

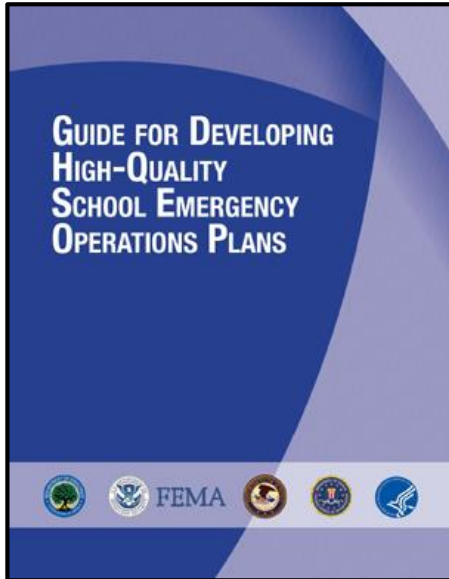


Active Shooter Recommendations

U.S. Department of Education (2013)

A "Lockdown Only" response to an Active Shooter
No Longer meets Government Recommendations

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US Department of Education (2013)

- *Guide for Developing School Emergency Operation Plans*

Agency Participants in Authoring this Document

- U.S. Dept. of Education (US Dept. of Ed)
- U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
- U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS)
- U.S. Dept. of Justice (DOJ)
- U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

See what this government Agency recommends for Active Shooter response.

Findings

In its 2007 publication, The US Department of Education's guidance for active shooters response was limited to lockdown. The 2013 edition expands the guidance to include multiple options that go beyond lockdown including Run, Hide or Fight. It also recognizes that staff and students may have to use more than one option and that the decision to do so should be made using their own judgment.

Background

On June 18, 2013, Vice President Biden released new guidelines for school safety that align and build upon years of emergency planning work by the Federal government. This guide incorporates lessons learned from recent incidents, and responds to the needs and concerns voiced by stakeholders following the recent shootings in Newtown, CT.

Lockdown is no Longer Enough

"You can run away from the shooter, seek a secure place where you can hide and/or deny the shooter access, or incapacitate the shooter to survive and protect others from harm." [Page 63]

"If running is not a safe option, hide in as safe a place as possible. In addition: Hide along the wall closest to the exit but out of the view from the hallway (allowing for an ambush of the shooter and for possible escape if the shooter enters the room)." [Page 65]

Multiple Options are needed

"As the situation develops, it is possible that students and staff will need to use more than one option." [Page 64]

Those in Harm's Way Should Make Their Own Decisions

"While they should follow the plan and any instructions given during an incident, often they will have to rely on their own judgment to decide which option will best protect lives." [Page 64]

Is your School exercising an appropriate “*Standard of Care*” in its “*Duty to Protect*” staff and students?

Schools: A Duty to Protect

Since Jefferson founded public education for the citizens of the United States, schools have been charged with the safety of children in their care - a duty to protect. Teachers and administrators have a responsibility to anticipate potential dangers and to take precautions to protect their students from those dangers.

What is the Standard of Care?

If a school district fails its duty to protect students from injury and an appropriate standard of care was not used, the district can be found negligent. The standard of care is not a statute or regulation that can be pointed to and expounded upon. The standard of care is a concept that is argued in courtrooms requiring school districts to answer questions like:

1. Did you comply with federal & state recommendations?
2. Is your policy consistent with comparable schools?
3. Did you comply with your own stated policy?

ALICE: the New Standard of Care

Historically, government agencies have recommended a lockdown-only approach that includes students hiding under desks or against walls. Some of these techniques originated during the cold-war as a method of protection from a nuclear threat. As ridiculous as this now seems, it was accepted in the era.

Today, government agencies (including the US Department of Education) have spent considerable resources researching active shooting events. Their findings have resulted in a change in guidance - a movement away from the cold war era techniques typically used in a lockdown-only approach. ALICE protocols are used almost exclusively in all new guidance.

Following current federal and state recommendations is a major step in limiting a school districts liability by demonstrating they have met today's standard of care.

Endorsed by Law Enforcement across the Country

ALICE is endorsed by law enforcement across the country and in line with recommendations from the: Department of Homeland Security (DHS); Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); US Department of Education; along with many state agencies across the US.

About ALICE

The ALICE program was authored by a police officer to keep his wife, an elementary school principal, safe after the tragic events at Columbine. Since these humble beginnings, ALICE continues to be the leading active shooter response program in the US.

ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) training helps prepare individuals to handle the threat of an Active Shooter. ALICE teaches individuals to participate in their own survival, while leading others to safety. Though no one can guarantee success in this type of situation, this new set of skills will greatly increase the odds of survival should anyone face this form of disaster.

Get ALICE Certified

Being an ALICE certified organization demonstrates to your stakeholders that you are serious about safety: including the safety of your employees; visitors; and in the cases of schools – our children.

The ALICE Certified mark, which is backed by our research and years of experience, indicates to your stakeholders that you have gone the extra mile to practice safety training that has been deemed to be critical to help survive today's violent intruder events. To learn more please visit us at www.AliceTraining.com

