

STATE POLICY RESPONSES TO SCHOOL VIOLENCE

Jennifer Thomsen, May 3, 2018



EDUCATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATES

Your education policy team.

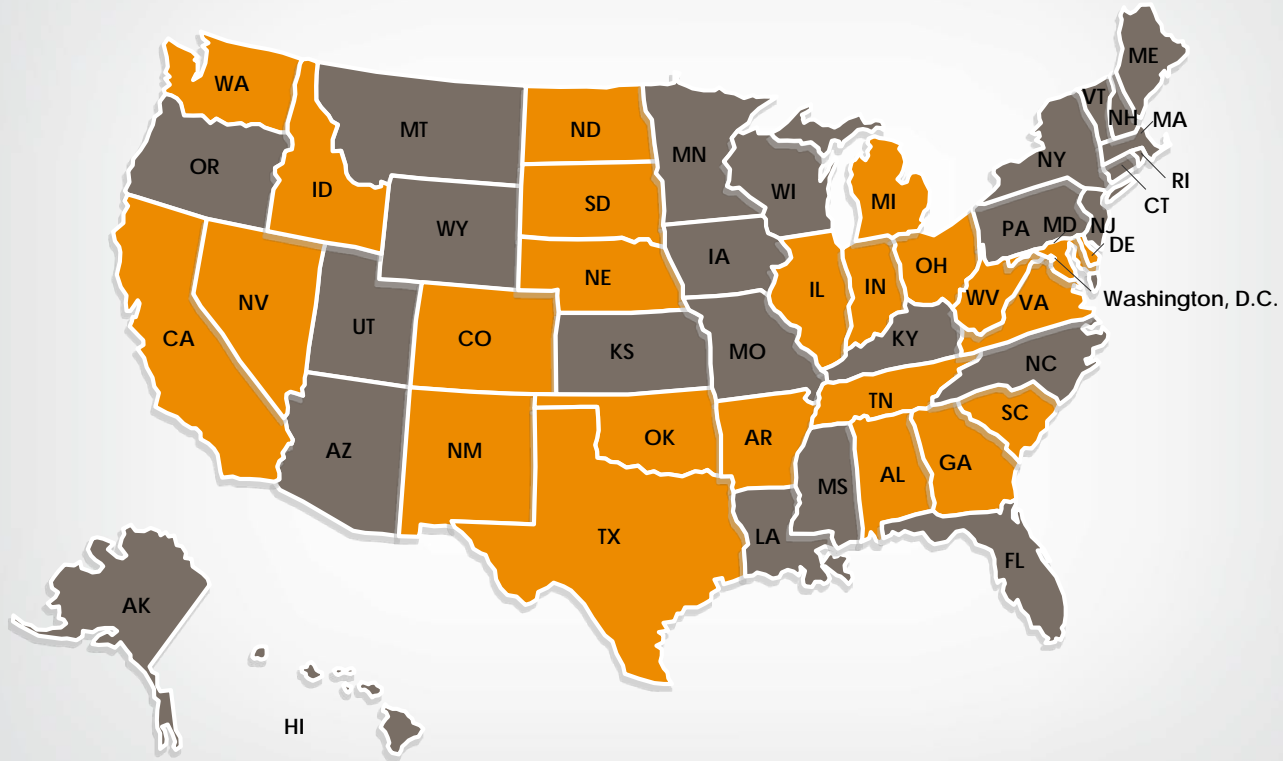


Policies Governing Weapons in Schools

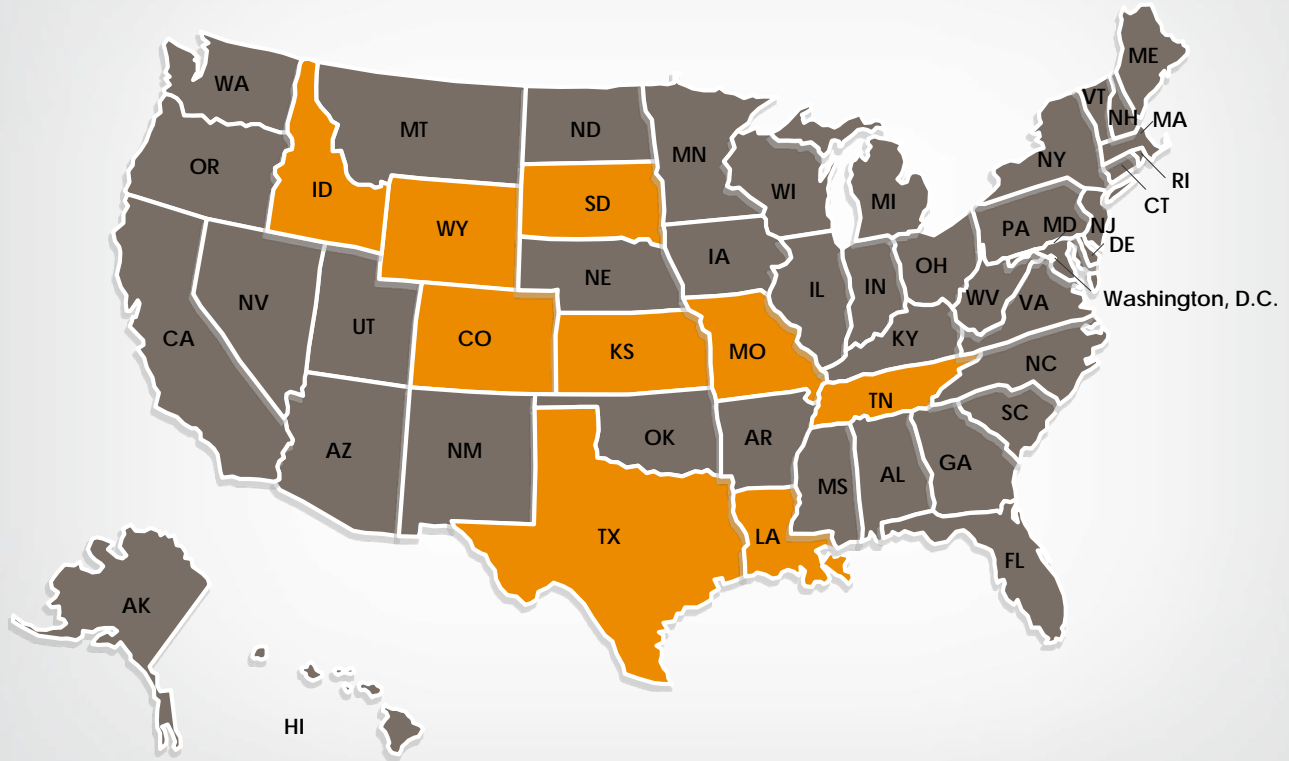
- Categories of Policies Allowing Weapons in Schools*
 - ◆ Policies specifying who may possess a weapon:
 - ▶ School resource officers.
 - ▶ Other school personnel.
