

ALIGNMENT

Virginia Makes Changes to the Training Standards for School Resource Officers and Security Officers

(VA SB 171/VA ST § 9.1-102; Effective 7/1/20)

Alignment to Crisis Prevention Institute, Inc. (CPI)
Nonviolent Crisis Intervention® Training Program

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For more than 40 years, CPI has supported education organizations that strive to provide the safest environment for staff and students. Not only will the *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention*® training program meet the requirements in the changes made to Virginia’s training standards, CPI’s train-the-trainer program and its family of advanced programs also offers a comprehensive array of curriculums that can meet all the needs an organization has for supporting a violence free space in school districts with an emphasis on crisis intervention and de-escalation techniques to better assist staff with achieving this goal.

Additionally, by participating in the *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention*® program, staff will gain the skills and confidence necessary to handle crisis with minimal anxiety and maximum security. The training will help staff intervene more safely when behavior become dangerous and most importantly it won’t damage the educational bond that teaching staff have worked so hard to establish with their students.

The following chart is designed to assist you in identifying some of the ways in which CPI’s *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention*® training program can help education organizations in the state of Virginia comply with the training and documentation requirements within this law. It may also assist you in identifying areas that may require a review and/or revision in your organization’s policies and procedures.

School Resource Officers and School Security Officers; Training Standards	Correlation With <i>Nonviolent Crisis Intervention</i> ® Training
<p>VA ST § 9.1-102 requires that the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services establish compulsory minimum training standards for School Security Officers’ training, which must now include:</p> <p>1. De-escalation techniques such as a physical alternative to restraint;</p> <hr/> <p>2. Working with students with disabilities, mental health needs, substance abuse disorders, and past traumatic experiences; and</p>	<p>The <i>Nonviolent Crisis Intervention</i>® training program is designed to be easily customized making it simple for staff to incorporate organizational policy into each discussion area within the curriculum. It also aids in helping create individual personalized responses for case specific situations.</p> <p>The <i>Nonviolent Crisis Intervention</i>® training program focuses on prevention by recognizing the early warning signs of potential crisis situations and equipping staff with nonverbal and verbal de-escalation skills. The program teaches staff about the signs of aggression, how to handle them, and how to read a situation for indicators of violence.</p> <p>CPI training programs are built on the fundamental principles of <i>Care, Welfare, Safety, and Security</i>SM for students and staff alike.</p>

VA ST § 9.1-102 requires that the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services establish compulsory minimum training standards for law-enforcement officers serving as school resource officers, which must now include:

CPI's train-the-trainer model ensures that the training and the related materials are easily customizable to meet the needs of the staff engaged in the training and provides practice, roleplaying real-life scenarios, and problem solving activities to ensure that staff remain engaged in learning. In addition, our eLearning offerings are designed to be highly interactive and engaging and incorporate numerous learning strategies effective with adult learners. Our train-the-trainer model, coupled with either our highly customizable classroom materials or our interactive eLearning offering makes it easy to rollout training to a large number of staff.

1. Mediation and conflict resolution, including de-escalation techniques;

It is the core belief of the *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention*® training program that every effort should be made to prevent the need for the use of physical restraint. At CPI, we teach that physical restraint should only be used as a very last resort when all nonphysical options have been exhausted. For last-resort circumstances, we teach safer, nonharmful restraint techniques that are the most adaptable in the industry.

2. Working with students with disabilities, mental health needs, substance abuse disorders, or past traumatic experiences; and

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3. Student behavioral dynamics.

In CPI training, the *Crisis Development Model*SM describes recognizable behavior levels that an escalating person might go through during a crisis. It also describes corresponding staff attitudes and approaches to de-escalate challenging behaviors.