or the secretary's designee.
 - (6) The director of the criminal justice institute or the director's designee.
 - (7) An employee of a local school corporation or a charter school appointed by the governor.
- (c) The board shall establish criteria to be used in evaluating applications for grants from the fund. These criteria must:
- (1) be consistent with the fund's goals; and
 - (2) provide for an equitable distribution of grants to school corporations, charter schools, and accredited nonpublic schools located throughout Indiana.

As added by P.L.172-2013, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.197-2019, SEC.4; P.L.50-2019, SEC.3; P.L.211-2019, SEC.12; P.L.43-2021, SEC.34.

IC 10-21-1-4 Award of matching grants; amount and use of grants; match requirements; county school safety commission requirement

- Sec. 4. (a) The board may award a matching grant to enable a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school (or a coalition of schools applying jointly) to:
- (1) employ a school resource officer, employ a law enforcement officer, or enter into a contract or memorandum of understanding with a:
 - (A) local law enforcement agency;
 - (B) private entity; or
 - (C) nonprofit corporation;
 to employ a school resource officer or a law enforcement officer;

- (2) conduct a site vulnerability assessment of the buildings within a school corporation or the buildings that are operated by a charter school or accredited nonpublic school;
- (3) conduct critical incident digital mapping of the buildings within a school corporation or the buildings that are operated by a charter school or accredited nonpublic school;
- (4) purchase equipment, hardware, materials, and technology to:
 - (A) restrict access to school property and classrooms;
 - (B) assist with visitor management on school property;
 - (C) expedite notification of first responders;
 - (D) expedite access to school property for first responders;
 - (E) provide staff with information about open or closed status of interior and exterior doors;
 - (F) detect fire, chemical, visual, or audible threats;
 - (G) enhance emergency communications inside the school building; or
 - (H) assist with emergency medical response on school property;
- (5) implement a student and parent support services plan in the manner set forth in [IC 20-34-9](#);
- (6) purchase or provide training for a canine trained to detect drugs and illegal substances, explosives, or firearms, or to otherwise provide protection for students and school employees and the canine shall:
 - (A) be primarily assigned to a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school;
 - (B) be primarily assigned to a school resource officer or law enforcement officer described in subdivision (1)(A) who has received appropriate training for handling a canine trained to detect drugs and illegal substances, explosives, or firearms, or to otherwise provide protection for students and school employees, including training regarding handling a canine in a school setting; and
 - (C) receive continuous training as appropriate;
- (7) provide funding for:
 - (A) school employees to receive training, including expenses for per diem, travel, and lodging, related to:
 - (i) site vulnerability assessments;
 - (ii) mental health or behavioral health threat assessments;
 - (iii) multi-disciplinary threat assessment teams; or
 - (iv) emergency preparedness or response activities; or
 - (B) school resource officers or law enforcement officers described in subdivision (1)(A) to receive training, including expenses for per diem, travel, and lodging, related to handling a canine trained to detect drugs and illegal substances, explosives, or firearms, or to otherwise provide protection for students and school employees;
- (8) design and construct additions or renovations on school property if the primary purpose of the construction project is to enhance the physical security of the school building;
- (9) provide one (1) time grants to enable school corporations, charter schools, and accredited nonpublic schools with the sheriff for the county in which the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school is located to provide the initial set up costs for an active event warning system;
- (10) implement a bullying prevention program; or
- (11) purchase student safety management technology;

in accordance with section 2(a) of this chapter.

