

**School District
Peace Officers,
School Resource
Officers, and
Security Personnel**

The board may employ security personnel, enter into a memorandum of understanding with a local law enforcement agency for the provision of school resource officers, and commission peace officers to carry out Education Code Chapter 37, Subchapter C (Law and Order).

Jurisdiction

The jurisdiction of a peace officer, a school resource officer, or security personnel shall be determined by the board and may include all territory in the boundaries of the district and all property outside the boundaries of the district that is owned, leased, or rented by or otherwise under the control of the district and the board that employ the peace officer or security personnel or that enter into a memorandum of understanding for the provision of a school resource officer.

Education Code 37.081(a)

Duties

The board shall determine the law enforcement duties of peace officers, school resource officers, and security personnel. The duties must be included in:

1. The district improvement plan under Education Code 11.252 [see BQ];
2. The student code of conduct adopted under Education Code 37.001 [see FO];
3. Any memorandum of understanding providing for a school resource officer; and
4. Any other campus or district document describing the role of peace officers, school resource officers, or security personnel in the district.

A district peace officer, a school resource officer, and security personnel shall perform law enforcement duties for the school district that must include protecting the safety and welfare of any person in the jurisdiction of the peace officer, resource officer, or security personnel; and the property of the school district.

In determining the law enforcement duties, the board shall coordinate with district campus behavior coordinators and other district employees to ensure that district peace officers, school resource officers, and security personnel are tasked only with duties related to law enforcement intervention and not tasked with behavioral or administrative duties better addressed by other district employees.

Education Code 37.081(d), (d-1), (d-4)

Prohibited Duties

A district may not assign or require as duties of a district peace officer, a school resource officer, or security personnel:

1. Routine student discipline or school administrative tasks; or
2. Contact with students unrelated to the law enforcement duties of the peace officer, resource officer, or security personnel.

This provision does not prohibit a district peace officer, a school resource officer, or security personnel from informal contact with a student unrelated to:

1. The assigned duties of the officer or security personnel; or
2. An incident involving student behavior or law enforcement.

Education Code 37.081(d-2), (d-3)

Refusal or Removal
from District
Property

A school resource officer or district peace officer may refuse to allow a person to enter on or may eject a person from property under the district's control in accordance with Education Code 37.105.
Education Code 37.105(a); 19 TAC 103.1207 [See GKA]

Weapons

If a board authorizes a person employed as security personnel to carry a weapon, the person must be a commissioned peace officer.
Education Code 37.081(a) [See CKEA]

Training

A district peace officer or school resource officer shall complete an active shooter response training program approved by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE).

A district that commissions a school district peace officer or at which a school resource officer provides law enforcement shall adopt a policy requiring the officer to complete the education and training program required by Occupations Code 1701.263.

Education Code 37.0812

School district peace officers or school resource officers providing law enforcement services at a district must obtain a school-based law enforcement proficiency certificate within 180 days of the officer's commission or placement in the district or campus of the district. *37 TAC 218.3(d)(5); Occupations Code 1701.263(b)*

**Notice of Exposure
to Communicable
Disease**

A district that employs emergency medical service employees, paramedics, firefighters, law enforcement officers or correctional officers must post the required notice regarding work-related exposure to communicable disease in its workplace to inform employees about Health and Safety Code requirements which may affect qualifying for workers' compensation benefits following a work-related exposure to a reportable communicable disease. *28 TAC 110.108*

Handgun Licensees

A board may promulgate written regulations or written authorization allowing the holder of a handgun license to carry a handgun on school premises pursuant to Penal Code 46.03(a)(1).

A board may appoint a school marshal [see CKEB] and authorize another person to serve under the district's regulations and authorization under Penal Code 46.03(a)(1).

The holder of a handgun license does not commit a criminal offense under Penal Code 46.035 by carrying a handgun in a building where a high school sporting event or interscholastic event is taking place or at an open meeting of the board when the person is lawfully carrying a handgun pursuant to a board's written regulations and authorization.

Att'y Gen. Op. GA-1051 (2014) (citing Education Code 11.151(b))