



Informed, alert communities—including college and university campuses—play a critical role in keeping our nation safe.

Campus Safety

Campus security plays a pivotal role in the daily activities at colleges, universities, and trade and technical schools, as well as in the lives of the students, faculty, administrators, and staff members of these institutions of higher learning. With unique challenges in the campus environment and potential risks and threats coming from many different sources, the roles and responsibilities of a campus’s law enforcement officers, public safety partners, emergency management professionals, and first responders are crucial.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Nationwide Suspicious Activity Reporting (SAR) Initiative (NSI) offer a cadre of awareness videos and online trainings to assist campus officials in recognizing indicators of terrorism, terrorism-related crime, and suspicious activity and in raising public awareness of potential threats.



The NSI—a joint collaborative effort by DHS, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and state, local, tribal, territorial, and campus law enforcement partners—provides law enforcement with another tool to help prevent terrorism and other related criminal activity by establishing a national capacity for gathering, documenting, processing, analyzing, and sharing SAR information. The NSI is a standardized process—including stakeholder outreach, privacy protections, training, and facilitation of technology—for identifying and reporting suspicious activity in jurisdictions across the country and also serves as the unified focal point for sharing SAR information.



DHS’s “If You See Something, Say Something”™ campaign is an effective program to raise public awareness of indicators of terrorism and terrorism-related crime and to emphasize the importance of reporting suspicious activity to the proper local law enforcement authorities.

The campaign engages and informs the public through television and radio public service announcements, partner print materials, transit opportunities, billboards, and other media. The campaign has also begun partnering with individual colleges and universities to help engage students with the message of vigilance through the “Take the Challenge” program. Both the “If You See Something, Say Something”™ campaign and the NSI underscore the concept that homeland security begins with hometown security, where an alert public plays a critical role in keeping our nation safe.

DHS maintains essential relationships with members of the academic community and directly engages with school administrators, faculty, and students on issues ranging from campus resilience to research. DHS’s work to support the academic community has resulted in a variety of resources, tools, and programs for students, faculty, and academic institutions. DHS’s Office of Academic Engagement’s work with the academic community focuses on six key areas, one of which is campus resilience to strengthen the ability of colleges and universities to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk.

A list of active threat training resources is available at http://www.nccpsafety.org/assets/files/library/Active_Threat_Response_Trainings_Final.pdf.

DHS, the NSI, and their partner agencies are committed to engaging colleges and universities in an effort to bolster campus emergency preparedness efforts and to foster best practices. Informed, alert communities—including college and university campuses—play a critical role in keeping our nation safe.

Resources for Campus Law Enforcement and First Responders



SAR Line Officer Training

<https://nsi.ncirc.gov/sarlotregistration/version2/>

SAR Training for Hometown Security Partners

https://nsi.ncirc.gov/training_online.aspx

DHS Active Shooter Preparedness

<https://www.dhs.gov/law-enforcement-professional>

Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERTT)

- <http://www.alerrt.org/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sJ2ZtegiRp4&feature=youtu.be>

Guide for Developing High-Quality Emergency Operations Plans for Institutions of Higher Education

https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1922-25045-3638/remsihe_guide.pdf

Resources for Campus Administrators

“If You See Something, Say Something™”

<https://www.dhs.gov/see-something-say-something/take-challenge>

Run.Hide.Fight—Surviving an Active Shooter Event

- <http://www.readyhouston.tx.gov/videos.html>
- <http://www.readyhouston.tx.gov/iwatchhouston/videos.html>

Active Shooter Preparedness Program

- <https://www.dhs.gov/active-shooter-preparedness>
- <https://www.dhs.gov/human-resources-or-security-professional>
- <https://www.dhs.gov/private-citizen>

DHS Active Shooter Awareness Virtual Roundtable Webinar

<https://share.dhs.gov/asaware2011>

Building a Disaster-Resistant University

<https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/2288>

Campus Attacks

<https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/campus-attacks.pdf/view>

FEMA Emergency Management Institute

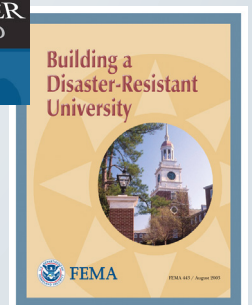
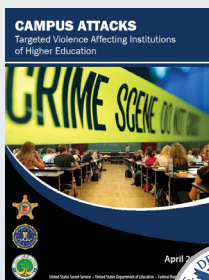
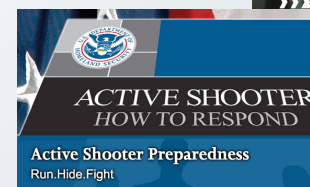
<https://training.fema.gov/programs/emischool/emischool.aspx>

The “Active Shooter: What Can You Do (IS-907)” Online Course

<https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-907>

DHS Office for Bombing Prevention

- <https://www.dhs.gov/what-to-do-bomb-threat>
- <https://www.dhs.gov/bombing-prevention-training-courses>



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Additional Resources

<https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/news/2015/04/15/responder-news-strengthening-campus-security>