(b) A matching grant awarded to a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school (or a coalition of schools applying jointly) may not exceed the lesser of the following during a two (2) year period beginning on or after May 1, 2013:

- (1) The total cost of the program established by the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school (or the coalition of schools applying jointly).
- (2) Except as provided in subsection (d), the following amounts:
 - (A) Thirty-five thousand dollars (\$35,000) per year, in the case of a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school that:
 - (i) has an ADM of at least one (1) and less than one thousand one (1,001) students; and
 - (ii) is not applying jointly with any other school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school.
 - (B) Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per year, in the case of a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school that:
 - (i) has an ADM of more than one thousand (1,000) and less than five thousand one (5,001) students; and
 - (ii) is not applying jointly with any other school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school.
 - (C) Seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) per year, in the case of a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school that:
 - (i) has an ADM of more than five thousand (5,000) and less than fifteen thousand one (15,001) students; and

- (ii) is not applying jointly with any other school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school.
- (D) One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per year, in the case of a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school that:
- (i) has an ADM of more than fifteen thousand (15,000); and
 - (ii) is not applying jointly with any other school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school.
- (E) One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per year, in the case of a coalition of schools applying jointly.
- (c) Except as provided in subsection (d), the match requirement for a grant under this chapter is based on the ADM for the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school (or coalition of schools applying jointly) that is the subject of the grant as follows:
- (1) For a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school with an ADM of less than five hundred one (501) students, the grant match must be twenty-five percent (25%) of the grant amount described in subsection (b).
 - (2) For a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school with an ADM of more than five hundred (500) and less than one thousand one (1,001) students, the grant match must be fifty percent (50%) of the grant amount described in subsection (b).
 - (3) For a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school with an ADM of more than one thousand (1,000) students or a coalition of schools applying jointly, the grant match must be one hundred percent (100%) of the grant amount described in subsection (b).
- (d) A school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school may be eligible to receive a grant of up to:
- (1) one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) if:
 - (A) the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school receives a grant match of one hundred percent (100%) of the requested grant amount; and
 - (B) the board approves the grant request; or
 - (2) for a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school described in subsection (c)(1) or (c)(2), a grant of up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) if:
 - (A) the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school receives a grant match of fifty percent (50%) of the requested grant amount; and
 - (B) the board approves the grant request.
- (e) A school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school may receive only one (1) matching grant under this section each year.
- (f) The board may not award a grant to a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school under this section unless the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school is in a county that has a county school safety commission, as described in section 12 of this chapter.
- As added by P.L.172-2013, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.30-2014, SEC.1; P.L.197-2019, SEC.5; P.L.50-2019, SEC.4; P.L.153-2019, SEC.2; P.L.139-2022, SEC.2; P.L.150-2023, SEC.4.*

IC 10-21-1-4.5 Grants for active event warning system

Sec. 4.5. (a) The board may award a grant to provide for the initial set up costs for an active event warning system to a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school that jointly applies with the sheriff for the county in which the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school is located. The specifications for an active event warning system must include the following:

- (1) A two (2) phone application based system that includes school officials as a sender within the system and law enforcement agencies as a receiver within the system.
 - (2) An adjusted geofence to alert law enforcement agencies that are within a certain geographic location, including settings based on rural and urban locations, with an urban setting having a reduced geofence and a rural setting having a broader geofence.
 - (3) The ability for students and the public to submit anonymous tips through a free reporting application.
 - (4) The ability for information within the system to be interoperable with 911 dispatch.
 - (5) The ability to display the school's address and location on a map.
 - (6) The ability to provide notifications during emergencies and nonemergencies.
 - (7) The ability to call 911 automatically when the system is triggered.
 - (8) The ability to operate several individual school response plans.
- (b) A school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school may receive only one (1) grant under this section.
- (c) A sheriff for a county may receive multiple grants under this section.
- (d) The board may not award a grant to a school corporation or charter school under this section unless the school corporation or charter school is in a county that has a county school safety commission, as described in section 12 of this chapter.

As added by P.L.50-2019, SEC.5. Amended by P.L.150-2023, SEC.5.

IC 10-21-1-5 Matching grant application procedure

Sec. 5. (a) A school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school may annually apply to the board for a matching grant from the fund for a program described in section 2(a)(1) of this chapter.

