

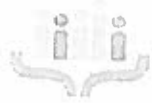
# 50 State Comparison of School Safety Drills

**(GENERAL SUMMARY)**

**Report #1**

**Source : Education Commission of the States**

**<https://reports.ecs.org/comparisons/k-12-school-safety-2022-02>**



K-12 School Safety 2022

School Safety Drills

October 2022

Education Commission of the States reviewed state statute and regulations for drills related to school safety. The information below does not include drills required by handbooks, manuals or other sources outside of statute and regulations. The information below also does not include drills that are recommended but not required.

Drills counted below primarily include only those related to school safety and emergency preparedness (active shooter, evacuation, lockdown, man-made occurrence, shelter in place, etc.). However, in some states, school safety drills are held in place of or in conjunction with emergency or disaster drills.

Key Terms for Entities in Charge of Leading or Managing Drills:

- **Head of School** includes principals, chief administrative offers, school administrators or other persons in charge of schools.
- **Staff Member** includes various school employees.
- **School Safety Team** includes agencies, departments, task forces, committees, etc., that were created with the intent of addressing school safety matters at either the school or district level.

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.

Clear Filters



- [Download PDF](#)

STATE	Type of drill(s) required and frequency of the drill	Citation for drill requirement	Is a local law enforcement agency required to lead, participate in, or otherwise manage school safety drills?	Citation for law enforcement involvement in drills	Who is in charge of leading or managing school safety drills (if not law enforcement)?	Citation for managing safety drills	Notes on school safety drill
Alabama	Emergency Drill (one per month) Lockdown Drill (one per semester)	Ala. Code § 16-1-44 Ala. Code § 36-19-10	No	Ala. Code § 16-1-44 Ala. Code § 36-19-10	Head of School	Ala. Code § 16-1-44	Emergency drills include, but are not limited to, safety security, severe weather, fire, and school lockdown drills
Alaska	Emergency Drill (one per month)	Alaska Stat. Ann. § 14.03.140	No	Alaska Stat. Ann. § 14.03.140	Head of School	Alaska Stat. Ann. § 14.03.140	
Arizona	Not Identified in Statute		N/A		N/A		
Arkansas	Lockdown Drill (one per year)	Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-1303	Yes	Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-1303	Not Specified	Ark. Code Ann. § 6-15-1303	
California	Drop Procedure (one per quarter - elementary, one per semester - secondary)	Cal. Educ. Code § 32282	No	Cal. Educ. Code § 32282	Staff Member	Cal. Educ. Code § 32282	

STATE ↑	Type of drill(s) required and frequency of the drill	Citation for drill requirement	Is a local law enforcement agency required to lead, participate in, or otherwise manage school safety drills?	Citation for law enforcement involvement in drills	Who is in charge of leading or managing school safety drills (if not law enforcement)?	Citation for managing safety drills	Notes on school safety drill
Select All			Select All	Select All			
Colorado	All-Hazard Drill Fire Drill Table Top Exercises (frequency determined by school board)	Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 22-32-109.1	No	Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 22-32-109.1	N/A	Colo. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 22-32-109.1	
Connecticut	Crisis Response Drill (one every three months, in place of a fire drill) Fire Drill (one per month)	Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 10-231	Yes	Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 10-231	School Safety Team	Conn. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 10-231	
Delaware	Lockdown or Intruder Drill (two per year) Tabletop Exercise (one per year)	Del. Code Ann. tit. 29, § 8237	Yes	Del. Code Ann. tit. 29, § 8237	School Safety Team	Del. Code Ann. tit. 29, § 8237	
District of Columbia	Not Identified in Statute		N/A		N/A		
Florida	Emergency Drills (one per year of each type)	Fla. Stat. Ann. § 1006.07	Yes	Fla. Stat. Ann. § 1006.07	School Safety Team	Fla. Stat. Ann. § 1006.07	
Georgia	School Safety Plan Drill (frequency determined by the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency)	Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-1185	No	Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-1185	Not Specified	Ga. Code Ann. § 20-2-1185	
Hawaii	Not Identified in Statute		N/A		N/A		
Idaho	Evacuation Drill (frequency not specified)	Idaho Admin. Code r. 08.02.03.160	No	Idaho Admin. Code r. 08.02.03.160	Not Specified	Idaho Admin. Code r. 08.02.03.160	
Illinois	Law Enforcement Drills (one per year) School Evacuation Drills (three per year) Severe Weather and Shelter-in-place Drills (one per year)	105 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 128/15 105 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 128/20	Yes	105 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 128/20	Head of School	105 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 128/20	
Indiana	Active Shooter Drill (one per year) Fire Evacuation Drill (one per month) Manmade Occurrence Disaster Drill (one per semester) Tornado Drill (one per semester)	Ind. Code Ann. § 20-34-3-20	No	Ind. Code Ann. § 20-34-3-20	Head of School	Ind. Code Ann. § 20-34-3-20	

