

# 2025 SESSION

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HB2770

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## HOUSE BILL NO. 2770

Offered January 17, 2025

A BILL to amend and reenact § 22.1-137.3 of the Code of Virginia, relating to school safety procedures; emergency situations; annual training; safety grants.

Patron—Garrett

Referred to Committee on Education

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 22.1-137.3 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 22.1-137.3. School safety procedures; emergency situations; annual training.

A. In addition to complying with the requirements for drills set forth in §§ 22.1-137, 22.1-137.1, and 22.1-137.2, each school board shall develop training on safety procedures in the event of an emergency situation on school property. Such training shall be delivered to each student and employee in each school at least once each school year.

B. There is hereby created in the state treasury a special nonreverting fund to be known as the Virginia School Safety Preparedness Grant Fund. The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller. All funds appropriated for such purpose and any gifts, donations, grants, bequests, and other funds received on its behalf shall be paid into the state treasury and credited to the Fund. Interest earned on moneys in the Fund shall remain in the Fund and be credited to it. Any moneys remaining in the Fund, including interest thereon, at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund. Moneys in the Fund shall be used solely for the purposes of (i) awarding grants to schools meeting the grant criteria established by the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (VCSCS) through the Virginia School Safety Preparedness Grant Program established pursuant to subsection C or (ii) implementing and administering the Virginia School Safety Preparedness Grant Fund and Program. Moneys used for implementing and administering the Fund and Program shall be limited to 70 percent of the amount available in the Fund each year. Expenditures and disbursements from the Fund shall be made by the State Treasurer on warrants issued by the Comptroller upon written request signed by the Director.

C. The Virginia School Safety Preparedness Grant Program is hereby established for the purpose of awarding grants based on criteria established by the VCSCS from such funds as may be available from the Fund to Virginia Schools consisting of any grades pre-k through 12th grade which seek to implement best practice for extreme-trauma injuries. Such training shall include triage of injured and immediate treatment appropriate for singular to mass casualty events. Training should cover the care of people, including children, from bleeding, massive hemorrhaging, and penetrating chest wounds. Training shall be conducted by nationally recognized life-saving trauma care programs.

Funds may also be used for threat assessment and recognition, comprehensive vulnerability assessments for school property, and equipment for treating trauma related injuries, including training equipment for staff and students. Such equipment may include, but not be limited to:

- Gloves and other protective equipment
- Tourniquets
- Compression bandages
- Chest seals
- Trauma sheers
- Gauze
- Cravats
- Hemostatic agents
- Blankets
- Materials for improvised care
- Kits/cases/containers and mounting of gear in pre-planned locations

The Program shall be administered by the DCJS Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (VCSCS) in conjunction with the Board of Education. In administering the Program, the VCSCS shall establish and publish guidelines and criteria for grant awards, including guidelines and criteria governing agreements between the Department and grant recipients relating to the implementation of training programs on the subject of threat assessment and extreme-trauma medical-training. The criteria for grant recipients shall foster an all-inclusive approach to analyzing a school's climate, physical security, communication systems and overall preparedness. The Department shall provide an annual report detailing each grant awarded through the Program.

D. Schools which meet the requirements set forth by the Department to receive funds under the program

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59 shall receive an allocation of funds for an approved training program for staff and faculty and for  
60 pre-packaged medical equipment offered by the program for placement at key locations around the school.  
61 No more than 50% of the funds received by a school shall be utilized for the purchase of pre-packaged  
62 medical equipment.

63 No more than \$20,000 shall be awarded to any single private or parochial school, nor more than \$40,000  
64 to any single public school district in a given year.

65 E. The Department shall submit an annual report to the General Assembly regarding administration of  
66 the Fund and Program for the preceding fiscal year. The report shall include the number of grants awarded,  
67 the number of trainings conducted, the number and type of medical equipment supplies purchased, and the  
68 total number of participating schools.