



School Resource Officers

February 2019

Education Commission of the States reviewed state statute and regulations for language related to school resource officers and their required certification and training requirements. The information below does not include local school board policies, state department of education policies, memorandums of understanding between local educational agencies and local law enforcement agencies, or other sources outside of statute and regulations.

School resource officer includes school security officers and guards; school law enforcement officers; volunteer school safety personnel; school sentinels; school marshals; school guardians; constables; retired police officers; and peace, municipal, prevention and protection officers.

Education Commission of the States does not provide legal advice on specific circumstances. The information here gives an overview of relevant laws in each state and does not reflect how these laws may interact with other state or federal policies.

STATE ▲	DEFINITION OF SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER/ SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICER	CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS/ SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICERS	TRAINING REQUIREMENTS SPECIFICALLY FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS/ SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICERS	SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS CITATION
Alabama	"School resource officer" is a law enforcement officer employed by a law enforcement agency who is specifically selected and specially trained for the school setting. School resource officers are permitted to carry a deadly weapon.	SROs must annually complete the firearm requalification required of law enforcement officers.	SROs must have successfully completed active shooter training.	Ala.Code § 16-1-44.1 Ala.Code § 13A-11-72 Ala.Code § 36-21-51 Ala.Code § 16-28-17
Alaska				No statutory or regulatory language found for school resource officers/school security in schools. However, some school districts work in collaboration with the local police department for a school resource officer program. For example, the Anchorage School District works with the Anchorage Police Department to provide a safe working and learning environment for teachers, support staff, administrators and students.
Arizona				Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-155 *Note: Ariz. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15-154 acknowledge but does not define SROs.
Arkansas	A "school resource officer" is a law enforcement officer. SROs are tasked with assisting with school security, safety, emergency preparedness, emergency response, or any other responsibility assigned to the school resource officer by the school or law enforcement agency.			Ark. Code Ann. § 16-81-118 Ark. Code Ann. § 6-10-128 Ark. Code Ann. § 17-40-330 Ark. Code Ann. § 12-8-119
California	"School security officer" is employed to provide security services as a watchperson, security guard, or patrol person at a school district to protect persons or property, prevent the theft or unlawful taking of district property or to report any unlawful activity to the district and local law enforcement agencies.	The applicant can not be a person prohibited from employment by a school district, or by the Department of Justice from possessing a firearm if the applicant is required to carry a firearm. The applicant must also submit fingerprints for a background check.	Every school security officer must complete a course of training. If security officer carries a firearm, they are required to satisfy additional training requirements. Every school police reserve officer, must complete a course of training approved by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training relating directly to the role of school police reserve officers.	Cal. Educ. Code § 38001.5 Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 7583.31 Cal. Penal Code § 832.2
Colorado	"School resource officer" means a peace officer, who has specialized training, assigned to a school to create a safe learning environment and respond to all-hazard threats.		The P.O.S.T. board shall identify a school resource officer training curriculum to prepare peace officers.	Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 24-31-312 Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 22-32-109.1 Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 24-31-301 Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 24-32-146

