

# Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Legislation for K-12 LEAs

## Quick Guide



### SUICIDE PREVENTION

Abbreviated Legislation	Effective	Requirements	Best Practices	Resources
<p><b><u>AB1767</u></b> Amends Section 215 of Ed. Code</p> <p><i>Requires the governing board or body of a LEA that serves pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 6 to adopt, and update as prescribed, a policy on pupil suicide prevention</i></p>	<p>January 2020</p>	<p>The policy <u>must</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ be age-appropriate and delivered and discussed in a manner that is sensitive to the needs of young pupils</li> <li>✓ be developed in consultation with school and community stakeholders, school-employed mental health professionals and suicide prevention experts</li> <li>✓ specifically address the needs of high-priority youth groups</li> <li>✓ address any training on suicide awareness and prevention to be provided to teachers of pupils in grades 1-6</li> <li>✓ ensure proper coordination and consultation with the county mental health plan if a referral is made for mental health or related services on behalf of a pupil who is a Medi-Cal beneficiary</li> <li>✓ be updated every five years</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reference the AB1767 Suicide Prevention Resource Guide for Elementary Schools for evidence-based curriculum, programming and training.</li> <li>• Train <u>all</u> school staff in suicide prevention and mental health awareness.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">AB1767 Suicide Prevention Resource Guide for Elementary Schools</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Suicide Prevention Guide for High Priority Youth Groups</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">CDE Model Policy</a></li> </ul>

<p><b><u>SB972</u></b> Adds Section 215.5 to Ed. Code</p> <p><i>Requires any public or private school that issues student ID cards and serves pupils in grades 7-12 to print the phone number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (988) on the ID cards</i></p>	<p>January 2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Print the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (988) on student ID cards for grades 7-12.</li> <li>✓ Schools may also print the Crisis Text Line (741-741) and a local suicide prevention hotline on either side of the ID cards.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach students how and why to use the hotline numbers.</li> </ul>	
<p><b><u>AB2639</u></b> Amends Section 215 of Ed. Code</p> <p><i>Requires LEAs to review their suicide prevention policies at least every five years</i></p>	<p>September 2018</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suicide prevention policies must be reviewed and updated, if necessary, at least every five years.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and update your policy annually.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">AB1767</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">AB2246</a></li> </ul>

<p><b><a href="#">AB1808</a></b> Adds section 216 to Ed. Code</p> <p><i>Provides funding for an online training to ensure school staff are prepared to identify, support, and refer middle and high school students who may be experiencing thoughts of suicide</i></p>	<p>June 2018 – June 2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free, online training provides <u>an option</u> to train middle and high school staff in suicide prevention and meet <u>one</u> of the requirements of AB2246.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In addition to staff, use this online training for middle and high school students (ages 13+).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">LivingWorks Start Training</a></li> </ul>
<p><b><a href="#">AB2246</a></b> Adds Article 2.5 commencing with Section 215 Ed. Code</p> <p><i>Requires LEAs serving students in grades 7-12 to adopt a policy on student suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention with specified components</i></p>	<p>July 2017</p>	<p>The policy must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ be developed in consultation with school and community stakeholders, the county mental plan, school-employed mental health professionals and suicide prevention experts</li> <li>✓ specifically address the needs of high-priority youth groups (see Suicide Prevention Guide for High Priority Youth Groups)</li> <li>✓ include procedures relating to suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention</li> <li>✓ include suicide awareness and prevention training for teachers that includes how to identify appropriate mental health services, both at the school site and also within the larger</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Train all school staff in suicide prevention and mental health awareness.</li> <li>Train multiple staff members in suicide intervention.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">CDE Model Policy</a></li> <li><a href="#">Suicide Prevention Guide for High Priority Youth Groups</a></li> <li><a href="#">SDCOE 2023-24 Trainings</a></li> <li><a href="#">LivingWorks Start Training</a></li> </ul>

		<p>community, and when and how to refer youth and their families to those services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ ensure that a school employee acts only within the authorization and scope of the employee’s credential or license</li> </ul>		
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**MENTAL HEALTH**

Abbreviated Legislation	Effective	Requirements	Best Practices	Resources
<p><b><u>SB224</u></b> Adds Article 6 commencing with Section 51925 Ed. Code</p> <p><i>Requires each LEA that offers middle and/or high school health education to include instruction in mental health that includes specific themes and principles of mental health</i></p>	<p>January 2022</p>	<p>Mental health instruction must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ overarching themes and core principles of mental health</li> <li>✓ defining signs and symptoms of common mental health challenges</li> <li>✓ evidence-based and culturally responsive supports, services and practices that help to manage mental health challenges</li> <li>✓ promotion of wellness and protective factors</li> <li>✓ ability to identify warning signs of common mental health problems</li> <li>✓ how to look for and find assistance from the LEA</li> <li>✓ connection between mental health and academic success and co-occurring conditions</li> <li>✓ awareness and appreciation for the prevalence of mental health challenges across social groups</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Wellness Education Lab</a></li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ definition of and strategies to overcome stigma including increasing awareness and promoting acceptance (should include peer narratives from those with lived experience)</li> </ul> <p>Instruction and materials must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ be appropriate and accessible for all students</li> <li>✓ not reflect or promote bias</li> <li>✓ be coordinated with on-campus mental health providers</li> </ul>		
<p><b><u>AB748</u></b> Adds Section 49428.5 to Ed. Code</p> <p><i>Requires each school site serving students in grades 6 to 12, inclusive, to create a poster that identifies approaches and shares resources regarding student mental health</i></p>	<p>Beginning of the 2023-24 school year</p>	<p>The poster must be prominently and conspicuously displayed in appropriate public areas that are accessible to, and commonly frequented by, students at each school site.</p> <p>Poster shall be no smaller than 8.5” by 11” with at least 12-point font and shall display, at a minimum, all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ common behaviors of those struggling with mental health or who are in a mental health crisis</li> <li>✓ contact information for school site-specific and community resources</li> <li>✓ positive coping strategies</li> <li>✓ negative coping strategies to avoid</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share the posters digitally.</li> <li>• Consider displaying inside bathroom stalls.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">SDCOE Mental Health Assistance Posters</a></li> </ul>