(b) The application must include the following:

- (1) A concise description of the school corporation's, charter school's, or accredited nonpublic school's security needs.
- (2) The estimated cost of the program to the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school.
- (3) The extent to which the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school has access to and support from a nearby law enforcement agency and other first responder services, if applicable.
- (4) The ADM of the school corporation or charter school or the equivalent for an accredited nonpublic school (or the combined ADM of the coalition of schools applying jointly) that is the subject of the grant application.
- (5) Any other information required by the board.
- (6) This subdivision applies to an application from a school corporation or charter school (or coalition of public schools applying jointly). A statement whether the school corporation has completed a school safety plan and has filed the school safety plan with the county school safety commission for the county in which the school corporation is located. In the case of a charter school, each charter school shall include a statement whether the charter school has developed and filed with the county school safety commission for the county in which the charter school is located:

(A) a local school safety and emergency plan under [IC 20-34-3-23\(a\)](#); or

(B) not later than July 1, 2024, a school safety plan.

For a charter school in operation on July 1, 2023, the information described in clauses (A) or (B) shall comply with this subdivision on or before July 1, 2024.

(7) This subdivision applies to an application from a school corporation or charter school (or coalition of public schools applying jointly). A statement whether the school corporation or charter school (or coalition of public schools applying jointly) requests an advance under [IC 20-49-10](#) in addition to a matching grant under this chapter.

(8) If the application requests funding for school employee training, the extent to which the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school has used or attempted to use training offered at no cost, or a reduced cost, by law enforcement, the department of homeland security, the department of education, or the federal government, including an explanation as to why grant funding is necessary to fund any training expenses except for per diem, travel, and lodging costs associated with training.

(9) If the application requests funding to employ a school resource officer, a statement whether the school resource officer information required under [IC 20-26-18.2-5](#) has been, if applicable, submitted to the department of homeland security.

(10) This subdivision applies to an application from a school corporation, charter school, or an accredited nonpublic school (or coalition of public and accredited nonpublic schools applying jointly). A statement of whether the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school has:

(A) provided a copy of the floor plans for each building located on the school's property to the law enforcement agency and the fire department that have jurisdiction over each school building that clearly indicates each entrance and exit, the interior rooms and hallways, and the location of any hazardous materials located in the building; or

(B) conducted critical incidence digital mapping as defined in section 1 of this chapter for each school building, including whether it has provided the critical incidence digital mapping information to:

(i) the law enforcement agency and fire department that have jurisdiction over the mapped school buildings; and

(ii) the statewide 911 system described in [IC 36-8-16.7-22](#) through the public safety answer point, or "PSAP", (as described in [IC 36-8-16.7-20](#)) that has jurisdiction over the mapped school buildings.

(c) This subsection applies to an application from a school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school (or coalition of public and accredited nonpublic schools applying jointly). Each school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school shall certify to the department of homeland security that the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school has:

(1) conducted a site vulnerability assessment for each school building used by the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school; and

(2) a memorandum of understanding in place with a community mental health center established under [IC 12-29-2](#) or provider certified or licensed by the state to provide mental or behavioral health services to students before applying for a grant under this chapter. A provider described in this subdivision may be employed by the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school.

(d) This subsection applies to an application from a school corporation or charter school (or coalition of public schools applying jointly). Each school corporation shall certify to the department of homeland security that the school safety plan of the school corporation was reviewed by the governing body as described in section 11 of this chapter. In the case of a charter school, beginning July 1, 2024, each charter school shall certify to the department of homeland security that the school safety plan of the charter school was reviewed by the organizer as described in section 11 of this chapter.

As added by P.L.172-2013, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.211-2018(ss), SEC.3; P.L.50-2019, SEC.6; P.L.197-2019, SEC.6; P.L.211-2019, SEC.13; P.L.69-2020, SEC.1; P.L.170-2022, SEC.12; P.L.150-2023, SEC.6.

