



Update from Texas' 84th Legislative Session (2015)

HB 2684: Training for Police in Texas Public Schools

What does House Bill 2684 do?

HB 2684 requires school districts with an enrollment of 30,000 or more students to adopt a youth-focused education and training program for school resource officers and school district police officers.

HB 2684 requires the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) to create, adopt, and distribute training materials to school district police departments, law enforcement agencies that place officers in schools, and any entity that provides training to school district police.

HB 2684 requires all school police officers serving in school districts with an enrollment of 30,000 or more students to complete at least 16 hours of youth-focused training provided by TCOLE or another approved training program. These new training requirements are part of, not in addition to, the total number of training hours that are already required for all law enforcement officers to complete in order to maintain their licenses.

What are the requirements of the new training?

Training programs must cover the following learning objectives:

- Child and adolescent development and psychology;
- Positive behavioral interventions and supports, conflict resolution techniques, and restorative justice techniques;
- De-escalation techniques and techniques for limiting the use of force, including limiting the use of physical, mechanical, and chemical restraints;
- The mental and behavioral health needs of children with disabilities or special needs; and
- Mental health crisis intervention.

When will these new changes happen?

TCOLE must create a model training curriculum by December 1, 2015. TCOLE must make that training available by February 1, 2016.

School districts with over 30,000 students must adopt a training policy by February 1, 2016.

School police officers must complete the new training by June 1, 2016.

Can school districts with fewer than 30,000 students request the training materials?

Yes. School districts of any size may request training materials from TCOLE and adopt policies to ensure school police officers receive youth-focused training.

Which school districts are affected?

According to 2014-15 data from the Texas Education Agency (TEA), the school districts below have an enrollment of 30,000 or more students. The data provided by TEA also indicate that there are several borderline districts that may have more than 30,000 students at the start of the 2015-16 school year:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Aldine ISD | Keller ISD |
| Alief ISD | Killeen ISD |
| Amarillo ISD | Klein ISD |
| Arlington ISD | Leander ISD |
| Austin ISD | Lewisville ISD |
| Brownsville ISD | Mansfield ISD |
| Clear Creek ISD | Mesquite ISD |
| Conroe ISD | North East ISD |
| Corpus Christi ISD | Northside ISD |
| Cypress-Fairbanks ISD | Pasadena ISD |
| Dallas ISD | Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD |
| Ector County ISD | Plano ISD |
| Edinburg CISD | Richardson ISD |
| El Paso ISD | Round Rock ISD |
| Fort Bend ISD | San Antonio ISD |
| Fort Worth ISD | Socorro ISD |
| Frisco ISD | Spring ISD |
| Garland ISD | Spring Branch ISD |
| Houston ISD | United ISD |
| Humble ISD | Ysleta ISD |
| Irving ISD | |
| Katy ISD | |

Borderline districts:

- La Joya ISD
- Lubbock ISD
- Grand Prairie ISD
- Lamar ISD
- Denton ISD