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Connecticut	A "school resource officer" is a retired police officer employed to provide security services in a public school.	A retired police officer must obtain a license from the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection.	<p>The Police Officer Standards and Training Council provides training to security personnel employed in the public schools by a local or regional board of education. Such training shall include drug detection and gang identification.</p> <p>A retired police officer receives annual training and annual firearms training provided by a certified firearms instructor.</p>	<p>Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 7-294x</p> <p>Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 29-161</p> <p>Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 10-244a</p>
Delaware		A constable must be 21 years of age or older and take the oath prescribed by article XIV of the Constitution of Delaware.	<p>School resource officers shall annually receive awareness training from their school district; training on disability awareness and behaviors, de-escalation techniques in a school setting, information on intervention decisions, and other necessary training.</p> <p>Employees, contractors and subcontractors must annually participate in the SRO training.</p>	<p>Del. Code Ann. tit. 10, § 2701 Appointment</p> <p>14 DE Admin. Code §601. Schools and law enforcement agencies. 3.0 Written Policy and Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) 3.1 All local school districts, charter schools, and Alternative Programs shall establish a written policy on effectively communicating and working with law enforcement agencies. Each school district, charter school and Alternative Program shall develop a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with each law enforcement agency which provides services to it. Each MOA shall be in a form substantially similar to a Model MOA as developed, approved and from time to time revised by the Department of Education. 3.2 The Department shall review the Model MOA and each school district, charter school, or Alternative Program shall review its current MOA at least once every three years.</p> <p>Del. Code Ann. tit. 14, § 4112F</p> <p>Del. Code Ann. tit. 10, § 2703</p> <p>Del. Code Ann. tit. 10, § 2707</p> <p>Del. Code Ann. tit. 10, § 2705</p>
District of Columbia	<p>"School resource officer" means a sworn MPD officer assigned a school to work in collaboration with the school and community-based organizations to:</p> <p>(A) Prevent crime through community-oriented policing strategies;</p> <p>(B) Address crime and disorder, gang, and drug activity problems; and</p> <p>(C) Ensure schools and grounds are safe environments for students, teachers, and staff.</p> <p>"School security guards" means un-armed personnel, trained and hired by the MPD School Safety Division.</p> <p>"School security personnel" means school resource officers and school security guards.</p>	The certification requirements for school resource officers may also include the same certifications for a Metropolitan Police Department law enforcement officer.	<p>The School Safety Division develops a training curriculum for all school security personnel. The curriculum shall include training in the following areas:</p> <p>(1) Child development;</p> <p>(2) Effective communication skills;</p> <p>(3) Behavior management;</p> <p>(4) Conflict resolution;</p> <p>(5) Substance abuse and its effect on youth;</p> <p>(6) Availability of social services for youth;</p> <p>(7) District of Columbia laws and regulations, including Board of Education regulations;</p> <p>(8) Constitutional standards for searches and seizures conducted by school security personnel on school grounds; and</p> <p>(9) Gang and crew violence prevention.</p>	<p>D.C. Code Ann. § 5-132.01</p> <p>D.C. Code Ann. § 5-132.03</p>