IC 10-21-1-5.5 Grant application for active event warning system; procedure

Sec. 5.5. (a) A school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school and the sheriff for the county in which the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school is located may jointly apply to the board for a one (1) time grant from the fund to provide for the initial set up costs for an active event warning system.

(b) The application must include the following:

- (1) A concise description of the school corporation's, charter school's, or accredited nonpublic school's security needs.
- (2) Any other information required by the board.
- (3) A statement whether the school corporation or charter school has completed a school safety plan and has filed the plan with the county school safety commission for the county in which the school corporation or charter school is located.
- (4) A statement from the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school verifying that the active event warning system meets the specifications listed under section 4.5(a) of this chapter.

As added by P.L.50-2019, SEC.7. Amended by P.L.150-2023, SEC.7.

IC 10-21-1-6 Repayment of grant not required

Sec. 6. A school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school that is awarded a grant under this chapter is not required to repay or reimburse the board or fund the amount of the grant.

As added by P.L.172-2013, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.197-2019, SEC.7; P.L.50-2019, SEC.8; P.L.211-2019, SEC.14; P.L.150-2023, SEC.8.

IC 10-21-1-6.5 Secured school safety board review of advances from common school fund

Sec. 6.5. If a school corporation or charter school (or a coalition of public schools applying jointly) indicates on an application under section 5 of this chapter that the school corporation or charter school (or coalition of public schools applying jointly) requests, in addition to the matching grant under this chapter, an advance under [IC 20-49-10](#), the board shall review the application and may make recommendations to the state board to approve or deny an advance in the manner prescribed in [IC 20-49-10-6](#).

As added by P.L.211-2018(ss), SEC.4.

IC 10-21-1-7 Department of homeland security to annually report to budget committee concerning the grant program

Sec. 7. The department of homeland security shall report before October 1 of each year to the budget committee concerning grants awarded under this chapter during the previous fiscal year.

As added by P.L.172-2013, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.50-2019, SEC.9.

IC 10-21-1-8 Submission of report to legislative council

Sec. 8. Not later than November 1, 2023, and each November 1 thereafter, the board shall conduct a review and submit a report to the governor and legislative council in an electronic format under [IC 5-14-6](#). The report:

- (1) must provide an overview of the current status of school safety across the state;
- (2) must include information concerning grants awarded under this chapter since the establishment of this chapter;
- (3) must include the aggregate statewide school resource officer information specified and collected under [IC 20-26-18.2-5\(d\)](#); and
- (4) may make recommendations to improve the safety of elementary and secondary school students.

As added by P.L.211-2018(ss), SEC.5. Amended by P.L.150-2023, SEC.9.

School Safety Plans

IC 10-21-1-10 School safety plan; requirements; withholding from public disclosure

Sec. 10. (a) A school corporation shall develop a school safety plan in accordance with subsection (c) for review as described in section 11 of this chapter.

(b) Each charter school shall develop a school safety plan in accordance with subsection (c) for review as described in section 11 of this chapter. A charter school in operation on July 1, 2023, shall comply with this subsection on or before July 1, 2024.

(c) The school safety plan:

- (1) must be developed by a school safety specialist and the school's safe school committee, including a school resource officer if one (1) is employed by the school corporation or charter school, in consultation with the:
 - (A) law enforcement agency; and

