

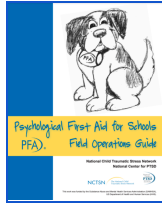
Psychological First Aid for Schools

Frequently Asked Questions



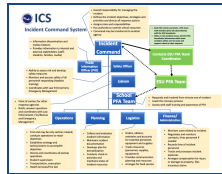
<i>What is Psychological First Aid for Schools (PFA-S)?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Psychological First Aid for Schools (PFA-S) is an evidence-informed intervention model to assist students, staff, and families in the immediate aftermath of an emergency and can be used by any trained staff member or community partner.● PFA-S provides emotional support and coping information to students and staff.
<i>How is PFA-S different from our crisis team?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● The PFA-S team is involved in all portions of the School Safety Model: Prevention, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery● The goal of crisis response is to reduce distress and anxiety experienced by members of the school community when a crisis occurs.● Prevention is mitigating or minimizing the harmful effects from the crisis. We encourage teams to take an active role in monitoring and analyzing building data. We want all school staff to know how to recognize and report any differences they see in school behavior and/or academic performance.● In preparedness, each PFA-S team works with EOP team members to create lessons and schedule practices for all the Standard Response Protocols: lockdown, secure, shelter, hold, and evacuate● The minute the incident starts, the PFA-S team begins responding. In the response phase, the team works to stabilize the crisis situation. Standard Response Protocol and Standard Reunification Method (if evacuated from school site) are utilized.● Recovery deals with how to restore the learning and teaching environment after a crisis to ensure current and long-term needs are met. Recovery is the traditional role of crisis teams.● Every district needs staff members who are trained to respond to hazards, threats and incidents.● The PFA-S terminology comes through the federal Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) training. Each district needs one trained team to respond in a crisis and either name, PFA-S or crisis team, can be used by districts.

What kind of training is available for PFA-S?



- NDE provides PFA-S training that covers the [8 core actions](#) of Psychological First Aid.
- NDE also provides training for ESU's in developing supports for their school districts.
- Training is based on the [Psychological First Aid for Schools Field Operations Guide](#) from the National Child Traumatic Stress Network National Center for PTSD.

What is the incident command system (ICS)?



- The use of ICS is required for all school districts receiving federal emergency preparedness funding.
- PFA-S training covers ICS and provides practice in applying ICS in scenarios.

How does PFA-S fit in the MTSS model?

[PFA-S in the Multi-tiered System of Supports:](#)