 - ▶ Individuals with concealed carry permits.
 - ◆ Policies allowing districts or schools to grant an individual permission to carry a weapon.

*Note: Some states fall into more than one category.

At Least 24 States Have Policies That Allow Security Personnel to Carry Weapons

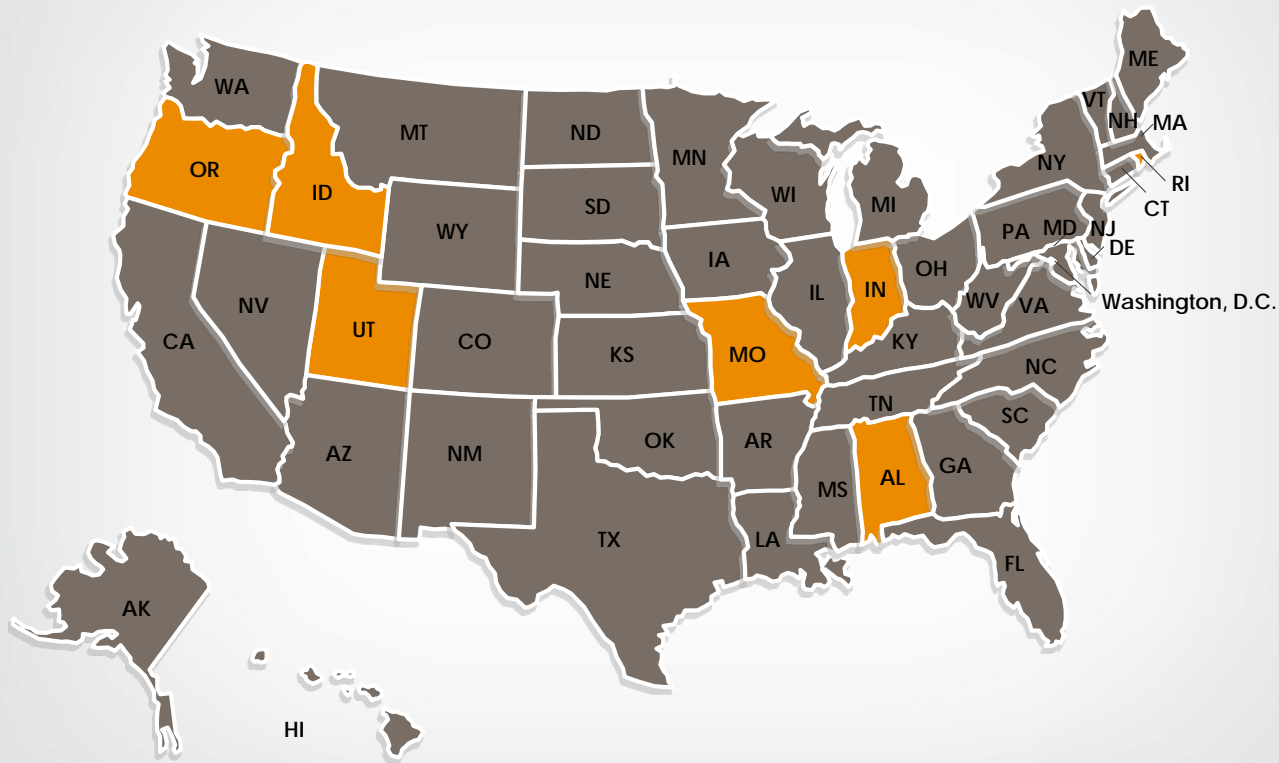


At Least Nine States Have Policies That Allow Other School Employees to Carry Weapons (may require permission from school or district authority)

