
The absolute priority of the Grants to States for School Emergency Management Program is to expand the capacity of State educational agencies (SEAs) to provide training and technical assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs) for the development and implementation of high-quality school emergency operations plans (EOPs).

The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is the Washington State education agency. The WA School Safety Center, housed within the Student Support division of OSPI, provides consistent, statewide guidance and assistance on school safety and related issues to LEAs, and educational service districts (ESDs). Working with the Washington Emergency Management Department (EMD) and the School Safety Advisory Committee, the OSPI School Safety Center proposes to implement the WASEMP to address the two components of the absolute priority: (1) expand SEA capacity to provide training and technical assistance to LEAs; and (2) provide training and technical assistance to LEAs resulting in the development and implementation of high-quality school emergency management plans. It proposes to accomplish this by:

a. Revising the WA Safety Planning Manual to comply with the EOP Guide,
b. Identifying and creating a library of tools for ongoing trainings at LEAs,
c. Providing trainings to 295 LEAs through a variety of means, and
d. Creating a statewide ESD “Safety Corps” framework for ongoing training.

The planning and development activities will take place in the first 9 months of the grant; preliminary training will begin in the fall of 2014 with more in-depth trainings throughout the last 9 months, continuing, thereafter.