



Florida School Boards Association

The voice of education in Florida.

Below are the statutes that guide the calculation of the amount of Safe Schools funding and the statutes that outline how Safe Schools funding may be used.

[Section 1011.62, F.S.](#) is the statute that outlines the elements that go into the funds provided in the FEFP. Paragraph (15) of this section provides as follows:

(15) **SAFE SCHOOLS ALLOCATION.**—A safe schools allocation is created to provide funding to assist school districts in their compliance with ss. 1006.07-1006.148, with priority given to establishing a school resource officer program pursuant to s. 1006.12. Each school district shall receive a minimum safe schools allocation in an amount provided in the General Appropriations Act. Of the remaining balance of the safe schools allocation, two-thirds shall be allocated to school districts based on the most recent official Florida Crime Index provided by the Department of Law Enforcement and one-third shall be allocated based on each school district's proportionate share of the state's total unweighted full-time equivalent student enrollment.

As provided in s. 1011.62, F.S., Safe Schools Funding is used to assist districts to comply with [Sections 1006.07-1006.148, F.S.](#), relating to student discipline and school safety. Below is the list of areas to be addressed in these sections along with a very brief description of each section.

[1006.07](#) -- District school board duties relating to student discipline and school safety. Addresses control of students, Code of Student Conduct (which includes weapons at school), Student Crime Watch Program, emergency drills and procedures, educational services at detention facilities, and safety and security best practices.

[1006.08](#) -- District school superintendent duties relating to student discipline and school safety. Outlines responsibilities regarding accounting for students, attendance, handling of disruptive students, suspension/expulsion, etc.

[1006.09](#) -- Duties of school principal relating to student discipline and school safety. Directs principal or designee to develop school site policies and procedures for handling disruptive students; suspension and recommendations to superintendent regarding expulsion; procedures for handling students who are victims of violence; data reporting requirements; searches and response to student possession of drugs, alcohol, etc.

[1006.10](#) -- Authority of school bus drivers and district school boards relating to student discipline and student safety on school buses. Requires driver to maintain order/discipline, follow school board policies regarding progressive disciplinary actions, take action necessary to handle emergencies and protect students, etc. Also states that school boards may use "transportation, school safety, or FEFP funds" to provide added security on certain buses.

[1006.11](#) -- Standards for use of reasonable force. Requires SBE to adopt rules regarding the use of force; requires that policy must be distributed.

[1006.12](#) -- School resource officers and school safety officers.
Section 1011.62(15), F.S., specifies that this is the priority for use of Safe Schools Funding. Differentiates between "resource officers" (available through cooperative agreement with a law enforcement agency such as the sheriff's office) and "safety officers" (employed by a law enforcement agency or the school board) but BOTH must be certified law enforcement officers.

[1006.13](#) -- Policy of zero tolerance for crime and victimization.

Legislative intent to promote a safe and supportive learning environment in schools, to protect students and staff from conduct that poses a serious threat to school safety, and to encourage schools to use alternatives to expulsion or referral to law enforcement agencies by addressing disruptive behavior through restitution, civil citation, and other alternative programs; provides that zero-tolerance policies must apply equally to all students regardless of their economic status, race, or disability; provides elements to include in policy, including procedures to separate victim from perpetrator, etc.

[1006.135](#) -- Hazing prohibited at schools with any of grades 6-12.

Requires school district to adopt policy that prohibits hazing and establishes consequences for a student who commits an act of hazing; lists elements that must be included in the policy, including referral of both victim and perpetrator to school counselor; provides penalties and reporting requirements.

[1006.14](#) -- Secret societies prohibited in public K-12 schools.

Prohibits any person, group, or organization to organize or establish a fraternity, sorority, or other secret society whose membership is comprised in whole or in part of students enrolled in any public K-12 school or to go upon any public K-12 school premises for the purpose of soliciting any students to join such an organization; provides exceptions for “authorized” groups; authorizes penalties that may include suspension/expulsion; etc.

[1006.145](#) -- Disturbing school functions; penalty.

Provides that person not subject to the rules of a school who creates a disturbance on the property or grounds of any school, who commits any act that interrupts the orderly conduct of a school or any activity thereof commits a misdemeanor of the second degree.

[1006.147](#) -- Bullying and harassment prohibited.

Prohibits bullying and harassment of any student or employee; provides definitions; requires school board policy and specifies elements for the policy including reporting and investigation procedures/requirements, parent notification, referral to counseling, etc.; specifies that safe schools funds are contingent upon the school district’s compliance with all reporting procedures.

[1006.148](#) -- Dating violence and abuse prohibited.

Requires district school board to adopt and implement a dating violence and abuse policy; provides elements of the policy; requires each district school board to provide training for teachers, staff, and school administrators.

Prior to the Recession (2007-2008), funding for Safe Schools was \$75,590,988 and districts were serving 2,631,277 students. Since the recession, funding has been generally flat through 2017-2018 at \$64,456,019 while student enrollment has steadily grown to 2,821,037 students in 2017-2018 – approximately 190,000 more students than in 2007-2008. In addition, many of the programs and services to be funded with the Safe Schools allocation have been added or significantly expanded since 2007-2008.

For 2018-2019 Safe Schools funding, Governor Scott proposed \$74,456,019; the Senate proposed \$78,131,839; the House proposed \$64,456,019.