

SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY ASSESSMENT (SSSA)

PROVIDER REGISTRATION CRITERIA

Section 1304-B of Act 44 of 2018 requires the following:

Section 1304-B. School safety and security assessment providers.

- (a) Duty to provide registration.--No later than October 31, 2018, the committee shall establish criteria for registration of a person with knowledge and experience in matters of school safety and security that qualifies the person to conduct school safety and security assessments based upon the criteria established by the committee beginning October 31, 2018.
- (b) Periodic review of criteria.--The committee shall review the criteria established in subsection (a) at a minimum every three years and may make revisions as needed.
- (c) Registration.--The person shall apply for registration as a provider to the committee in a manner prescribed by the committee.

REGISTRATION CRITERIA:

A. Every individual conducting an assessment for a school entity shall meet the following criteria:

1. Obtain the following background clearances and certifications:
 - Act 126 Mandated Reporter Training: Recognizing and Reporting Child Abuse.
 - Act 34 Pennsylvania Criminal History Record Check.
 - Act 151 Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Clearance.
 - Act 114 Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI fingerprinting).
2. Affirm the following statement:

I have not been arrested for or convicted of any offense as outlined in Section 111 (relating to criminal history of employes and prospective employes; conviction of certain offenses) of the Public School Code of 1949, 23 Pa.C.S. §6344 (relating to employees having contact with children; adoptive and foster parents), or 42 Pa.S.C. Chapter 97 (Subchapter H) (relating to registration of sex offenders).

B. Every individual conducting Physical Criteria and Related Policies and Training Assessments shall meet at least one of the following qualifications:

1. Certified by an accredited organization that provides physical risk and vulnerability assessments.
 - Examples of providers are: ASIS International, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, International CPTED Association, etc.
 - Applicant must provide a copy of the certificate and/or any associated documentation.
2. Currently serving or served a minimum of one year as a Physical Security Assessor in the Pennsylvania State Police Risk & Vulnerability Assessment Team (RVAT).
3. Served as a Physical Security Assessor in a federal law enforcement agency, other state police department, and/or municipal police department physical security assessment unit equivalent to Pennsylvania State Police RVAT for a minimum of two years.
4. Served as the School Resource Officer (SRO) or School Police Officer at any K-12 public school district in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or any private school in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for a period of 5 years and has completed National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) certification or equivalent training.

Provider Registration Criteria

5. Served in the capacity of a physical security assessor in a physical security assessment unit in any branch of the United States armed forces/DOD for a period of 5 years and carries a certificate in physical security validated by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies.
6. As a law enforcement officer or security professional, completed private and/or public school risk and vulnerability assessments and issued written reports containing recommendations for improvements.
 - Applicant must provide a list with dates of at least 10 school buildings in which the officer/security professional has completed risk and vulnerability assessments within the past 5 years.
7. Served as a school district employee with a minimum of 5 years' experience conducting school risk and vulnerability assessments.
8. Currently serving or has served with the PA Department of Education (PDE) with at least 5 years' experience relating to new or existing school safety planning or assessment tools.
9. Currently serving or has served with a state agency such as the PA Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) with at least 5 years' experience relating to safety and security assessments.
10. Currently serving with an architecture firm that specializes in educational facilities with at least 5 years' experience relating to school design/building security and is certified in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) or an equivalent certification or training.

C. Every individual conducting Student Assistance and Behavioral Health Support and Related Policies and Training Assessments shall meet at least one of the following qualifications:

1. PA Department of Education recognized certification in Behavioral Health and the ability to conduct behavior health assessments that incorporate all the pertinent components identified in the [Student Assistance and Behavioral Health Support Assessment Criteria](#) and [Policy and Training Assessment Criteria](#). Example certifications include:
 - School Psychologist
 - School Counselor
 - Licensed Social Worker
 - Licensed Professional Counselor
 - School Administrator
2. Resume and certifications indicating knowledge base and competency to conduct assessments covering each of the following areas, as detailed in the [Student Assistance and Behavioral Health Support Assessment Criteria](#) and [Policy and Training Assessment Criteria](#), and a statement confirming review of these criteria and qualification to complete such assessments:
 - Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)/Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)
 - Student Assistance Programs (SAP)
 - Behavioral health considerations
 - School climate considerations
 - Statutory and criteria-based policies/procedures relating to behavioral health school safety & security
 - Statutory and criteria-based training relating to behavioral health school safety & security