

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Conforming Bill  
Relating to School Safety

BILL

2026

1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to school safety; requiring sheriffs to  
3 assist Florida College System institutions and state  
4 universities in implementing the guardian program;  
5 requiring the Department of Law Enforcement to notify the  
6 Board of Governors of any state university that has not  
7 complied with the reporting requirements for the guardian  
8 program; providing an effective date.

9  
10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11  
12 **Section 1. Paragraph (k) of subsection (1) of section**  
13 **30.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

14 30.15 Powers, duties, and obligations.—

15 (1) Sheriffs, in their respective counties, in person or by  
16 deputy, shall:

17 (k) Assist district school boards and charter school  
18 governing boards in complying with, or private schools or child  
19 care facilities, as defined in s. 402.302, in exercising options  
20 in s. 1006.12, or Florida College System institutions or state  
21 universities. A sheriff shall, at a minimum, provide access to a  
22 Chris Hixon, Coach Aaron Feis, and Coach Scott Beigel Guardian  
23 Program to aid in the prevention or abatement of active  
24 assailant incidents on school premises, as required under this  
25 paragraph. Persons certified as school guardians pursuant to  
26 this paragraph have no authority to act in any law enforcement  
27 capacity except to the extent necessary to prevent or abate an  
28 active assailant incident.

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Conforming Bill  
Relating to School Safety

BILL

2026

29 1.a. If a local school board has voted by a majority to  
30 implement a guardian program or has contracted for the use of  
31 school security guards to satisfy the requirements of s.  
32 1006.12, the sheriff in that county must establish a guardian  
33 program to provide training for school guardians or school  
34 security guards, pursuant to subparagraph 2., to school  
35 district, charter school, ~~or~~ private school, child care  
36 facility, ~~or~~ security agency employees, or a Florida College  
37 System institution or state university, either directly or  
38 through a contract with another sheriff's office that has  
39 established a guardian program. The security agency employing a  
40 school security guard is responsible for all training and  
41 screening-related costs for a school security guard, but such  
42 charges may not exceed the actual cost incurred by the sheriff  
43 to provide the training.

44 b. A charter school governing board in a school district  
45 that has not voted, or has declined, to implement a guardian  
46 program may request the sheriff in the county to establish a  
47 guardian program for the purpose of training the charter school  
48 employees or school security guards consistent with the  
49 requirements of subparagraph 2. If the county sheriff denies the  
50 request, the charter school governing board may contract with a  
51 sheriff that has established a guardian program to provide such  
52 training. The charter school governing board must notify the  
53 superintendent and the sheriff in the charter school's county of  
54 the contract prior to its execution. The security agency  
55 employing a school security guard is responsible for all  
56 training and screening-related costs for a school security

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Conforming Bill  
Relating to School Safety

BILL

2026

guard, but such charges may not exceed the actual cost incurred by the sheriff to provide the training.

c. A private school, ~~or~~ child care facility, or Florida College System institution or state university that is located in a school district that has not voted, or has declined, to implement a guardian program may request that the sheriff in the county of the private school, ~~or~~ child care facility, or Florida College System institution or state university establish a guardian program for the purpose of training private school employees, child care facility employees, ~~or~~ school security guards, or Florida College System institution or state university employees. If the county sheriff denies the request, the private school, ~~or~~ child care facility, or Florida College System institution or state university employees may contract with a sheriff from another county who has established a guardian program under subparagraph 2. to provide such training. The private school, ~~or~~ child care facility, or Florida College System institution or state university must notify the sheriff in the private school's, ~~or~~ child care facility's, or Florida College System institution's or state university's County of the contract with a sheriff from another county before its execution. The private school, child care facility, ~~or~~ security agency, or Florida College System institution or state university is responsible for all training and screening-related costs for a school guardian program. The sheriff providing such training must ensure that any moneys paid by a private school, child care facility, ~~or~~ security agency, or Florida College System institution or state university are not commingled with

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Conforming Bill  
Relating to School Safety

BILL

2026

any funds provided by the state to the sheriff as reimbursement for screening-related and training-related costs of any school district or charter school employee.

