

SREB Crisis Recovery Network

Application and Agreement

The SREB Crisis Recovery Network supports local schools and districts during catastrophic crises, providing best practice recommendations for response and recovery. Network Counselors operate under the supervision and direction of the host district, ensuring alignment with local needs and policies.

SREB Crisis Recovery Network members need a combination of education, experience and specialized training in crisis intervention and recovery, and must be recommended by their superintendent. Below are key qualifications and skills required:

Education and Professional Requirements

- Master's degree in School Counseling
- School Counselor State Certification
- Employed by a state public school district
- Minimum of 3-5 years of experience in school counseling

Specialized Training & Experience

- Crisis Intervention Training (such as PREPaRE, Workshop 2, 3rd Edition and SAFER-R Model of Psychological First Aid) — **not required, it will be provided upon team membership.**
- Trauma-Informed Care Training (understanding and responding to trauma in school settings.)
- Suicide Prevention and Postvention Training with an understanding of early warning signs.
- Experience with crisis response and recovery (such as school shootings, natural disasters, student or staff deaths)
- Familiarity with multi-agency coordination (working with school or district level Mental Health Officer, possibly first responders, law enforcement or mental health agencies)

Key Skills & Competencies

- **Strong Teamwork and Collaboration** — Ability to work effectively within a crisis response team, valuing input from others and maintaining a cooperative, solutions-focused approach
- **Strong Communication and Leadership** — Ability to communicate effectively with students, staff and families.
- **Problem-Solving and Decision-Making** — Quickly assess psychological trauma risks and implement best practices in high-stress scenarios
- **Cultural Competency and Sensitivity** — Ability to support school communities during crises
- **Flexibility and Availability** — Willingness to travel and be on-call for emergency response situations (in-state) and willingness to serve interstate crisis recovery, typically 3-5 days, with no more than 10 days per year.
- **Confidentiality and Ethical Standards** — Upholding professional and ethical guidelines in sensitive situations

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Application

Name_____ District Employed_____

Email Address_____

Current School_____ Role/Title_____

Name of Superintendent_____

Superintendent's Email Address_____

Current role/responsibilities (check all that apply)

____ College/Career Coach

____ Assessment Coordinator

____ Special Education Counselor/Coordinator

____ Provide Individual Counseling

____ Provide Small Group Counseling

____ School Administrator/Supervisor

With which groups are you most comfortable working?

____ Elementary

____ Middle Grades

____ High School

____ Post-Secondary

____ Staff

____ Support Staff

Experience working with children or families outside the school setting?

Please email your completed application, with an attached one-page resume and the signed Participation Agreement to linda.tyree@sreb.org.

SREB Crisis Recovery Network

Participation Agreement

Dear Superintendent/President,

The Southern Regional Education Board, in close collaboration with governors' offices, state education agencies, local school districts and postsecondary institutions, is launching the SREB Crisis Recovery Network. This initiative will provide a coordinated, holistic response to crisis recovery through year-long emotional and mental health support for students, teachers and communities impacted by tragedy.

After natural disasters like hurricanes, tornadoes and floods, after school shootings, and in public health emergencies, students, teachers and entire school communities are left to cope with deep emotional and psychological wounds. Our experience shows that people in schools affected by crisis require at least a year of dedicated support to fully recover.

Too often, local school counselors are expected to pick up the pieces after a tragedy, even as they themselves grapple with the emotional toll. Rural areas, in particular, need more capacity for counseling and recovery.

Specialized training in the area of crisis recovery is essential to ensure that counseling meets the unique needs of an educational environment. The SREB Crisis Recovery Network will coordinate training for a cadre of counselors in each state and leverage this new capacity trained throughout the SREB region to provide support when needed.

The SREB Crisis Recovery Network will complement existing crisis management efforts by focusing on long-term healing and psychological resilience. SREB will work with local school or postsecondary institutions to develop plans that will best support them in their context. The Network will provide psychological first aid and stabilization rather than long-term therapeutic services.

Terms of participation in the SREB Crisis Recovery Network

SREB will:

- Fund and coordinate PREPaRE training for approved Network counselors as long as funding remains available. PREPaRE is a nationally recognized credential specifically designed to equip counselors for support after crises in schools or colleges.
- Coordinate deployment of regional Network counselors after significant crises. SREB will leverage the capacity of the Network across all SREB states to support the school or institution in crisis. Deployment criteria and a collaborative needs assessment will be used to develop the most appropriate response to meet the specific local need informed by best practices.
- Provide access to trained and experienced Network counselors to support recovery efforts up to one year following crisis events.
- Cover expenses including meals, transportation and housing for Network counselors during a Network deployment.
- Provide mental health support to Network counselors after completion of a deployment, as necessary.

Partnering districts and institutions will:

- Allow Network counselors to respond to incidents when they are called, unless circumstances prohibit the person from leaving local duties at that time.
- Provide Network counselors professional leave for training: two days every five years for PREPaRE training and one day annually for psychological first aid training. All training will take place during the contracted workday.
- Provide professional leave for Network counselors during deployments of 3-5 days after a significant crisis event, with no more than 10 days per year.

Tragedy that affects the mental health of our students and school community happens far too often, and schools are left on their own to recover after the event. While all crises are local, a solution for recovery can emerge from regional collaboration. The SREB Crisis Recovery Network will build a pool of trained professionals who can respond when needed, within their state or across the South. Building capacity and helping states share resources is something SREB is uniquely positioned to do. We are proud to respond with this important layer of support for recovery.

Please review and sign the SREB Crisis Recovery Network Participation Agreement if you agree to the terms outlined above for the Network Counselor applicant listed in this document, confirming their status as an employee in good standing.

Thank you for your partnership and for your commitment to supporting students across the South.

Sincerely,



Dale Winkler
Interim President, SREB

Superintendent's Signature

District

State

Date

About SREB

The Southern Regional Education Board works with states and schools to improve education at every level, from early childhood through doctoral education and the workforce. An interstate compact and a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization based in Atlanta, SREB was created in 1948 by Southern governors and legislatures to advance education and improve the social and economic life of the region. SREB states are Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.