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Florida	<p>SROs are certified law enforcement officers, employed by a law enforcement agency.</p> <p>"School guardians" are school employees who volunteer to aid in the prevention or abatement of active assailant incidents on school premises, have no authority to act in any law enforcement capacity and do not have the power of arrest. Teachers, with the exception of JROTC program teachers or a current or former law enforcement officers, are prohibited from becoming school guardians.</p>	<p>School resource officers shall undergo criminal background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation and be certified law enforcement officers. The powers and duties of a law enforcement officer shall continue throughout the employee's tenure as a school resource officer. School safety officers shall undergo criminal background checks, drug testing, and a psychological evaluation and be law enforcement officers, and employed by either a law enforcement agency or by the district school board. School guardians are required to hold a valid concealed carry permit; complete 132 total hours of comprehensive firearm safety and proficiency training conducted by Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission-certified instructors; pass a psychological evaluation; submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent random drug tests; successfully complete ongoing training, weapon inspection, and firearm qualification on at least an annual basis; and successfully complete at least 12 hours of a certified nationally recognized diversity training program.</p>	<p>School resource officers must complete mental health crisis intervention training. The training shall improve officers' knowledge and skills as first responders to incidents involving students with emotional disturbance or mental illness, including de-escalation skills to ensure student and officer safety.</p> <p>School guardians are required to complete 132 total hours of comprehensive firearm safety and proficiency training (previously mentioned under the certification requirements), including 80 hours of firearms instruction, 16 hours of instruction in precision pistol, eight hours of discretionary shooting instruction using state-of-the-art simulator exercises, eight hours of instruction in active shooter or assailant scenarios, eight hours of instruction in defensive tactics and 12 hours of instruction in legal issues.</p>	<p>Fla. Stat. Ann. § 1006.12</p> <p>Fla. Stat. Ann. § 943.10</p> <p>Fla. Stat. Ann. § 1006.13</p> <p>Fla. Stat. Ann. § 1006.07</p> <p>Fla. Stat. Ann. § 30.15</p>
Georgia	<p>"School resource officer" is a peace officer whose primary employment with a law enforcement unit is assignment to a public elementary school or secondary school.</p>	<p>Any person employed or certified as a peace officer shall: (1) Be at least 18 ; (2) Be a U.S. citizen; (3) Have a high school diploma or equivalent; (4) Not convicted of any crime; (5) Pass a fingerprint based search; (6) Possess good moral character; (7) Be free from any physical, emotional, or mental conditions; and (8) Successfully complete a job related academy entrance examination. Each law enforcement unit is encouraged to provide additional requirements.</p>	<p>Any person assigned or appointed as a school resource shall successfully complete a training course. The training must provide training in the role of a peace officer assigned to an elementary or secondary school, search and seizure in elementary and secondary schools, criminal offenses, gang awareness, drug awareness, interviews and interrogations, emergency preparedness, and interpersonal interactions with adolescents, including the encountering of mental health issues.</p>	<p>Ga. Code Ann. § 35-8-2</p> <p>Ga. Code Ann. § 35-8-8</p> <p>Ga. Code Ann. § 35-8-27</p> <p>Ga. Code Ann. § 35-8-13.1</p>
Hawaii	<p>A school security attendant is a year round school employee.</p>	<p>All guards must (1) Be at least 18; (2) Possess a high school education or equivalent; (3) Not be presently suffering from any psychiatric or psychological disorder; and (4) Not have been convicted in any jurisdiction of a crime which reflects unfavorably on the fitness of the individual to act as a guard.</p>		<p>Limited statutory or regulatory language found for school security attendant. However, some Hawaii counties have school resource officers within certain districts in their local police departments. For example, Maui County's Uniformed Services Bureau includes six patrol districts, five of which include school resource officers.</p> <p>Haw. Rev. Stat. § 88-21</p> <p>Haw. Code R. 8-19-2</p> <p>Haw. Rev. Stat. § 463-10.5</p> <p>According to a Hawaii News Now article (http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/37644242/gubernatorial-candidate-clayton-hee-offers-his-plan-to-prevent-gun-violence-at-schools), "In 2000, the state Department of Education established a safety management program in which a former retired law enforcement officer was placed at 25 selected campuses. Back then, they weren't armed, but a federal law passed in 2004 now allows them to be."</p>
Idaho				<p>No statutory or regulatory language found for school resource officers/school security in schools. However, Idaho is a "local control" state, which means school districts use the statutory language that governs the powers and duties of trustees to enter into memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement for school security and school resource officers.</p>

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Illinois	<p>"School resource officer" is a law enforcement officer who has been primarily assigned to a school or school district under an agreement with a local law enforcement agency.</p>	<p>50 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 705/10.22(a)-(d): The Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board is required to develop a course for SROs in consultation with organizations demonstrating expertise and or experience in the areas of youth and adolescent developmental issues, educational administrative issues, prevention of child abuse and exploitation, youth mental health treatment, and juvenile advocacy. The Board will also develop a process allowing law enforcement agencies to request a waiver of this training requirement for any individual assigned as a SRO whose prior training and experience may qualify for such waiver. Upon completion of the course, the employing agency is required to issue a certificate of completion to the SRO who completed the training. Additionally, a letter of approval will be issued to the employing agency for any officer who is approved for a training waiver.</p> <p>105 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 5/10-20.67(b): Beginning January 1, 2021, any law enforcement agency that provides a SRO under this section is required to provide to the school district a certificate of completion, or approved waiver, indicating that the SRO has completed the requisite course of instruction in the applicable subject areas within one year of assignment, or has prior experience and training which satisfies this requirement.</p>	<p>The Illinois Law Enforcement Training Standards Board is required to develop a course for SROs in consultation with organizations demonstrating expertise and or experience in the areas of youth and adolescent developmental issues, educational administrative issues, prevention of child abuse and exploitation, youth mental health treatment, and juvenile advocacy. The Board will also develop a process allowing law enforcement agencies to request a waiver of this training requirement for any individual assigned as a SRO whose prior training and experience may qualify for such waiver. Upon completion of the course, the employing agency is required to issue a certificate of completion to the SRO who completed the training. Additionally, a letter of approval will be issued to the employing agency for any officer who is approved for a training waiver.</p>	<p>50 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 705/10.22</p> <p>105 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 5/10-20.67</p>
Indiana	<p>"School resource officer" is a police reference officer employed by a law enforcement agency. The SROP is assigned to one or more schools to assist the school safety specialist with the development and implementation of the school safety plan; and protect against outside threats; prevent unauthorized access to school property; and secure schools against violence and natural disasters.</p>		<p>An SRO must have:</p> <p>(1) successfully completed the minimum training requirements established for law enforcement officers; and</p> <p>(2) received at least forty (40) hours of school resource officer training including training regarding skills, tactics, and strategies necessary to address the special nature of: school campuses; and school building security needs and characteristics.</p>	<p>Ind. Code Ann. § 20-26-18.2-1</p> <p>Ind. Code Ann. § 20-26-16-4</p> <p>Ind. Code Ann. § 20-26-18.2-3</p>
Iowa				<p>No statutory or regulatory language found for school resource officers/school security in schools. However, the Iowa Association of School Resource Officers reported last year that at least 29 out of 99 counties have one or more police departments with a resource officer in a school. (https://www.press-citizen.com/story/news/2018/03/12/iowa-city-and-surrounding-schools-exploring-school-resource-officers/412418002/)</p>
Kansas	<p>"School resource officer" is a law enforcement officer employed by a law enforcement agency and assigned to a district through an agreement between the local law enforcement agency and the district.</p> <p>"School security officer" is a person employed by a board of education of any school district for the purpose of aiding and supplementing state and local law enforcement agencies, but is not a law enforcement officer or police officer.</p>		<p>A law enforcement officer assigned to a school is required to complete a skill development training course developed by the Kansas law enforcement training center.</p>	<p>Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72-6152</p> <p>Kan. Admin. Regs. 16-16-3</p> <p>Kan. Stat. Ann. § 72-6146</p>

