

FAQS on HEA 1430 (IC 20-28-3-6)
Required Training – Suicide Awareness and Prevention

From: Indiana Suicide Prevention Network, Education & Training Subcommittee

To: School Corporations, Charter, and Accredited Nonpublic Schools & and their partners

Date: June 29, 2018

School corporations have had numerous questions regarding HEA 1430's training requirement (IC 20-28-3-6). This document provides clarification on some frequently asked questions/misunderstandings regarding the training requirement.

1. **When** must training be completed?

The teacher training mandate begins July 1, 2018. School staff need to complete training during the 2018-2019 school year and then be re-trained every three years thereafter.

2. **Who** must be trained?

Teachers, superintendents, principals, librarians, school counselors, school psychologists, school nurses, school social workers, and may also include any other appropriate school employees. Training must be implemented during contracted time.

3. **Which schools** are mandated to train their staff?

School Corporations, Charter Schools, and accredited nonpublic schools that provide instruction to students in any combination of grade 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12.

4. **Which programs** are currently (as of June 30, 2018) approved?

Question Persuade Refer (QPR) (in-person, and Instructor Training (Training for Trainers)

At Risk/Kognito (only the 1-hour High School Educators) – to meet the 2-hour requirement this must include a 1-hour practice session (see #7 below)

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)

SafeTALK (half-day training)

See this link: <https://www.doe.in.gov/sebw/suicide-prevention-and-response>

5. What if we've been using a **different program** – can we get that approved?

The Indiana Suicide Prevention Network Advisory Council (ISPAC) Education & Training Subcommittee has developed a process for reviewing other suicide prevention programs. An application is available for schools or training companies to complete to have a training program reviewed to see if it meets the committee's standards of an evidence-based suicide prevention program. Programs that are approved by the committee will be added to the approved list as they become available.

6. **Are people exempt** from this training requirement if they completed suicide prevention training when they received their initial teacher's license?

Only if they have completed one of the three programs listed in #4 above in the last three years.

7. Does the **2-hour Kognito At-Risk** for High School/Middle School/Elementary School Educators meet the requirements of the legislation?

Not at this time. The **1-hour Kognito At-Risk** for Educators is approved, however school staff will need 1 additional hour of suicide prevention content focused on in-person practice of gatekeeper skills (e.g., noticing distress, asking the question, and referring a student to help) and review of local suicide prevention policies and procedures. A guidance document is available for this 1-hour practice session.

8. **If using QPR**, can the required 2-hours of training be **broken into two 1-hour sessions**?

While the DOE and the ISPN Education & Training Subcommittee strongly encourages dedicating 2 full hours to learning and practicing suicide prevention, it also recognizes that schools have significant time constraints. QPR Institute has confirmed that QPR training can be implemented in two sessions. The first session would include learning the Q, P, R, steps and the second would be a practice session and a review of school policy and procedures. A guidance document is available for this 1-hour practice session.

9. **Who should I contact** with questions?

You can contact either Jeff Wittman, IN Dept of Education, email: jwittman@doe.in.gov, phone: (317) 234-5704;

or Chris Drapeau, ISPNAC Education & Training Committee; email: chris.drapeau@valpo.edu, phone: (219) 464-6172.

POLICY

Indiana law (IC 20-26-5-34.4) also stipulated that beginning **July 1, 2017 all school corporations are required to adopt a policy** intended to increase child suicide awareness and prevention. A Sample Model Policy and Suicide Prevention and Response Resource Guide are available to assist with this requirement: <https://www.doe.in.gov/sebw/suicide-prevention-and-response>.