



## SCHOOL SAFETY

Students must be able to learn in safe and secure environments. Sadly, too many families and communities have suffered unimaginable loss and trauma due to school violence.

This Administration has pursued bold steps to protect students. The President worked with Congress to pass critical legislation such as the STOP School Violence Act and the Fix NICS Act into law which respectively help school and law enforcement personnel prevent violence and reduce illegal firearm purchases. The Department of Justice has completed a regulatory process to ban bump stocks as well. And the Federal Commission on School Safety (Commission) issued a report with recommendations on how States and school districts can address and prevent violence.

The Budget builds on these efforts by providing \$700 million in funding for programs that support school safety across the Departments of Education (ED), Health and Human Services (HHS), and Justice (DOJ) – a nearly \$200 million increase for these programs compared to 2019 funding levels. This investment will help States and school districts implement the Commission’s recommendations for preventing violence, protecting students and mitigating the effects of violence, and responding to and recovering from violence.

**Preventing School Violence** by investing in efforts such as improving school climate and expanding access to mental healthcare.

- \$102 million for HHS *Project Advancing Wellness and Resilience Education (AWARE)*, which promotes and connects youth to mental health services.
- \$100 million for ED *School Safety State Grants*, which support a wide-range of school safety needs, including violence prevention, based on State and local priorities.
- \$58 million for DOJ *Youth Mentoring Grants* aimed at reducing juvenile delinquency and gang involvement through mentoring programs.
- \$55 million for ED *School Climate Transformation Grants* and technical assistance for States and school districts to implement evidence-based strategies to improve school climate and behavioral outcomes.
- \$31 million for HHS *Healthy Transitions*, which improves support services for adolescents and young adults with, or who are at risk of developing, a serious mental health condition.
- \$15 million for ED *Mental Health Demonstration Grants* to increase the number of mental health professionals in schools.
- \$5 million for DOJ *Gang and Youth Violence Education and Prevention* initiative, which provides training and technical assistance to nonprofits and postsecondary institutions on strategies to reduce violent crime in communities facing youth gang and gun violence.

**Protecting Students and Mitigating the Effects of Violence** by supporting programs that improve emergency planning and training and reduce illegal firearm purchases.

- \$100 million for DOJ *STOP School Violence Act Grants*, which support evidence-based personnel training, threat assessments, intervention teams and efforts to increase coordination between schools and local law enforcement.
- \$75 million for DOJ *National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) and National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP) Grants* to improve State submissions of criminal records information to NICS to help reduce illegal firearm purchases.

- \$15 million for the DOJ *VALOR Initiative* which provides active shooter tactical response trainings for law enforcement officers.
- \$9 million for ED *Grants to States for Emergency Management* and technical assistance which increase the capacity of States and school districts to develop and implement high-quality emergency operations plans.

***Responding to and Recovering from Violence*** by investing in programs that help communities break the cycle of violence and provide youth with services in the aftermath of traumatic events.

- \$100 million for DOJ *Project Safe Neighborhoods*, an initiative that brings together law enforcement officials at all levels of government to identify and address violent crime in communities nationwide.
- \$10 million for ED *Project School Emergency Response to Violence (SERV) Grants* to provide counseling and referrals to mental health services to school districts and postsecondary institutions that have experienced a violent or traumatic crisis.
- \$10 million for ED *Project Prevent Grants* to provide comprehensive services such as counseling and conflict resolution to students in communities with pervasive violence.