STATE  
↑

Type of drill(s)  
required and  
frequency of the  
drill

Citation for  
drill  
requirement

Is a local law  
enforcement agency  
required to  
lead, participate in, or  
otherwise manage  
school safety drills?

Citation for  
law  
enforcement  
involvement  
in drills

Who is in charge of  
leading or managing  
school safety drills (if not  
law enforcement)?

Citation for  
managing  
safety drills

Notes on  
school  
safety drill

Select All

Select All

Select All

STATE	Type of drill(s) required and frequency of the drill	Citation for drill requirement	Is a local law enforcement agency required to lead, participate in, or otherwise manage school safety drills?	Citation for law enforcement involvement in drills	Who is in charge of leading or managing school safety drills (if not law enforcement)?	Citation for managing safety drills	Notes on school safety drill
Iowa	School Safety Plan Drill (one per year) (may include a table top exercise, walkthrough, partial drill, or full drill) Fire Drill (four per year) Tornado Drill (four per year)	Iowa Code Ann. § 280.30 Iowa Code Ann. § 100.31	No	Iowa Code Ann. § 280.30	Determined by District Board	Iowa Code Ann. § 280.30	
Kansas	Crisis Drill (three per year) Fire Drill (four per year) Tornado Drill (two per year)	Kan. Stat. Ann. § 31-133	No	Kan. Stat. Ann. § 31-133	Head of School	Kan. Stat. Ann. § 31-133	
Kentucky	Lockdown Drill (two per year) Severe Weather Drill (two per year) Tornado Drill (two per year)	Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 158.162 Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 158.164	No	Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 158.162	Head of School	Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 158.162	
Louisiana	School Safety Plan Drill (one per year)	La. Rev. Stat. Ann. 17:416.16	No	La. Rev. Stat. Ann. 17:416.16	Head of School	La. Rev. Stat. Ann. 17:416.16	
Maine	Evacuation Drills Lockdown Drills (frequency varies by grade level)	Code Me. R. tit. 05-071 Ch. 125, § 5.17	No	Code Me. R. tit. 05-071 Ch. 125, § 5.17	Staff Member	Code Me. R. tit. 05-071 Ch. 125, § 5.17	
Maryland	Evacuation Drill (one per year) Shelter in Place Drill (one per year) Reverse Evacuation Drill (one per year) Lockdown Drill (one per year) Drop, Cover, Hold Drill (one per year) Severe Weather Drill (one per year)	Md. Code Regs. 13A.02.02.04	No	Md. Code Regs. 13A.02.02.04	Not Specified	Md. Code Regs. 13A.02.02.04	
Massachusetts	Not Identified in Statute		N/A		N/A		
Michigan	Fire Drill (eight per year) Lockdown Drill (three per year) Tornado Drill (two per year)	Mich. Comp. Laws Ann. § 29.19	No	Mich. Comp. Laws Ann. § 29.19	Head of School	Mich. Comp. Laws Ann. § 29.19	
Minnesota	School Fire Drill (five per year) School Lockdown Drill (five per year) Tornado Drill (one per year)	Minn. Stat. Ann. § 121A.037	Yes	Minn. Stat. Ann. § 299F.30	Head of School	Minn. Stat. Ann. § 299F.30	

K-12 School Safety 2022 - Education Commission of the States

STATE  
↑

Type of drill(s)  
required and  
frequency of the  
drill

Citation for  
drill  
requirement

Is a local law  
enforcement agency  
required to  
lead, participate in, or  
otherwise manage  
school safety drills?

Citation for  
law  
enforcement  
involvement  
in drills

Who is in charge of  
leading or managing  
school safety drills (if not  
law enforcement)?

