School Safety and Security Personnel Training Requirements

Updated January 2026

Purpose

This document outlines the specific mandatory and highly encouraged training requirements for all Local Education Agency (LEA)- and school-level school safety and security personnel, in compliance with relevant state laws and regulations. For questions, contact the Utah School Safety Center at schoolsafetyprograms@schools.utah.gov.

School Safety and Security Personnel

School Safety and Security Director

- School Safety and Security Training Program
- School Guardian Training Program
  - Only once:
    - The initial training, the biannual training (twice per year), and the annual training
  - If serving as a backup School Guardian:
    - Satisfy all ongoing requirements
- Highly encouraged trainings:
  - LEA's evidence-based behavioral threat assessment management approach to serve on a school's multidisciplinary team (e.g., Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG))
  - Standard Response Protocol™ (SRP)
  - PREPaRE Workshop 1: *Comprehensive School Safety Planning: Prevention Through Recovery*

School Safety and Security Specialist

- School Safety and Security Training Program
- LEA's evidence-based behavioral threat assessment management approach to serve on the school's multidisciplinary team (e.g., CSTAG)
- Standard Response Protocol™
- Highly encouraged training:
  - PREPaRE Workshop 1: *Comprehensive School Safety Planning: Prevention Through Recovery*

School Resource Officer (SRO)

- Fulfill all home agency-specific training requirements
- School Safety and Security Training Program
- LEA's evidence-based behavioral threat assessment management approach to serve on the school's multidisciplinary team (e.g., CSTAG)
- Other trainings determined by the LEA (e.g., Standard Response Protocol™, PREPaRE Workshop 1)

School Guardian

- School Guardian Training Program
- School Safety and Security Training Program
- Holds a valid concealed carry permit
- Initial "Fit to Carry" assessment
- Compliance with mental health screening requirements consistent with law enforcement standards

Armed School Security Officer

- Fulfill all home agency-specific training requirements
- School Safety and Security Training Program
- School Guardian Training Program
- Armed School Security Guard Training
- Holds a valid concealed carry permit
- Other trainings determined by the LEA (e.g., Standard Response Protocol™, PREPaRE Workshop 1)

Training Index

CSTAG

- **WHAT:** A one-day training including the rationale for threat assessment, how a multidisciplinary team functions, what steps to follow in conducting an assessment, and resolving transient and substantive threats.
- **WHY:** [R277-400: School Safety and Security](#)

Armed School Security Guard Training*

- **WHAT:** A training from the LEA's County Security Chief, or local law enforcement agency. The training includes the safe loading, unloading, storage, and carrying of a firearm in a school setting, the role of an armed school security officer in a school setting, and the coordination with school officials and law enforcement during an active threat.
  *The training curriculum is currently being created and will be shared with LEA School Safety and Security Directors when available.
- **WHY:** [Utah Code Section (UCS) 53G-8-704: Contracts between an LEA and a contract security company for armed school security guards](#)

PREPaRE Workshop 1: *Comprehensive School Safety Planning: Prevention Through Recovery*

- **WHAT:** A one-day training on how to establish and sustain comprehensive school safety efforts that attend to both physical and psychological safety, addressing critical components needed to develop, exercise, and evaluate safety and crisis teams and plans and conduct building vulnerability assessments.
- **WHY:** [UCS 53G-4-402: Powers and duties generally](#)

School Guardian Initial "Fit to Carry" Assessment

- **WHAT:** As approved by the Department of Health and Human Services, a series of psychological assessments administered by a professional with Level C qualifications. The assessments include a personality assessment, a symptoms screener, an in-person interview, and a reference check of at least one personal reference provided by the School Guardian. For more information, see the [recommendation letter](#).
- **WHY:** [UCS 53-22-105: School guardian program](#)

School Guardian Training Program
- **WHAT:** An extensive training program including the initial training (completed within six months before the day the employee begins their duty), biannual training (twice per year), and annual training. The School Guardian Training Program is administered by the LEA's County Security Chief, or with the corresponding police chiefs whose jurisdiction includes a public school.
- **WHY:** [UCS 53-22-105: School guardian program](#)

School Safety and Security Specialist Training Program
- **WHAT:** An annual, virtual training program created and hosted by the Utah School Safety Center that includes an onboarding training and three additional school-safety related trainings throughout the school year.
- **WHY:** [UCS 53G-8-701.6: School safety and security specialist](#)

School Safety and Security Training Program*
- **WHAT:** A one-day annual training attended by school safety and security personnel, which includes an overview of school-safety related topics. *The training curriculum is currently being created and will be shared with LEA School Safety and Security Directors when available.
- **WHY:** [UCS 53G-8-702: School administrator and school resource officer training -- Curriculum](#)

SRP
- **WHAT:** A comprehensive overview of SRP from the " I Love U Guys" Foundation, including how to implement the protocols within schools, and how to train students and staff on using the SRP to respond confidently to any crisis.
- **WHY:** [UCS 53G-8-803: Standard response protocol to active threats in schools](#)