



SRO PROGRAM OUTLINED WITH TYPING OF SRO RESOURCES

There are two definitions of "School Resource Officers" in federal law:

Under the authorizing legislation for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Program (42 U.S.C. §3796dd-8), a "school resource officer" is defined as a career law enforcement officer, with sworn authority, deployed in community-oriented policing, and assigned by the employing police department or agency to work in collaboration with schools and community-based organizations—

- (A) To address crime and disorder problems, gangs, and drug activities affecting or occurring in or around an elementary or secondary school.
- (B) Develop or expand crime prevention efforts for students.
- (C) Educate likely school-age victims in crime prevention and safety.
- (D) Develop or expand community justice initiatives for students.
- (E) Train students in conflict resolution, restorative justice, and crime awareness.
- (F) Assist in the identification of physical changes in the environment that may reduce crime in or around the school.
- (G) Assist in developing school policy that addresses crime and to recommend procedural changes.

Under the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act (20 U.S.C. §7161), a "school resource officer" is defined as a career law enforcement officer, with sworn authority, deployed in community-oriented policing, and assigned by the employing police department to a local educational agency to work in collaboration with schools and community-based organizations to—

- (A) Educate students in crime and illegal drug use prevention and safety.
- (B) Develop or expand community justice initiatives for students.
- (C) Train students in conflict resolution, restorative justice, and crime and illegal drug use awareness.

Developing an SRO Program:

1. **Choose a Program Model** – Develop Contract / Memorandum of Understanding.
2. **Develop a School Resource Officer Operations Manual - SOP.** Outlines Entire Program Process, to include Expectations, Standardized Training, Chain of Command, Performance Reviews, etc.
3. **Define Specific SRO Roles and Responsibilities** – SRO Job Description.
4. **Selection of SRO** - Recruit SROs that have the proper knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to perform this job function. **Requires input and acceptance from the School District.**
5. **Benchmark Training** - The COPS in Schools Program and NASRO recognizes three primary roles for a School Resource Officer. These roles are:
 - a) **Mentor** - Informal Counselor - Problem Solver and Liaison to Community Resources.
 - b) **Educator.**
 - c) **Law Enforcer / Safety Expert.**

SRO programs should be designed to balance these roles and provide all stakeholders a common understanding of the roles and responsibilities for their specific SRO Program.

6. **Train and Supervise SROs - COPS Program Outlined.**
 - (A)** Address crime and disorder problems, gangs, and drug activities affecting or occurring in or around an elementary or secondary school.
 - (B)** Develop or expand crime prevention efforts for students.
 - (C)** Educate students/staff (including janitor, cooks, etc.) in crime prevention and safety.
 - (D)** Develop or expand community justice initiatives for students.
 - (E)** Train students in conflict resolution, restorative justice, and crime awareness.
 - (F)** Assist in the identification of physical changes in the environment that may reduce crime in or around the school.
 - (G)** Assist in developing school policy that addresses crime and to recommend procedural changes.
 - (H)** Must be trained in single officer active shooter / violent incident response.
7. **Selection and Training of SRO Supervisor** – Benchmark training NASRO.
8. **Collaborate** with School Administrators and Teachers. **Clarify Expectations.**
9. **Work and develop positive relationships** with Parents, Students, Staff, and visitors.
10. **Evaluate** the SRO Program yearly to ensure effectiveness.

School Resource Officer (SRO) - is defined as a career law enforcement officer, with sworn authority, deployed in community-oriented policing, and assigned by the employing police department or agency to work in collaboration with schools and community-based organizations. The SRO is specially trained and performs three main roles: law enforcer, mentor/counselor, and educator.

Type 1 School Resource Officer – Full time commissioned police officer primarily assigned to a school.

Type 2 School Resource Officer – Full time commissioned police officer primarily assigned to a school, with allocated collateral duties, such as: juvenile detective work, call responder duties, etc.

Type 3 School Resource Officer – Full time commissioned police officer assigned to provide service to 2-4 schools (with or without ancillary duties).

Type 4 School Resource Officer – Full time commissioned police officer assigned to provide service to more than 5 schools (with or without ancillary duties).

Type 5 School Resource Officer – Full time commissioned police officer assigned to be the school's primary contact / liaison but is not purposefully assigned to a school.

School Police Officer (SPO) – is defined as School District Police Officer, with sworn authority, that work for a specific School Police Department.

Type 1 School Police Officer – Full time commissioned school police officer primarily assigned to a school.

Type 2 School Police Officer – Full time commissioned school police officer primarily assigned to a school with allocated collateral duties, such as: juvenile detective work, call responder duties, etc.

Type 3 School Police Officer – Full time commissioned school police officer assigned to provide service to 2-4 schools (with or without ancillary duties).

Type 4 School Police Officer – Full time commissioned school police officer assigned to provide service to more than 5 schools (with or without ancillary duties).

School Safety Officer (SSO) – is defined as a non-sworn civilian, typically with no law enforcement arrest powers, employed by the local school district to ensure the safety, security, and welfare of all students, faculty, staff, and visitors. They are also responsible for preventing crime and investigating violations of school policies.

Type 1 School Safety Officer – Armed School Safety Officer with former commissioned law enforcement officer experience.

Type 2 School Safety Officer – Unarmed- School Safety Officer with previous commissioned law enforcement officer experience.

Type 3 School Safety Officer – Armed School Safety Officer with no previous commissioned law enforcement experience.

Type 4 School Safety Officer – Unarmed School Safety Officer with no previous commissioned law enforcement experience.