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Kentucky	<p>"School resource officer" is a sworn law enforcement officer with specialized training to work with youth at a school site.</p> <p>"School security officer" is a person employed by a local board of education who has been appointed a special law enforcement officer with specialized training to work with youth at a school site.</p>		<p>SROs receive specialized training to work with youth at a school site.</p> <p>School security officers receive specialized training to work with youth at a school site.</p>	<p>Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 158.441</p> <p>Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 15.380</p> <p>503 Ky. Admin. Regs. 3:030</p>
Louisiana	"School resource officer "is a peace officer.	A "school resource officer" shall be certified by a nationally accredited school resource officer program or a state school resource officer training program certified by the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training.	The Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training shall develop and implement a School Violence Prevention Training Program in conjunction with the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice, the office of state police, local law enforcement agencies, and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.	<p>La. Rev. Stat. Ann. 40:2404.1</p> <p>La. Rev. Stat. Ann. 17:416.19</p> <p>La. Rev. Stat. Ann. 40:2402</p>
Maine				No statutory or regulatory language found for school resource officers/school security in schools. However, some school districts work in collaboration with local police departments to establish a school resource officer program. For example, Augusta School Department works in collaboration with the Augusta Police Department for a school resource officer program.
Maryland	"School resource officer" is a law enforcement officer assigned to a school in accordance with a memorandum of understanding between a law enforcement agency and the local education agency; or a Baltimore City school police officer authorized to make arrests and is a member of the Baltimore City School Police Force.	The Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission, the Civil Service Commission of Baltimore City must adopt: (i) Requirements for education, training, human and public relations skills, and moral character that an applicant must meet to qualify for employment as a Baltimore City school police officer; and (ii) Standards for the performance of duties.	The curriculum used in training of school resource officers and school security employees shall include : 1. De-escalation; 2. Disability awareness; 3. Maintaining a positive school climate; 4. Constructive interactions with students; and 5. Implicit bias and disability and diversity awareness with specific attention to racial and ethnic disparities.	<p>Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 7-1501</p> <p>Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 4-318</p> <p>Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 1508</p>
Massachusetts	"School resource officer," is a municipal police officer with all necessary training, up-to-date certificates or a special officer charged with providing law enforcement and security services to elementary and secondary public schools.		The chief of police shall assign an officer who will foster an optimal learning environment and educational community. The chief shall give preference to candidates who have received specialized training relating to working with adolescents and children, including cognitive development, de-escalation techniques, and alternatives to arrest and diversion strategies.	<p>Mass. Gen. Laws Ann. 71 § 37P</p> <p>In Massachusetts, a model memorandum of understanding governing the role of school resource officers in Massachusetts schools was released by the Massachusetts Attorney General, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.</p>
Michigan				No statutory or regulatory language found for school resource officers/school security in schools.
Minnesota				No statutory or regulatory language found for school resource officers/school security in schools. However, as of September 2014 there were 307 school resource officers statewide in Minnesota. (https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ojp/forms-documents/Documents/SRO%20REPORT.pdf)
Mississippi	"School Resource Officer" is an police officer. The officer must be at least 23 years of age and have 3 years of law enforcement experience. The officer is responsible for law enforcement, teaching within the area of expertise, security administration, and first level counseling of students. "School Safety Officer," is a non-commissioned officer employed by a school district for routine safety and security duties. This officer has no powers of arrest other than citizen's arrest, nor do they typically carry a firearm.		Any officer assigned to perform school security must complete a training course designated by the Mississippi Department of Education and Mississippi Board of Law Enforcement Standards and Training within two years of appointment.	<p>Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-82</p> <p>Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-321</p> <p>Code Miss. R. 7-6-2:1</p> <p>Miss. Code Ann. § 45-6-7</p>