d. The training program required in sub-subparagraph 2.b. is a standardized statewide curriculum, and each sheriff providing such training shall adhere to the course of instruction specified in that sub-subparagraph. This subparagraph does not prohibit a sheriff from providing additional training. A school guardian or school security guard who has completed the training program required in sub-subparagraph 2.b. may not be required to attend another sheriff's training program pursuant to that sub-subparagraph unless there has been at least a 1-year break in his or her appointment as a guardian or employment by a security agency as a school security guard in a school.

e. The sheriff conducting the training pursuant to subparagraph 2. for school district, ~~and~~ charter school, or Florida College System institution or state university employees will be reimbursed for screening-related and training-related costs and for providing a one-time stipend of \$500 to each school guardian who participates in the school guardian program.

f. The sheriff may waive the training and screening-related costs for a private school or child care facility for a school guardian program. Funds provided pursuant to sub-subparagraph e. may not be used to subsidize any costs that have been waived by the sheriff. The sheriff may not waive the training and screening-related costs required to be paid by a security agency for initial training or ongoing training of a school security

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Conforming Bill  
Relating to School Safety

BILL

2026

guard.

g. A person who is certified and in good standing under the Florida Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission, who meets the qualifications established in s. 943.13, and who is otherwise qualified for the position of a school guardian or school security guard may be certified as a school guardian or school security guard by the sheriff without completing the training requirements of sub-subparagraph 2.b. However, a person certified as a school guardian or school security guard under this subsubparagraph must meet the requirements of sub-subparagraphs 2.c.-e.

2. A sheriff who establishes a program shall consult with the Department of Law Enforcement on programmatic guiding principles, practices, and resources, and shall certify as school guardians, without the power of arrest, school employees, as specified in s. 1006.12(3), or shall certify as school security guards those persons employed by a security agency who meet the criteria specified in s. 1006.12(4), and who:

a. Hold a valid license issued under s. 790.06 or are otherwise eligible to possess or carry a concealed firearm under chapter 790.

b. After satisfying the requirements of s. 1006.12(7), complete a 144-hour training program, consisting of 12 hours of training to improve the school guardian's knowledge and skills necessary to respond to and de-escalate incidents on school premises and 132 total hours of comprehensive firearm safety and proficiency training conducted by Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission-certified instructors, which must include:

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Conforming Bill  
Relating to School Safety

BILL

2026

(I) Eighty hours of firearms instruction based on the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission's Law Enforcement Academy training model, which must include at least 10 percent but no more than 20 percent more rounds fired than associated with academy training. Program participants must achieve an 85 percent pass rate on the firearms training.

(II) Sixteen hours of instruction in precision pistol.

(III) Eight hours of discretionary shooting instruction using state-of-threat simulator exercises.

(IV) Sixteen hours of instruction in active shooter or assailant scenarios.

(V) Eight hours of instruction in defensive tactics.

(VI) Four hours of instruction in legal issues.

c. Pass a psychological evaluation administered by a psychologist licensed under chapter 490 and designated by the Department of Law Enforcement and submit the results of the evaluation to the sheriff's office. The Department of Law Enforcement is authorized to provide the sheriff's office with mental health and substance abuse data for compliance with this paragraph.

d. Submit to and pass an initial drug test and subsequent random drug tests in accordance with the requirements of s. 112.0455 and the sheriff's office.

e. Successfully complete ongoing training, weapon inspection, and firearm qualification on at least an annual basis.

The sheriff who conducts the guardian training or waives the training requirements for a person under sub-subparagraph 1.g.