- (B) fire department;
that have jurisdiction over the particular school building;
- (2) must:
- (A) protect against outside and internal threats to the physical safety of students, faculty, staff, and the public, including unsafe conditions, crime prevention, school violence, bullying and cyberbullying, criminal organization activity, child abuse and child sexual abuse, mental health and behavioral health, suicide awareness and prevention, and other issues that prevent the maintenance of a safe school;
 - (B) prevent unauthorized access to school property and interior areas or rooms, including the management of authorized visitors on school property, before, during, and after regular school hours;
 - (C) secure schools against natural and manmade disasters, including all emergency preparedness drill requirements set forth in [IC 20-34-3-20](#);
 - (D) include a site vulnerability assessment for each school building;
 - (E) not later than July 1, 2025, include the establishment of a multi-disciplinary threat assessment team;
 - (F) include measures to expedite notification of first responders and access to school property for first responders; and
 - (G) include any additional requirements required by the Indiana state board of education;
- (3) must be provided to a member of the board if a member requests the school safety plan;
- (4) must be available for inspection by the department of education's division of school building physical security and safety (as established by [IC 20-19-3-14](#));
- (5) must be provided to the law enforcement agency and the fire department that have jurisdiction over the school corporation or charter school;
- (6) must include an attestation that:
- (A) a copy of the floor plans for each building located on the school's property were provided to the law enforcement agency and the fire department that have jurisdiction over the school corporation or charter school that clearly indicates each entrance and exit, the interior rooms and hallways, and the location of any hazardous materials located in the building; or
 - (B) the school corporation or charter school has conducted critical incidence digital mapping for each school building within the school corporation or the buildings that are operated by a charter school, including providing the critical incidence digital mapping information to:
 - (i) the law enforcement agency and fire department that have jurisdiction over the mapped school buildings; and
 - (ii) the statewide 911 system described in [IC 36-8-16.7-22](#) through the public safety answer point, or "PSAP", described in [IC 36-8-16.7-20](#) that has jurisdiction over the mapped school buildings; and
- (7) must be filed with the county school safety commission under section 12 of this chapter having jurisdiction over the school corporation or charter school.
- (d) For purposes of [IC 5-14-3](#), the entities specified in subsection (c) that receive information under this section shall keep the information compiled and retained under this section confidential and shall withhold the information from public disclosure.
- As added by P.L.150-2023, SEC.11.*

Multi-Disciplinary Threat Assessment Teams

IC 10-21-1-10 School safety plan; requirements; withholding from public disclosure

(E) not later than July 1, 2025, include the establishment of a multi-disciplinary threat assessment team;

(10) "Multi-disciplinary threat assessment team" means a group of individuals with expertise in school physical security, school administration, educational instruction, youth counseling, mental health and behavioral health, and law enforcement established by the leadership of the school corporation or charter school that may serve one (1) or more schools, that must meet the following requirements:

(A) Be comprised of at least:

- (i) a school safety specialist or an individual designated by the school safety committee;
- (ii) a member of a safe school committee;
- (iii) a school building level administrator;
- (iv) a school resource officer, if one (1) is either employed by or assigned to the school corporation or charter school;
- (v) an individual with expertise in special education; and
- (vi) a school counselor or social worker.

(B) Conduct multi-disciplinary threat assessments that shall:

- (i) provide guidance to students, faculty, and staff regarding the recognition of threatening or aberrant behavior that may represent a threat to the community, school, or self;
- (ii) identify members of the school community to whom threatening behavior should be reported;
- (iii) establish procedures to assess, identify, and intervene with individuals whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of school students, families, faculty, and staff; and
- (iv) inform the adoption, implementation, and updating of policies adopted by the school corporation or charter school, including school safety plans and the policies of a safe school committee for a particular school.

Indiana Fire Code

SECTION 404 FIRE SAFETY AND EVACUATION PLANS

404.1 General. Fire safety, evacuation and lockdown plans and associated drills shall comply with the requirements of Sections 404.2 through 404.5.1.

404.2 Where required. An approved fire safety and evacuation plan shall be prepared and maintained for the following occupancies and buildings.

