Threat Assessment Tools

The following list includes threat assessment models and tools developed by federal or state level agencies and is not exhaustive.

**Secret Service Threat Assessment Model**

This operational guide was developed by the U.S. Secret Service, Protective Intelligence and Assessment Division, National Threat Assessment Center (NTAC) to provide fundamental direction on how to prevent incidents of targeted school violence, that is, when a student specifically selects a school or a member of the school community for harm.

**REMS-TA School Behavioral Threat Assessments: An Introduction**

The Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance (TA) Center, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Education (ED), Office of Safe and Healthy Students (OSHS), offers a one-day Train-the-Educator training designed to familiarize schools and school districts with school behavioral threat assessments in preventing and reducing targeted violence at K-12 schools. Topics covered include how a threat assessment team can be integrated into the broader framework of school safety, security, emergency management and preparedness.

**Essentials of School Threat Assessment: Preventing Targeted School Violence**

This document was created in November 2011 and updated in June 2017 by the Colorado School Safety Resource Center of the Department of Public Safety. It is intended as guidance to Colorado schools and was created with collaboration from the Threat Assessment Work Group of the Colorado School Safety Resource Center. Consultation with district legal counsel and local law enforcement is recommended. Additional consultation and template formats may also be obtained from the Colorado School Safety Resource Center. The guide includes:

- Elements of a School Threat Assessment Process
- The Cycle of Threat Assessment
- Threat Assessment Inquiry Steps
- Secret Service Eleven Key Questions
- Selected Threat Assessment Resources

**Salem-Keizer Threat Assessment System**

The Salem-Keizer Student Threat Assessment System (STAS) is set of assessment protocols and safety planning procedures overseen and administered by a unique collaborative team comprised of Oregon schools, law enforcement, public mental health, the judiciary and juvenile corrections to promote safe school environments. The primary goal of the STAS is to provide an immediate and systematic response to youth who pose a serious threat to commit violence to others.

**Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (VCSCS) Threat Assessment**

In 2008, the Virginia General Assembly passed legislation requiring public institutions of higher education to establish threat assessment teams with the goal of preventing violence on campus by assessing behaviors and intervening with individuals who may pose a threat to campus safety. In 2013,
the Virginia General Assembly enacted legislation requiring all public school divisions to establish and operate threat assessment teams in support of their schools. With the requirement of threat assessment mandates, the General Assembly also directed the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (VCSCS), under the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), to study the application and implementation of threat assessment, develop model policies, procedures, and resources on threat assessment, and provide training to support institutions of higher education and pre-K-12 public schools. To satisfy these requirements, the VCSCS worked hand in hand with research partners, service providers, and subject matter experts to provide resources for schools, campuses, and law enforcement. VCSCS’ has developed a number of threat assessment resources, including K-12 Threat Assessment in Virginia: A Prevention Overview for School Staff, Parents, and Community Members; Model Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines; and a K-12 Training Guide.

**Virginia Threat Assessment Model**

The Virginia Student Threat Assessment Guidelines, also known as the Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines, is an evidence-based model for schools to use in conducting threat assessments in K-12 schools. This approach to violence prevention emphasizes early attention to problems such as bullying, teasing, and other forms of student conflict before they escalate into violent behavior. The model is intended to generate broader changes in the nature of staff-student interactions around disciplinary matters and to encourage a more positive school climate in which students feel treated with fairness and respect.