

Family Reunification

Estimated time to complete: 20 min.

Course Description

SafeSchools' *Family Reunification* course is an awareness-level course that guides school and district administrators through the consideration of developing a systematic plan to reunify loved ones with their families in the event of a crisis. Effective family reunification often involves overcoming obstacles such as parental panic, transporting students, supervising students, managing the media and disinformation, and finding locations large enough to accommodate staff and students. The course also addresses both leadership and planning issues relating to all aspects of reunification. Lastly, the course identifies key areas of logistical operations for family reunification, such as information area, counseling area, checkout points, etc.

Common Themes

This course reviews the following topics related to crisis response and recovery:

- Elements of an effective reunification strategy and plan
- Transportation issues relating to reunification
- Description of a model family reunification center
- Discussion of reunification site-selection criteria
- Review of staffing needs for family reunification

Authors

Michael Dorn, M.S., FBI National Academy, is one of the most credentialed, experienced, highly respected and most trusted school safety experts in the nation. He was selected as the world's top safety expert by Jane's, the highly regarded British defense, intelligence and school safety publisher, and has authored and co-authored twenty books on school safety.

Sonayia Shepherd, M.A., Public Administration (Doctoral candidate), currently serves as an incident response team member for an international government terrorism response unit. She has also authored and co-authored sixteen books on school safety and emergency management, including four books for Jane's.

Training Environments

SafeSchools is ideal for a blended learning environment, complementing in-service or video training, or as a stand-alone training course. The SafeSchools approach engages the learner in an e-learning environment; while a Compliance Management System automatically tracks his/her progress through the courses. This assists the district administrator or training coordinator in demonstrating compliance.