



# School Safety Newsletter

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## Protect Your Schools - With the Launch of an App

Dave Fellows, Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS)

JustNet School Safe Website: <https://www.justnet.org/schoolsafe/>

Protecting your schools is easy with School Safe, National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center's (NLECTC) new app that takes you step-by-step through the building and school grounds to identify and address trouble spots. Conduct a physical vulnerability assessment of your campus --- inside and out --- by walking around and answering a series of simple questions using your hand-held device. This is a great replacement for the paper assessments that were discontinued by the National Clearing House for Educational Facilities. (Note: Those assessments are still available upon request by emailing Dave Fellows @ [defellows@ileas.org](mailto:defellows@ileas.org))

The app is FREE, but is limited to qualified school safety resource officers (SROs) and school administrators. The app is currently only available for iOS devices, but an Android version will be available soon. Here's how you can get your access code to download the app and start your safety assessment.

Send the following information to [schoolsafe@justnet.org](mailto:schoolsafe@justnet.org) from your official agency email account:

Type the word **School Safe**, then provide:

- Your name.
- Your title.
- The name of your school system.
- The name of your law enforcement agency (for SROs).
- Your agency mailing and email address.\*

\*The valid agency email address is most important. After they verify your information, they will send an access code to you at that address with instructions for downloading the School Safe app to your Apple device.

More information can be found in the TechBeat November/December 2015 Magazine, pages 3 - 5, [https://www.justnet.org/InteractiveTechBeat/eTECHBEAT/eTechbeat\\_NovDec\\_2015/index.html](https://www.justnet.org/InteractiveTechBeat/eTECHBEAT/eTechbeat_NovDec_2015/index.html)



*Protecting our  
future through  
information  
sharing*

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# Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) TA Center Emergency Operation Planning (EOP) Interactive Tools

[https://rems.ed.gov/TA\\_Webinars.aspx](https://rems.ed.gov/TA_Webinars.aspx)

The REMS TA Center is pleased to offer interactive tools to support individuals and planning teams at schools, school districts, and institutions of higher education (IHEs) in assessing their knowledge of concepts fundamental to emergency management, and in creating and evaluating emergency operations plans (EOPs). Schools and IHEs can use these tools to create new plans as well as to revise or update existing plans and help align their emergency planning practices with those at the national, state, and local levels.

## EOP Assess

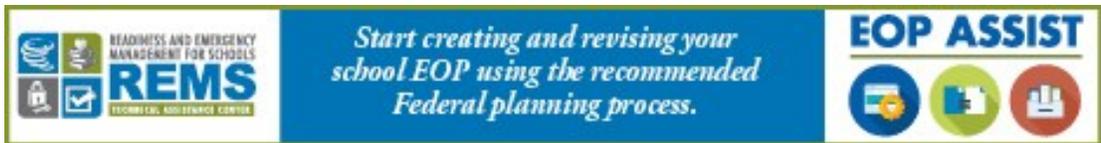


**Audience:** K-12 and IHE—individuals and planning teams at K-12 schools, school districts, and IHEs.

**Description:** This HTML-based tool is designed to help individuals involved in emergency management planning activities at schools, school districts, and IHEs assess their understanding of elements critical to the process of creating and maintaining a high-quality EOP. Tool users will be guided through a series of questions relevant to the process of developing a high-quality EOP. A downloadable report providing customized information will be provided upon completion to enhance the user’s knowledge of the EOP planning process and high-quality plans.

Start assessing your understanding of fundamental concepts in emergency management planning: [https://rems.ed.gov/Assessment/K-12/A\\_Demographic.aspx](https://rems.ed.gov/Assessment/K-12/A_Demographic.aspx)

## EOP Assist 2.0 Software

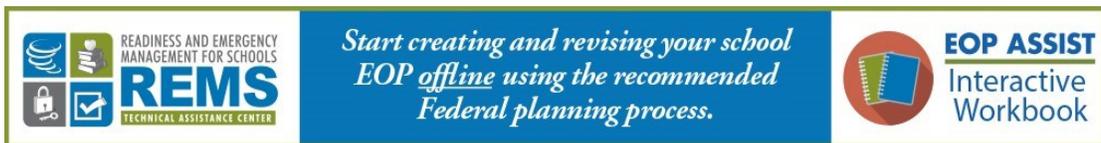


**Audience:** K-12—state agencies, school districts, and schools.

**Description:** This tool, which is offered as a web-accessible software application for state agencies, school districts, and schools to host on their own servers, directs planning team members through a process that will result in the output of an EOP according to the Federal guidelines for developing a high-quality school EOP. Tool users are prompted through the six-step planning process recommended in the School Guide (<https://rems.ed.gov/K12GuideforDevelHQSchool.aspx>). All plans developed through this tool will be both customizable and downloadable.

Start creating and revising your school EOP using the recommended Federal planning process: <https://rems.ed.gov/EOPASSIST.aspx>

## EOP Assist Interactive Workbook



**Audience:** K-12—state agencies, school districts, and schools.

**Description:** This offline tool directs planning team members through a process that will result in the output of an EOP according to the Federal guidelines for developing a high-quality school EOP. The tool, composed of Microsoft Word worksheets and PDF instructions, prompts users through the six-step planning

# Monthly Webinars!

Normally first Wednesday of Every Month at 10 am.

