

Mandatory Drills

The commissioner, in consultation with the Texas School Safety Center (TxSSC) and the state fire marshal, shall adopt rules:

1. Providing best practices for conducting emergency school drills and exercises, including definitions for relevant terms; and
2. Designating the number and type of mandatory school drills to be conducted each semester of the school year, not to exceed a total of eight drills.

Education Code 37.114

Active Threat Exercises

Before a district may conduct an active threat exercise, including an active shooter simulation, the district shall ensure that:

1. Adequate notice of the exercise is provided to students expected to participate in the exercise, the parents of those students, and staff likely to be part of the exercise, including information regarding:
 - a. The date on which the exercise will occur;
 - b. The content, form, and tone of the exercise; and
 - c. Whether the exercise will include a live simulation that mimics or appears to be an actual shooting incident;
2. The exercise is announced to students and faculty before the start of the exercise, including, if applicable, an announcement that the exercise will include a live simulation that mimics or appears to be an actual threat, such as a shooting incident;
3. First responder organizations that would likely respond in the event of a false report or alarm are notified regarding the exercise;
4. A safe zone is created around the area in which the exercise will be conducted to keep out actual firearms, ammunition, and other weapons, other than firearms, ammunition, or other weapons carried by a peace officer, school resource officer, or school marshal or any other person authorized by the district to carry those items on school grounds;
5. The content of the exercise:
 - a. Is age appropriate and developmentally appropriate;
 - b. Has been developed by a team of school administrators, teachers, school-based mental health professionals, and

law enforcement officers, with input from parents and students; and

- c. Is designed to support the well-being of students who participate in the exercise before, during, and after the exercise is conducted; and
6. Data regarding the efficacy and impact of the exercise will be tracked, including any feedback regarding the exercise from students, staff, or family members of students or staff.

Item 4 above may not be construed to prohibit a parent, legal guardian, or other person acting on a parent's or legal guardian's behalf from transporting or storing in the person's motor vehicle a firearm, ammunition, or other weapon that the person is legally authorized to possess while the person is picking up a child from school.

A district shall submit data collected under item 6 above to the TxSSC.

Education Code 37.1141

Eye and Face Protection

Required Devices

Each teacher and student shall wear industrial-quality eye-protective devices in appropriate situations as determined by district policy. *Education Code 38.005*

Recommended Guidelines

For selection and use of face and eye protection in public schools, the Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS) recommends the guidelines entitled "Eye and Face Protection," available at 29 C.F.R. 1910.133.

For hazard assessment and face and eye protective equipment selection in public schools, TDSHS recommends the guidelines entitled "Non-mandatory Compliance Guidelines for Hazard Assessment and Personal Protective Equipment Selection," available at 29 C.F.R. Part 1910, Subpart I, Appendix B.

Application

The guidelines are applicable to all staff members, students, and visitors within Texas public schools participating in educational activities and programs that involve:

1. The use of hazardous chemicals;
2. The use of hot liquids or solids;
3. The use of molten materials;
4. Performing grinding, chipping, or other hazardous activities where there is danger of flying particles;

5. Milling, sawing, turning, shaping, cutting, or stamping of any solid materials;
6. Heat treatment, tempering, or kiln firing of any metal or other materials;
7. Cutting, welding, or brazing operations;
8. The use of hazardous radiation, including the use of infrared and ultraviolet light or lasers;
9. Repair or servicing of any vehicle; or
10. Any process or activity in a vocational, art, industrial arts or science course or laboratory that might have a tendency to cause damage to the eyes.

25 TAC 295.141-.142