

**Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services  
Division of Public Safety Training and the  
Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (PST-VCSCS)**

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Memo No. VCSCS 23-004

**MEMO To:** Virginia Public School Superintendents, Administrators, School Resource Officers, and Threat Assessment Team Members

**From:** Donna Michaelis, Division Director, PST-VCSCS

**Date:** April 26, 2023

**Subject:** **New Legislative Training Requirements for K-12 Public School Threat Assessment Team Members**

To provide ongoing support and resources to school threat assessment teams, the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) is pleased to provide the following information regarding legislative updates to threat assessment teams effective July 1, 2023, and the provision of free training by the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety (VCSCS):

**1. Behavioral Threat Assessment Teams, Required Training**

Effective July 1, 2023, new legislative requirements will be added in the *Code of Virginia*, section C of § 22.1-79.4. The updates will require each new threat assessment team member at each public elementary and secondary school to complete an initial threat assessment training, and that all threat assessment team members complete refresher training every three years.

**2. Access to free K-12 Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM) training and Model Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines**

Beginning August 1, 2023, the full-day Basic K-12 BTAM training is being condensed to a 4-hour training. Additionally, a 4-hour refresher training will also be offered by the VCSCS. In-person trainings for both courses will be available upon request to school divisions. Virtual trainings will also be offered on multiple dates and open to all threat assessment team members through a general registration process and announced through DCJS training announcements.

The "[Threat Assessment and Management in Virginia Public Schools: Model Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines](#)" will be updated to reflect the new legislatively required training and made available by July 1, 2023. The fifth edition will be available both electronically and in print at that time.

To request a Basic or Refresher BTAM training for your division, or if you have questions related to this legislation, you may reach out directly to the K-12 Threat Assessment Program Coordinator, Brad Stang, via email [brad.stang@dcjs.virginia.gov](mailto:brad.stang@dcjs.virginia.gov) or telephone (804) 997-1278. You may also request a K-12 threat assessment training electronically [HERE](#).