## Next Webinar

Wednesday February 3, 2016

Each webinar has a round table discussion at the end. Questions are always welcome!

To participate, you must be a vetted member. For more information please email [schoolsafety@isp.state.il.us](mailto:schoolsafety@isp.state.il.us)

# Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) TA Center Emergency Operation Planning (EOP) Interactive Tools (continue)

process recommended in the School Guide (<https://rems.ed.gov/K12GuideforDevelHQSchool.aspx>). All plans developed through this tool will be customizable.

Start creating and revising your school EOP *offline* using the recommended Federal planning process: <https://rems.ed.gov/EOPASSISTInteractiveWorkbook.aspx>

## EOP Evaluate



**Audience:** K-12 and IHE—Individuals and planning teams at schools, school districts, and IHEs.

**Description:** This HTML-based tool is designed to help schools and IHEs evaluate an established EOP. Using the School Guide (<https://rems.ed.gov/K12GuideforDevelHQSchool.aspx>) and IHE Guide (<https://rems.ed.gov/IHEGuideIntro.aspx>) as a foundation, tool users will be prompted through the Federally recommended six-step planning process to determine whether there are areas where an existing EOP can be improved. For example, after using the tool, planning teams might recognize a need to adjust their plan to:

- Scale down the number of planning team members but diversify the types of community partners;
- Prepare more specific goals and courses of action for potential threats and hazards;
- Conduct specific assessments, including climate and threat assessments; and/or
- Plan more trainings, exercises, and drills.

Start evaluating your existing EOP against Federal recommendations in emergency management planning: <https://rems.ed.gov/EOPEvalTool/K12IHEEvalTool.aspx>

## Additional REMS TA Center Resources

<https://rems.ed.gov>

The REMS TA Website offers a number of free resources.

Virtual Trainings:

- K-12 Online Courses [https://rems.ed.gov/trainings/course\\_k12.aspx](https://rems.ed.gov/trainings/course_k12.aspx)
- IHE Online Courses [https://rems.ed.gov/trainings/course\\_ihe.aspx](https://rems.ed.gov/trainings/course_ihe.aspx)
- Webinars [https://rems.ed.gov/trainings/course\\_ihe.aspx](https://rems.ed.gov/trainings/course_ihe.aspx)

Tool Box <https://rems.ed.gov/ToolBox.aspx>

The Tool Box is a virtual library of tools developed by school emergency managers in the field containing resources pertinent to the needs of schools, school districts, State Education Agencies (SEAs), and institutions of higher education (IHEs) and their community partners, as they engage in the process of school and higher ed emergency management planning. These resources include sample drills, tabletops or other exercises; job descriptions; memorandums of understanding (MOUs) with community partners; organizational charts; planning guidelines or sample policies; and components of school or IHE emergency operations plans (EOPs), tools, and templates.

Resources <https://rems.ed.gov/Resources.aspx>

The REMS TA Center develops and disseminates a variety of resources and web pages to assist schools, school districts, and institutions of higher education (IHEs) with their emergency management efforts.

Mia Ray Langheim

School Intelligence

Officer



## Illinois School Safety Group Offers Preliminary Suggestions

January 6, 2016

Fox 32 Chicago, by John O'Connor

<http://www.fox32chicago.com/news/local/69910569-story>

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Illinois educators should explore sharing private student information with local officials when facing potential emergencies and train students to speak up about suspicious activities, a group studying school safety has recommended.

A preliminary report the School Security and Standards Task Force sent to legislators last week comes in response to the 2012 Sandy Hook massacre in Connecticut. A final version must be delivered to the State Board of Education by July 1.

Among the suggestions is a proposal to create a school district "threat team," which could take advantage of emergency exceptions to federal and state student-privacy laws prohibiting sharing personal information with police. A State Board of Education spokesman could not immediately elaborate on the proposal.

The task force also recommends that schools look to federal and industry ideas for retrofitting buildings and review emergency-response protocol that go by monikers such as "ALICE" — Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate. The Department of Homeland Security's "See Something, Say Something" program could help schools develop environments where students aren't afraid to speak up about comments or actions that unnerve them.

The final version is expected to retain the ideas as recommendations, not requirements, because members found the state's economic, geographical, and cultural diversity doesn't lend itself to a one-size-fits-all solution, and some schools have more advanced safety measures in place than others.

Task force member Carol Sente, a Democratic state representative from Vernon Hills, said teachers, parents and administrators in her district told her not to require costly safeguards "and also, don't come up with something so prescriptive that we have to throw out the things we're doing that reach the same goal."

The report does include two proposals that would require approval by the General Assembly. First, it says that of six annually required emergency-preparation drills, at least one should be a surprise to teachers and students. Second, it endorses retaining the committee for an additional year to consider new technology and situations.

"We realized this is not an easy thing to pin down," said member and Sen. Neil Anderson, a Rock Island Republican who sponsored the task force legislation. "As a dad myself and a fireman, I want nothing more than for schools to be the safest place out there, next to our own homes."

Ben Schwarm, lobbyist for the Illinois School Management Alliance, said state law already requires many protective measures — including constant consultation with local authorities.

To read the *Report of the School Security and Standards Task Force* dated January 1, 2016, go to: <http://www.isbe.net/SSSTF/pdf/reports/ssstf-final-report-ga-010116.pdf>

### School Safety Newsletter

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