Citation for  
managing  
safety drills

Notes on  
school  
safety drill

Select All

Select All

Select All

STATE	Type of drill(s) required and frequency of the drill	Citation for drill requirement	Is a local law enforcement agency required to lead, participate in, or otherwise manage school safety drills?	Citation for law enforcement involvement in drills	Who is in charge of leading or managing school safety drills (if not law enforcement)?	Citation for managing safety drills	Notes on school safety drill
Mississippi	Active Shooter with Lockdown/intruder shelter in place Tabletop Activity and full scale operational based response drills all serving as acceptable Active Shooter drills (two per year) Fire Drill (one per month) Tornado Drill (two per year)	Code Miss. R. 7-192	No	Code Miss. R. 7-192	Not specified	Code Miss. R. 7-192	
Missouri	Not Identified in Statute		N/A		N/A		
Montana	Disaster Drill (eight per year)	Mont. Code Ann. § 20-1-402	Yes	Mont. Code Ann. § 20-1-407	Not Specified	Mont. Code Ann. § 20-1-407	
Nebraska	Tornado Drill (two per year)	Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 79-2,144	Not Specified		Not Specified		
Nevada	Emergency Drill - Fire, Lockdown or Other Emergency (one per month)	Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 392.450	Yes	Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 392.450	Head of School	Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 392.450	At least one half of drill must include instruction for lockdowns.
New Hampshire	All-Hazard Response Drill (four per year) Armed-Assailant Response Drill (one per year)	N.H. Rev. Stat. § 189:64	Yes	N.H. Rev. Stat. § 189:64	Not specified	N.H. Rev. Stat. § 189:64	Four all-hazard drill replace required fire evacuation drills and one of those four must be an armed-assailant response drill.
New Jersey	Fire Drill (one per month) School Security Drill (one per month)	N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:41-1	Yes	N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:41-1	Head of School	N.J. Stat. Ann. § 18A:41-1	
New Mexico	Emergency Drill - Active Shooter or Evacuation (four per year) Fire Drill (four per year)	N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-13-14	Yes*	N.M. Stat. Ann. § 22-13-14	Not specified		A member of the fire department is required to be in attendance for drills in locations where fire department are maintained.
New York	Evacuation Drill (eight Per Year) Lockdown Drill (four Per Year)	N.Y. Educ. Law § 807	Not Specified		Head of School	N.Y. Educ. Law § 807	

STATE  
↑

Type of drill(s) required and frequency of the drill

Citation for drill requirement

Is a local law enforcement agency required to lead, participate in, or otherwise manage school safety drills?

Citation for law enforcement involvement in drills

Who is in charge of leading or managing school safety drills (if not law enforcement)?

Citation for managing safety drills

Notes on school safety drill

Select All

Select All

Select All

North Carolina

Tabletop Exercise (one per year)

N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann§ 115C-105.49

No

N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § 115C-105.49

Not specified

N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann§ 115C-105.49

The tabletop exercise shall be based on the School Risk Management Plan and must include a lockdown drill.

North Dakota

Emergency Drill (frequency not specified)

N.D. Cent. Code Ann. § 15.1-06-12

Not Specified

Not Specified

Ohio

Emergency Drill (six per year)

Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3737.73

Yes

Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3737.73

Head of School

Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3737.73

Three of the six drills must simulate lockdown or evacuation situations in response to an emergency situation. At least one of those three is required to be a lockdown drill rather than an evacuation drill.

Oklahoma

Fire Drill (two per year)  
School Security Drill (four per year)  
Tornado Drill (two per year)  
Additional Safety Drills consistent with the risks assessed by the Safe School Committee (two per year)

Okla. Stat. Ann. tit. 70, § 5-148  
Okla. Stat. Ann. tit. 70, § 5-149

Not Specified

Okla. Stat. Ann. tit. 70, § 5-148  
Okla. Stat. Ann. tit. 70, § 5-149

Head of School

Okla. Stat. Ann. tit. 70, § 5-149

Emergency Drills (30 minutes per month)

Of that time, earthquake Drills (two) and safety threat drills (two) must take place. For schools in the tsunami hazard zone, at least three drills on earthquakes and tsunamis must take place. Fire drills are also required.

Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 336.071

Yes

Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. § § 336.071

Not Specified

Or. Rev. Stat. Ann. § § 336.071

Oregon

STATE ↑	Type of drill(s) required and frequency of the drill	Citation for drill requirement	Is a local law enforcement agency required to lead, participate in, or otherwise manage school safety drills?	Citation for law enforcement involvement in drills	Who is in charge of leading or managing school safety drills (if not law enforcement)?	Citation for managing safety drills	Notes on school safety drill
Select All			Select All	Select All			
Pennsylvania	Fire Drill (one per month) School Security Drill (one or two per year in place of the monthly fire drill)	24 Pa. Cons. Stat. ann. § 15-1517	Yes	24 Pa. Cons. Stat. ann. § 15-1517	Head of School	24 Pa. Cons. Stat. ann. § 15-1517	
Rhode Island	Emergency Egress Drill (one per month*) Evacuation Drill (two per year) Lockdown Drill (two per year)	R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 16-21-4	No	R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 16-21-4	Head of School	R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 16-21-4	At least one out of every four emergency egress drills shall be obstructed.
South Carolina	Active Shooter/Intruder Drill (two per year) Fire Drill (two per year) Severe Weather/Earthquake (two per year)	S.C. Code Ann. § 59-63-910	Yes	S.C. Code Ann. § 59-63-910	Not Specified		
South Dakota	Fire Drill (two per semester) Fire, tornado, and other distaste drills are required as a part of the school safety plan.	S.D. Admin. R. 24:43:09:01 S.D. Codified Laws § 13-25-10	Not Specified		Not Specified		
Tennessee	Armed Intruder Drill (one per year)	Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-807	Yes	Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-807	School Safety Team	Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-807	
Texas	Emergency Drills (number and frequency determined by Texas School Safety Center and State Fire Marshal)	Tex. Educ. Code Ann. § 37.114	Not Specified		Not Specified		
Utah	Elementary School: Emergency Drill (one per month) Other safety or security drill as determined appropriate by school location (alternated with fire drill)  Secondary School: Fire Drill (every two months) Other safety or security drill (every two months)*	Utah Admin. Code r. R277-400-6 Utah Code Ann. § 15A-5-202.5	No	Utah Admin. Code r. R277-400-6	Not Specified		Safety and security drills alternate with fire drills
Vermont	Emergency Preparedness Drill (one per month)	Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 16, § 1481	Not Specified	Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 16, § 1481	Head of School	Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 16, § 1481	

K-12 School Safety 2022 - Education Commission of the States

STATE ↑	Type of drill(s) required and frequency of the drill	Citation for drill requirement	Is a local law enforcement agency required to lead, participate in, or otherwise manage school safety drills?	Citation for law enforcement involvement in drills	Who is in charge of leading or managing school safety drills (if not law enforcement)?	Citation for managing safety drills	Notes on school safety drill
Select All			Select All	Select All	Select All		
Virginia	Fire drill (three per year) Lockdown drill (two per year) Tornado Drill (one per year)	Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-137 Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-137.1 Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-137.2	Not Specified	Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-137 Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-137.1 Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-137.2	Not Specified	Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-137 Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-137.1 Va. Code Ann. § 22.1-137.2	
Washington	Safety Drills - Shelter in Place, Lockdown, and Evacuation (one of each per month)	Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 28A.320.125	Not Specified		Head of School	Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 28A.320.125	
West Virginia	Not Identified in Statute		N/A		N/A		
Wisconsin	Fire Drill (one per month) School Safety Drill (two per year) Tornado Drill (two per year)  Safety drill may be substituted for another type of drill	Wis. Stat. Ann. § 118.07	Not Specified	Wis. Stat. Ann. § 118.07	Head of School	Wis. Stat. Ann. § 118.07	
Wyoming	Fire Drill (one per month)  Safety drills may be substituted for fire drills with approval	Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 35-9-505(b)	Yes*	Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 35-9-505(b)	Head of School	Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 35-9-505(b)	Fire department member is requested to be in attendance in localities where a fire department is maintained.
Total answers		18 No: 17 Yes: 10 Not Specified: 6 N/A:		20 Head of School: 17 Not Specified: 7 N/A: 4 School Safety Team: 2 Staff Member: 1 Determined by District Board:			