

Safe and Healthy Schools Division

School Safety

Information and Resources

School Safety

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) and school systems are responsible for the safety and care of students and educators during emergency situations such as natural disasters or other potential hazards.

Louisiana law ([RS 17:416.16](#)) mandates that all elementary and secondary public schools prepare, maintain, and exercise a crisis management and response plan to help ensure every student, teacher, and school employee is in a safe and secure facility and prepared to respond in the event of an emergency or disaster incident.

These plans should be developed collaboratively with local law enforcement, fire, public safety, and emergency preparedness officials. The plan should be reviewed annually and revised as needed. The plan should be submitted by the school administrator to the local school superintendent for approval annually. The local school superintendent makes an annual report to the local governing authority on the status of each plan of the school system. Each school administrator should conduct a safety drill to rehearse components of the plan within the first thirty days of school.

School Safety Resources

REMS Technical Assistance Center's website (which will open in a new tab) contains free resources, trainings, and technical assistance (TA) for schools and their community partners, including many tools and resources on emergency planning and response to infectious disease outbreaks. Schools may find these considerations are helpful for developing high-quality emergency operations plans.

[Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans](#)

Emergency Preparedness and Recovery Websites

- [GOHSEP](#)
- [Louisiana Center for Safe Schools](#)
- [National Center for Disaster Preparedness](#)
- [National Weather Service](#)
- [REMS TA Center](#)