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Missouri	A school protection officer is any teacher or administrator who requests such designation in writing and submits it to the superintendent of the school district. If the person seeks to carry a concealed firearm, he or she must also submit proof of a valid concealed carry permit.	In order to carry a gun, the protection officer must have a valid concealed carry endorsement or permit.	<p>The Missouri state training center must develop the curriculum and certification requirements for school resource officers. At a minimum, SROs must complete 40 hours of basic school resource officer training including legal operations within an educational environment, intruder training and planning, juvenile law, and any other relevant topics.</p> <p>All school protection officers must successfully complete a school protection officer training program, approved by the director of the department of public safety.</p>	<p>Mo. Ann. Stat. § 168.450</p> <p>Mo. Ann. Stat. § 160.665</p> <p>Mo. Ann. Stat. § 162.215</p>
Montana				No statutory or regulatory language found for school resource officers/school security in schools.
Nebraska				No statutory or regulatory language found for school resource officers (SROs)/school security in schools. However, under Legislative Resolution (LR) 429 (2018), the Judiciary Committee will examine the role and purpose of SROs in Nebraska, and whether, and to what extent, the interplay between law enforcement and education is contributing to Nebraska's burgeoning state juvenile justice system. Additionally, LR 447 (2018) will examine school safety measures, including SROs. Hearings are set for September 28, 2018 at the state capitol to discuss the findings of LR429 and LR447.
Nevada	"School resource officer" is a deputy sheriff or other peace officer employed by a local law enforcement agency and assigned to duty at one or more schools. The officer's responsibilities include, providing guidance and information to pupils, families and educational personnel concerning the avoidance and prevention of crime.			<p>Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 388.2358</p> <p>Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 388.265</p> <p>Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 391.283</p>
New Hampshire				N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 186:11
New Jersey			<p>The Police Training Commission must develop a training course for safe schools resource officers. The course must provide comprehensive and consistent training in current school resource officer practices and concepts including training in the protection of students from harassment, intimidation, and bullying, including incidents which occur through electronic communication.</p> <p>According to the New Jersey School Boards Association's 2014 school security task force report, the mandatory training program for SROs includes training in threat/risk assessment, instructional duties, counter-terrorism, as well as teaching methods, mentoring and working with school administrators. (Source)</p>	<p>N.J. Stat. Ann. § 52:17B-71.8</p> <p>N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:17-43</p> <p>N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:6-4.5</p> <p>N.J. Stat. Ann. § 40A:14-146.15</p>
New Mexico				No statutory or regulatory language found for school resource officers/school security in schools. However, some school districts will collaborate with local police departments to establish a school resource officer program. For example, the City of Las Cruces entered into a service agreement with the Las Cruces Public Schools to provide and manage a school resource officer program.

