

On The Alert!

Date: September 26, 2017
Attention: ASCIP Members
Affected Department: Risk Managers, Teachers, & Other Staff
Applicability: K-12 Districts

AB2246 SUICIDE PREVENTION POLICY REQUIREMENT

POTENTIALLY IMPACTED ASCIP MEMBERS

Effective July 1, 2017, [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 2246](#) amends California Education Code section 215 and requires local education agencies (LEAs) serving any of grades 7 to 12 to adopt a policy on pupil suicide prevention for those grades.

WHAT IS REQUIRED

AB2246 requires the California Department of Education (CDE) to develop and maintain a model policy to serve as a guide. AB 2246 references a model policy, from the Trevor Project, which is available for adoption or adaptation by LEAs and the CDE.

To be compliant the suicide prevention policy must:

- Be adopted at a regularly scheduled board meeting
- Be developed in consultation with school and community stakeholders, school-employed mental health professionals, and suicide prevention experts
- Address procedures relating to suicide prevention, intervention, and post intervention
- Provide that a school employee is to act only within the authorization and scope of the employee's credential or license, and is not to diagnose or treat mental illness unless specifically licensed and employed to do so.

The adopted policy must address the needs of high-risk groups, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Youth bereaved by suicide.
- Youth with disabilities, mental illness, or substance use disorders.
- Youth experiencing homelessness or in out-of-home settings, such as foster care.
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning youth.

The policy must also address the training provided to teachers in grades 7 to 12 on suicide awareness and prevention. Any materials approved by an LEA for training are to: state how to identify appropriate mental health services, both at the school site and within the community.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY RESOURCES

Below are links for resources available through the California Department of Education.

- [California Department of Education - Youth Suicide Prevention](#)
- [California Department of Education - Youth Suicide Prevention Webinar](#)
- [AB 2246 - Text](#)
- [California Suicide Prevention Resource Center](#)
- [Model Policy from the California Department of Education](#)
- [Model Policy from the Trevor Foundation](#)

Additionally, ASCIP created a list of county and state agency youth suicide prevention hotlines.

- [Youth Suicide Helpline Contacts](#)

TRAINING RESOURCES THROUGH ASCIP LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (BRIT/IN2VATE)

Student-to-Student Sexual Harassment

This course provides training for administrators, faculty, and staff to better recognize, report, and manage reports of sexual harassment when the harasser(s) and/or victim(s) are students.

Suicide Prevention (GCN)

This course provides basic suicide facts and risk factors -Relationship between Suicide and Bullying - Warning Signs: Early Signs -Warning Signs: Late Signs -Prevention Overview -Reducing the Risk of Suicide in High-Risk Students -Prevention: Protective Factors -Intervention -Resources for help - Handling an Attempt on School Premises -Postvention.

Suicide Prevention Video (2 hour) (GCN)

GCN has partnered with the Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide (SPTS) to provide this 2 hour "Act on FACTS" (Feelings, Actions, Changes, Threats, Situations) video providing several scenarios, resources, and best practices. This training meets the minimum standards required under AB2246.

Teen Dating Violence (GCN)

This course reviews characteristics of a healthy relationship, definition of dating violence, red flags, types of abuse, how does dating violence affect health, why do victims stay in these relationships, how can you help a victim, and how can you confront a perpetrator.

Transgender and Gender Non-conforming Awareness (GCN)

Written by Marie Angelone, in this tutorial, you will learn the following objectives: Terminology associated with gender identity; Types of discrimination and harassment experienced by transgender students; Effects of discrimination and harassment experienced by transgender students; Laws in place to protect transgender students against discrimination and harassment; Strategies to promote an inclusive environment and understanding.

HOW CAN ASCIP ASSIST YOUR DISTRICT?

If you need additional help, please contact ASCIP's Risk Services staff at (562) 404-8029 to discuss your risk management or loss control needs!