

Central Ohio's Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG) Services

Ohio Revised Code 3313.669 and 5502.263 require schools to provide evidence-based instruction in violence prevention, identify multidisciplinary, behavioral threat assessment teams, and ensure team members complete an approved Behavioral Threat Assessment training. The BJA STOP Violence grant seeks to expand training and implement coaching in the CSTAG model to Ohio school and district threat assessment teams at no cost. The CSTAG model was developed in 2001 by Dr. Dewey Cornell.

Source: Ohio Department of Education and Workforce, [School Threat Assessment](#)

Service	Description	District Investment
Initial Training: Level 1 & 2 (Designed for new teams)	This training is designed for new multidisciplinary teams and new team leaders who will be trained to use CSTAG at the district and build level. This is a full-day program that covers the following Level 1 and 2 topics. Level 1: Fundamental Knowledge • Concept of behavioral threat assessment and management • Prevention and school safety • Introduction to the CSTAG decision-tree • Scientific evidence supporting CSTAG (Safety outcomes; Fairness and equity) • Best practices (Pathways to violence; FERPA and information sharing; Special education) Level 2: Application of the CSTAG model • Transient threat cases • Serious and Very Serious Substantive threat cases • Case management • Implementation	State Funded Continued on next page

Service	Description	District Investment
Refresher Training Level 3 (Existing teams who completed Levels 1 & 2. New members on established team welcome)	The Level 3 Refresher training is available through a half-day workshop. Topics include: This training is designed for existing teams who have completed Levels 1 and 2 of CSTAG. This Level 3 CSTAG Refresher training is a half-day workshop that meets the State mandated three year training requirement. • Concept of threat assessment • Interviewing to identify the four threat categories; the safety interview • Best practices (3 case exercises on errors in threat assessment; review of meetings, coaching, and threats to self) • FERPA and information sharing • Fairness and equity, role of law enforcement • Case management and interviewing exercise	State Funded
Personalized Consultation & Coaching (Designed for existing teams)	Following training, school and district teams receive ongoing, personalized support. Tier 1: Implementation / Training of the CSTAG Model for staff. • Support for school or district in planning for staff training, practice sessions, and use of the model. • Planning timelines, preparation, and coordination sessions available virtually or in-person Tier 2: Debriefing / Coaching Session • Following an emergency or substantive threat, teams may receive support in recognizing what parts of the model were implemented with fidelity as well as the challenges faced. • Recommendations will be made on any follow-up training or supports for staff.	State Funded Updated 3/24/26

To register for Levels 1 & 2, or 3, check out our Calendar of Events at esc.co.org

For inquiries or to schedule a consultation or coaching session, email melanie.mcgue@esc.co.org