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New York			A district safety plan shall include collaborative arrangements with law enforcement to ensure school safety officers are adequately trained, including being trained to de-escalate potentially violent situations.	N.Y. Educ. Law § 2801-a McKinney's CPL § 2.10 New York is a "local option" state. http://www.nyssba.org/clientuploads/nyssba_pdf/CapitalConference/SRO-Programs13.pdf
North Carolina	The sheriff may establish a volunteer school safety resource officer program to provide nonsalaried special deputies to serve as school safety resource officers in public schools.	To be a volunteer in the program, a person must have prior experience as either (i) a sworn law enforcement officer or (ii) a military police officer with a minimum of two years' service.	No volunteer may be assigned to a school until the volunteer has renewed the law enforcement training and been certified as meeting the educational and firearms proficiency standards required of persons serving as special deputy sheriffs.	N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 115C-47 N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 162-26 N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 160A-288.4
North Dakota				N.D. Cent. Code Ann. § 15.1-19-14
Ohio	"School resource officer" is a peace officer appointed through a memorandum of understanding between a law enforcement agency and a school district to provide services to a school district or school.		A school resource officer must: (a) Complete a basic training program approved by the Ohio peace officer training commission; (b) Complete at least forty hours of school resource officer training within one year after appointment. A certified training program shall include instruction regarding skills, tactics, and strategies necessary to address the specific nature of all of the following: (a) School campuses; (b) School building security needs and characteristics; (c) The nuances of law enforcement functions conducted inside a school environment, including: (i) Understanding the psychological and physiological characteristics consistent with the ages of the students; (ii) Understanding the appropriate role of school resource officers regarding discipline and reducing the number of referrals to juvenile court; and (iii) Understanding the use of developmentally appropriate interview, interrogation, de-escalation, and behavior management strategies. (d) The mechanics of being a positive role model for youth; (e) Providing assistance on topics such as classroom management tools to provide law-related education to students and methods for managing the behaviors sometimes associated with educating children with special needs; (f) The mechanics of the laws regarding compulsory attendance; (g) Identifying the trends in drug use, eliminating the instance of drug use.	Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3313.951
Oklahoma				"School resource officer" is a police reference officer employed by a law enforcement agency. The SRO is assigned to one or more schools to assist the school safety specialist with the development and implementation of the school safety plan; and protect against outside threats; prevent unauthorized access to school property; and secure schools against violence and natural disasters.
Oregon				No statutory or regulatory language found for school resource officers/school security in schools. However, some school districts enter into an agreement with local policy departments. For example, the Grants Pass School District has partnered with the Grants Pass Department of Public Safety to provide security on campus.

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Pennsylvania	"School police officer," is a law officer employed by a school district whose responsibilities are established by the school district. "School resource officer," is a law enforcement officer employed by a law enforcement agency whose duty station is located in a school entity and whose stationing is established by an agreement between the law enforcement agency and the school entity. "School security guard," is an individual employed by a school entity or a third party contractor and assigned to a school for routine safety and security duties and is not engaged in programs with students at the school.		A school police officer who has been authorized to carry a firearm must successfully complete training relating to municipal police education or have graduated from the Pennsylvania State Police Academy and have been employed as a State trooper with the Pennsylvania State Police.	24 Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. § 13-1313-C 24 Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. § 13-1302-A 24 Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. § 13-1314-C 24 Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. § 13-1301-C 24 Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. § 13-1302-C 24 Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. § 13-1305-C 24 Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. § 13-1306-C 24 Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. § 13-1311-C 24 Pa. Cons. Stat. Ann. § 13-1341
Rhode Island	"School resource officer" is a career law enforcement officer with sworn authority employed by a police department to work in collaboration with one or more schools.		School resource officers should have completed at least forty (40) hours of specialized training in school policing, administered by an accredited agency, before being assigned.	R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 16-7.2-6 R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 16-21.5-1
South Carolina	"School resource officer" is a sworn law enforcement officer, who has completed the basic course of instruction for School Resource Officers and who is assigned to one or more school districts to act as a law enforcement officer, advisor and teacher for that school district.		SROs are required to complete the basic course of instruction for school resource officers.	S.C. Code Ann. § 5-7-12 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-210
South Dakota	School sentinels are armed school employees, hired security personnel, or volunteers charged with deterrence of physical threat and defense of the school.	A school sentinel must be: (1) Is a U.S. citizen; (2) Is at least 21; (3) Has fingerprints taken; (4) Is of good moral character; (5) Is a graduate of an accredited high school or equivalent; (6) Is examined by a physician who certifies the applicant can perform the duties; (7) Is interviewed and approved by the school board; (8) Has received written approval to apply to the school sentinel basic training course by all local law enforcement agencies; (9) Has not unlawfully used any prescribed drug, controlled substance, or marijuana within one year before the time of application for training; and (10) Has a valid concealed weapons permit.	A school sentinel must complete a school sentinel training course. The training course consists of at least 80 hours of training in the following subject areas: firearms proficiency, use of force, legal aspects, weapons retention, identifying protocol for identifying sentinel and first aid.	S.D. Codified Laws § 13-64-1 S.D. Codified Laws § 13-64-2 S.D. Codified Laws § 23-3-35 S.D. Codified Laws § 13-64-3
Tennessee	"School resource officer" is a law enforcement officer assigned to a school in accordance with a memorandum of understanding between the chief of the appropriate law enforcement agency and the LEA.		Training courses for school resource officers shall be designed specifically for school policing. School resource officers shall participate in forty (40) hours of basic training in school policing within twelve (12) months of assignment to a school. Every year thereafter they shall participate in a minimum of sixteen (16) hours of training specific to school policing.	Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-4217 Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-4202 Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-11-106 Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-4206