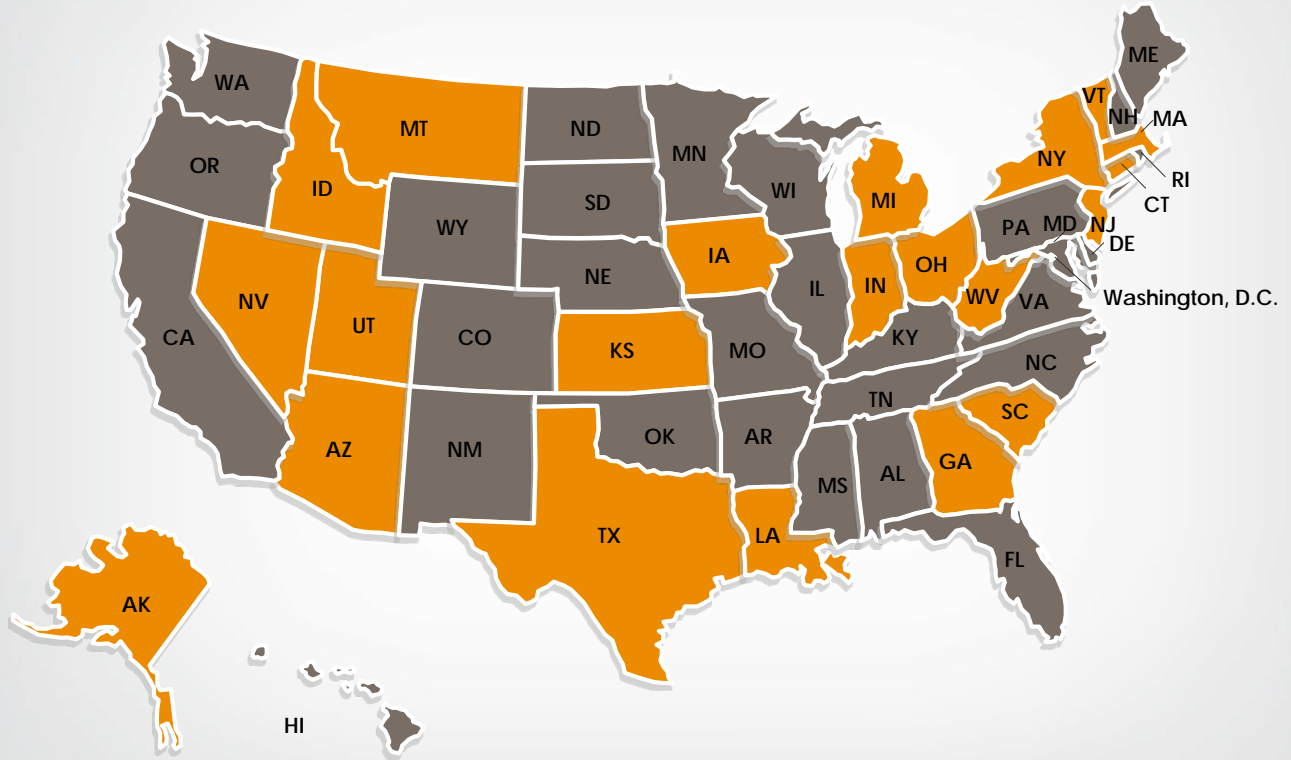


At Least Seven States Have Policies That Allow Concealed Carry Permit Holders to Carry Weapons

(may require permission from school or district authority)



At Least 21 States Have Policies That Allow Schools or Districts to Give Individuals Permission to Carry Weapons



School Resource Officers

- Qualifications: State laws usually specify an SRO must be a law enforcement officer or retired law enforcement officer.
- Authority: Several states' laws specify that an SRO has the same authority as a law enforcement officer, including the ability to make arrests (for example, FL, GA, IN, MI, NV and UT).

School Resource Officers

- Training:
 - ◆ Basic law enforcement training.
 - ◆ Additional specific training in firearms (such as CA, CT and IN).
 - ◆ Active shooter training (for example, AL).
 - ◆ School safety training (for example, LA, KY and OR).
 - ◆ Specific SRO training course (for example, CO and TN).

School Resource Officers

- Funding:
 - ◆ Tax levy (for example, AL and MN).
 - ◆ Funding split between a school district and law enforcement agency (for example, FL).
 - ◆ State grant program (such as AZ, ID, IN, MN, TN and VA).
 - ◆ State funding (for example, AZ).
 - ◆ Many states leave SRO funding to individual school districts.

Resources

- Education Commission of the States' [State Education Policy Tracking](#)

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