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Conforming Bill  
Relating to School Safety

BILL

2026

169 shall issue a school guardian certificate to persons who meet  
170 the requirements of this section to the satisfaction of the  
171 sheriff, and shall maintain documentation of weapon and  
172 equipment inspections, as well as the training, certification,  
173 inspection, and qualification records of each school guardian  
174 certified by the sheriff. A person who is certified under this  
175 paragraph may serve as a school guardian under s. 1006.12(3)  
176 only if he or she is appointed by the applicable school district  
177 superintendent, charter school principal, ~~or~~ private school head  
178 of school, ~~or~~ child care facility owner, or Florida College  
179 System institution or state university. A sheriff who conducts  
180 the training for a school security guard or waives the training  
181 requirements for a person under sub-subparagraph 1.g. and  
182 determines that the school security guard has met all the  
183 requirements of s. 1006.12(4) shall issue a school security  
184 guard certificate to persons who meet the requirements of this  
185 section to the satisfaction of the sheriff and shall maintain  
186 documentation of weapon and equipment inspections, training,  
187 certification, and qualification records for each school  
188 security guard certified by the sheriff.

189  
190 3.a. Within 30 days after issuing a school guardian or  
191 school security guard certificate, the sheriff who issued the  
192 certificate must report to the Department of Law Enforcement the  
193 name, date of birth, and certification date of the school  
194 guardian or school security guard.

195 b. By February 1 and September 1 of each school year, each  
196 school district, charter school, employing security agency,

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Conforming Bill  
Relating to School Safety

BILL

2026

197 private school, ~~and~~ child care facility, Florida College System  
198 institution, or state university must report in the manner  
199 prescribed to the Department of Law Enforcement the name, date  
200 of birth, and appointment date of each person appointed as a  
201 school guardian or employed as a school security guard. The  
202 school district, charter school, employing security agency,  
203 private school, ~~and~~ child care facility, and Florida College  
204 System institution and state university must also report in the  
205 manner prescribed to the Department of Law Enforcement the date  
206 each school guardian or school security guard separates from his  
207 or her appointment as a school guardian or employment as a  
208 school security guard in a school.

209 c. The Department of Law Enforcement shall maintain a list  
210 of each person appointed as a school guardian or certified as a  
211 school security guard in the state. The list must include the  
212 name and certification date of each school guardian and school  
213 security guard and the date the person was appointed as a school  
214 guardian or certified as a school security guard, including the  
215 name of the school district, charter school, private school, ~~or~~  
216 child care facility, or Florida College System institution or  
217 state university in which the school guardian is appointed, or  
218 the employing security agency of a school security guard, any  
219 information provided pursuant to s. 1006.12(5), and, if  
220 applicable, the date such person separated from his or her  
221 appointment as a school guardian or the last date a school  
222 security guard served in a school as of the last reporting date.  
223 The Department of Law Enforcement shall remove from the list any  
224 person whose training has expired pursuant to sub-subparagraph



Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Conforming Bill  
Relating to School Safety

BILL

2026

1.d.

d. Each sheriff shall report on a quarterly basis to the Department of Law Enforcement the schedule for upcoming school guardian trainings, to include guardian trainings for school security guards, including the dates of the training, the training locations, a contact person to register for the training, and the class capacity. If no trainings are scheduled, the sheriff is not required to report to the Department of Law Enforcement. The Department of Law Enforcement shall publish on its website a list of the upcoming school guardian trainings. The Department of Law Enforcement shall update such list quarterly.

e. A sheriff who fails to report the information required by this subparagraph may not receive reimbursement from the Department of Education for school guardian trainings. Upon the submission of the required information, a sheriff is deemed eligible for such funding and is authorized to continue to receive reimbursement for school guardian training.

f. A school district, charter school, private school, child care facility, ~~or~~ employing security agency, or Florida College System institution or state university that fails to report the information required by this subparagraph is prohibited from operating a school guardian program or employing school security guards in the following school year unless the missing information is provided.

g. By March 1 and October 1 of each school year, the Department of Law Enforcement shall notify the Department of Education and Board of Governors, if applicable, of any sheriff,

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Conforming Bill  
Relating to School Safety

BILL

2026

253 school district, charter school, private school, ~~or~~ child care  
254 facility, or Florida College System institution or state  
255 university that has not complied with the reporting requirements  
256 of this subparagraph.

257 h. The Department of Law Enforcement may adopt rules to  
258 implement the requirements of this subparagraph, including  
259 requiring additional reporting information only as necessary to  
260 uniquely identify each school guardian and school security guard  
261 reported.

262 **Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.**