STATE ▲	DEFINITION OF SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER/ SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICER	CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS/ SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICERS	TRAINING REQUIREMENTS SPECIFICALLY FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS/ SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICERS	SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS CITATION
Texas	<p>"School resource officer" is a peace officer assigned to provide: a police presence at a public school, safety or drug education to students of a public school, or other similar services.</p> <p>"School marshal" is a school employee appointed by the board of trustees of a school district or the governing body of an open-enrollment charter school and may carry or possess a handgun on the physical premises of a school, but only in the manner provided by written regulations adopted by the board of trustees or the governing body; and at a specific school as specified by the board of trustees or governing body, as applicable. However, if the primary duty of the school marshal involves regular, direct contact with students, the marshal may not carry a concealed handgun but may possess a handgun on the physical premises of a school in a locked and secured safe within the marshal's immediate reach when conducting the marshal's primary duty.</p>	<p>School resource officers at a school district with 30,000 or more students must obtain a school-based law enforcement proficiency certificate within 120 days of the officer's commission or placement. The applicant must participate in a course to receive the certificate.</p> <p>School marshals are eligible for licensure after completion of training requirements to the satisfaction of commission staff and are found to be psychologically fit to carry out the duties of a school marshal in an emergency shooting or situation involving an active shooter.</p>	<p>The model training curriculum for school district peace officers must incorporate learning objectives regarding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) child and adolescent development and psychology; (2) positive behavioral interventions and supports, conflict resolution techniques, and restorative justice techniques; (3) de-escalation techniques and techniques for limiting the use of force, including the use of physical, mechanical, and chemical restraints; (4) the mental and behavioral health needs of children with disabilities or special needs; and (5) mental health crisis intervention. <p>School marshals are required to participate in a training program, which includes 80 hours of instruction to emphasize strategies for preventing school shootings and for securing the safety of potential victims of school shootings; educate a trainee a trainee about legal issues related to the duties of peace officers and the use of force or deadly force in the protection of others; introduce the trainee to effective law enforcement strategies and techniques; improve the trainee's proficiency with a handgun; and enable the trainee to respond to an emergency situation requiring deadly force, such as a situation involving an active shooter.</p>	<p>Tex. Occ. Code Ann. § 1701.262</p> <p>Tex. Occ. Code Ann. § 1701.601</p> <p>Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 37.081</p> <p>37 Tex. Admin. Code § 221.43</p> <p>Tex. Crim. Proc. Code Ann. § 2.127</p> <p>Tex. Occ. Code Ann. § 1701.263</p> <p>Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 37.0812</p> <p>Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 37.0811</p> <p>Tex. Occ. Code Ann. § 1701.260</p>
Utah	<p>"School resource officer" is a law enforcement officer, who contracts with or whose law enforcement agency contracts with an LEA to provide law enforcement services for the LEA.</p> <p>The SRO shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) maintain a safe, healthy, and productive learning environment in a school; (ii) act as a positive role model to students; (iii) work to create a cooperative, proactive, and problem-solving partnership between law enforcement and the LEA; and (iv) emphasize the use of restorative approaches to address negative behavior. 		<p>The State Board of Education shall make rules that prepare and make available a training program for school resource officers to attend.</p> <p>The training program may include training on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) childhood and adolescent development; (b) responding age-appropriately to students; (c) working with disabled students; (d) techniques to de-escalate and resolve conflict; (e) cultural awareness; (f) restorative justice practices; (g) identifying a student exposed to violence or trauma and referring the student to appropriate resources; (h) student privacy rights; (i) negative consequences associated with youth involvement in the juvenile and criminal justice systems; (j) strategies to reduce juvenile justice involvement; and (k) roles of and distinctions between a school resource officer and other school staff who help keep a school secure. 	<p>Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-701</p> <p>Utah Code Ann. § 53-13-103</p> <p>Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-703</p> <p>Utah Code Ann. § 53G-8-702</p>
Vermont				<p>Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 16, § 1167</p> <p>Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 20, § 2358</p> <p>7-1 Vt. Code R. § 12:4500.3</p>