** The Indiana Code in its entirety is not provided in this link. Group E pertains to schools. **

3. Group E. ([Educational - schools and day care centers up to the 12th grade](#))

404.3 Contents. Fire safety and evacuation plan contents shall be in accordance with Sections 404.3.1 & 404.32

404.3.1 Fire evacuation plans. Fire evacuation plans shall include the following:

1. Emergency egress or escape routes and whether evacuation of the building is to be complete or, where approved, by selected floors or areas only.
2. Procedures for employees who must remain to operate critical equipment before evacuating.
3. Procedures for assisted rescue for persons unable to use the general means of egress unassisted.
4. Procedures for accounting for employees and occupants after evacuation has been completed.
5. Identification and assignment of personnel responsible for rescue or emergency medical aid.
6. The preferred and any alternative means of notifying occupants of a fire or emergency.
7. The preferred and any alternative means of reporting fires and other emergencies to the fire department or designated emergency response organization.
8. Identification and assignment of personnel who can be contacted for further information or explanation of duties under the plan.
9. A description of the emergency voice/alarm communication system alert tone and preprogrammed voice messages, where provided.

404.3.2 Fire safety plans. Fire safety plans shall include the following:

1. The procedure for reporting a fire or other emergency.
2. The life safety strategy and procedures for notifying, relocating or evacuating occupants, including occupants who need assistance.
3. Site plans indicating the following:
 - a. The occupancy assembly point.
 - b. The locations of fire hydrants.
 - c. The normal routes of fire department vehicle access.
4. Floor plans identifying the locations of the following:
 - a. Exits.
 - b. Primary evacuation routes.
 - c. Secondary evacuation routes.
 - d. Accessible egress routes.
 - e. Areas of refuge.
 - f. Exterior areas for assisted rescue.
 - g. Manual fire alarm boxes.
 - h. Portable fire extinguishers.
 - i. Occupant-use hose stations.
 - j. Fire alarm annunciators and controls.
5. A list of major fire hazards associated with the normal use and occupancy of the premises, including maintenance and housekeeping procedures.
6. Identification and assignment of personnel responsible for maintenance of systems and equipment installed to prevent or control fires.
7. Identification and assignment of personnel responsible for maintenance, housekeeping and controlling fuel hazard sources.

404.4 Maintenance. Fire safety and evacuation plans shall be reviewed or updated annually or as necessitated by changes in staff assignments, occupancy or the physical arrangement of the building.

404.5 Availability. Fire safety and evacuation plans shall be available in the workplace for reference and review by employees, and copies shall be furnished to the fire code official for review upon request.

404.5.1 Distribution The fire safety and evacuation plans shall be posted or distributed to the tenants or building service employees by the owner or owner's agent. Tenants shall post or distribute to their employees applicable parts of the fire safety plan affecting the employees' actions in the event of a fire or other emergency.

SECTION 405 EMERGENCY EVACUATION DRILLS

405.1 General. Emergency evacuation drills complying with the provisions of this section shall be conducted at least annually in the occupancies listed in Section 404.2. Drills shall be designed in cooperation with the local authorities.

405.2 Frequency. Required emergency evacuation drills shall be held at the intervals specified in Table 405.2 or more frequently where necessary to familiarize all occupants with the drill procedure.

405.3 Leadership. Responsibility for the planning and conduct of drills shall be assigned to competent persons designated to exercise leadership.

405.4 Time. Drills shall be held at unexpected times and under varying conditions to simulate the unusual conditions that occur in case of fire.

405.5 Record keeping. Records shall be maintained of required emergency evacuation drills and include the following information:

1. Identity of the person conducting the drill.
2. Date and time of the drill.
3. Notification method used.
4. Staff members on duty and participating.
5. Number of occupants evacuated.
6. Special conditions simulated.
7. Problems encountered.
8. Weather conditions when occupants were evacuated.
9. Time required to accomplish complete evacuation.