STATE ▲	DEFINITION OF SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER/ SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICER	CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS/ SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICERS	TRAINING REQUIREMENTS SPECIFICALLY FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS/ SCHOOL SECURITY OFFICERS	SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS CITATION
Virginia	<p>"School resource officer" is a certified law enforcement officer hired by the local law enforcement agency to provide law enforcement and security services to Virginia public elementary and secondary schools.</p> <p>"School security officer" is an individual employed by the local school board to maintain order and discipline, prevent crime, investigate violations of school board policies and detain students violating the law or school board policies on school property or at school-sponsored events and who is responsible for ensuring the safety, security, and welfare of all students, faculty, staff and visitors in the assigned school.</p>	<p>The Department of Education and the Virginia State Crime Commission, shall establish compulsory minimum standards for in-service training curricula and certification requirements for school security officers. Additionally the person shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Undergo a background investigation; 2. Have a high school diploma, or equivalent; 3. Be a minimum of 21; 4. Possess a valid driver's license if required by the duties of office to operate a motor vehicle; 5. Successfully complete basic first aid training; and 6. Comply with compulsory minimum entry-level training requirements approved by the board. 	<p>The training standards shall include, the role and responsibility of school security officers, school and personal liability issues, security awareness in the school environment, mediation and conflict resolution, disaster and emergency response and student behavioral dynamics. Any school security officer who carries a firearm must provide proof that he has completed a training course that includes training in active shooter emergency response, emergency evacuation procedure and threat assessment.</p>	<p>Va. Code Ann. § 9.1-101</p> <p>Va. Code Ann. § 9.1-110</p> <p>Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-280.2:1</p> <p>Va. Code Ann. § 18.2-57</p> <p>Va. Code Ann. § 9.1-102</p> <p>Va. Code Ann. § 9.1-184</p> <p>6 Va. Admin. Code 20-240-30</p> <p>6 Va. Admin. Code 20-240-50</p> <p>6 Va. Admin. Code 20-240-20</p> <p>6 Va. Admin. Code 20-240-10</p>
Washington				<p>Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 28A.300.2851</p> <p>Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 28A.600.485</p>
West Virginia	<p>Prevention Resource Officers are certified police officers, assigned to work full time within a public school during the school year. The PRO duties, salary and other conditions are determined through an agreement with the county board of education and the PRO authorized police department.</p>			<p>W. Va. Code Ann. § 18-8-6</p> <p>W. Va. Code R. § 126-99</p>
Wisconsin				<p>No statutory or regulatory language found for school resource officers/school security in schools. However, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction suggests local education agencies and law enforcement enter into a memorandum of understanding regarding the roles and responsibilities of school resource officers and their respective organizations.</p>
Wyoming				<p>No statutory or regulatory language found for school resource officers/school security in schools.</p>