**TABLE 405.2 FIRE AND EVACUATION DRILL
FREQUENCY AND PARTICIPATION GROUP OR FREQUENCY PARTICIPATION**

Group or Occupancy	Frequency	Participation
Group A	Quarterly	Employees
Group Bc	Annually	Employees
Group E	Monthly	All occupants
Group I	Quarterly on each shift	Employees ^b
Group R-1	Quarterly on each shift	Employees
Group R-2d	Four annually	All occupants
Group R-4	Quarterly on each shift	Employees ^b
High-rise buildings	Annually	Employees

b. Fire and evacuation drills in residential care assisted living facilities shall include complete evacuation of the premises in accordance with Section 408.1 0.5. Where occupants receive habilitation or rehabilitation training, fire prevention and fire safety practices shall be included as part of the training program.

c. Group B buildings having an occupant load of 500 or more persons or more than 100 persons above or below the lowest level of exit discharge.

d. Applicable to Group R-2 college and university buildings in accordance with Section 408.3.

405.6 Notification. Prior notification of emergency evacuation drills shall be given to the fire code official.

405.7 Initiation. Where a fire alarm system is provided, emergency evacuation drills shall be initiated by activating the fire alarm system.

405.8 Accountability. As building occupants arrive at the assembly point, efforts shall be made to determine if all occupants have been successfully evacuated or have been accounted for.

405.9 Recall and reentry. An electrically or mechanically operated signal used to recall occupants after an evacuation shall be separate and distinct from the signal used to initiate the evacuation. The recall signal initiation means shall be manually operated and under the control of the person in charge of the premises or the official in charge of the incident. No one shall reenter the premises until authorized to do so by the official in charge.

SECTION 406 EMPLOYEE TRAINING AND RESPONSE PROCEDURES

406.1 General. Employees in the occupancies listed in Section 404.2 shall be trained in the fire emergency procedures described in their fire evacuation and fire safety plans. Training shall be based on these plans and as described in Section 404.3.

406.2 Frequency. Employees shall receive training in the contents of fire safety and evacuation plans and their duties as part of new employee orientation and at least annually thereafter. Records shall be kept and made available to the fire code official upon request.

406.3 Employee training program. Employees shall be trained in fire prevention, evacuation and fire safety in accordance with Sections 406.3.1 through 406.3.4.

406.3.1 Fire prevention training. Employees shall be apprised of the fire hazards of the materials and processes to which they are exposed. Each employee shall be instructed in the proper procedures for preventing fires in the conduct of their assigned duties.

406.3.2 Evacuation training. Employees shall be familiarized with the fire alarm and evacuation signals, their assigned duties in the event of an alarm or emergency, evacuation routes, areas of refuge, exterior assembly areas and procedures for evacuation.

406.3.4 Fire safety training. Employees assigned firefighting duties shall be trained to know the locations and proper use of portable fire extinguishers or other manual fire-fighting equipment and the protective clothing or equipment required for its safe and proper use.

SECTION 408 USE AND OCCUPANCY-RELATED REQUIREMENTS

408.1 General. In addition to the other requirements of this chapter, the provisions of this section are applicable to specific occupancies listed herein.

**** The Indiana Code in its entirety is not provided in this link. Group E pertains to schools. ****

408.3 Group E occupancies and Group R-2 college and university buildings. Group E occupancies shall comply with the requirements of Sections 408.3.1 through 408.3.4 and Sections 401 through 406. Group R-2 college and university buildings shall comply with the requirements of Sections 408.3.1 and 408.3.3 and Sections 401 through 406.

408.3.1 First emergency evacuation drill. The first emergency evacuation drill of each school year shall be conducted within 10 days of the beginning of classes. 42 408.3.2 Emergency evacuation drill deferral. In severe climates, the fire code official shall have the authority to modify the emergency evacuation drill frequency specified in Section 405 .2.

408.3.3 Time of day. Emergency evacuation drills shall be conducted at different hours of the day or evening, during the changing of classes, when the school is at assembly, during the recess or gymnastic periods, or during other times to avoid distinction between drills and actual fires. In Group R-2 college and university buildings, one required drill shall be held during hours after sunset or before sunrise.

408.3.4 Assembly points. Outdoor assembly areas shall be designated and shall be located a safe distance from the building being evacuated so as to avoid interference with fire department operations. The assembly areas shall be arranged to keep each class separate to provide accountability of all individuals.