AB1808 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

Must all 7th through 12th-grade teachers take suicide prevention training? According to AB 2246 the answer is yes (See link below for a brief overview on AB2246) but AB1808 is not the required way to do it, it is one of several trainings options with most others being in-person trainings such as Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA), Question or Persuade & Refer (QPR). https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB2246

What are some best practices to roll out the training? One consideration may be looking at your data such as CHKS questions on suicidal ideation and chronic sadness/hopelessness to see which districts and/or schools stand out. Other considerations are identifying if there are districts/schools that have conducted more suicide risk assessments then others or that have recently experienced clusters of suicide.

Does this training meet all of the requirements of the compliance? The training is evidence based and meets the requirements by addressing the warning signs and teaching staff on what actions to take. While the training does not specifically address LGBTQ and other high risk populations, the supplemental resources we will be providing COE's does provide some specific resources for LGBTQ youth and other higher risk population.

Has SDCOE used this training in the past and if so who did you give user accounts to? SDCOE will be rolling out this training at the same time as the other COE's. Our roll out plan is to offer the training to our small and rural school districts first due to the geographic challenges that they experience such as getting subs for teachers is more difficult in order to get them trained. Additionally, they tend to have less resources and supports then the larger districts.

Why are we only receiving 600 licenses when we have to train all of our staff? The funding provided for AB1808 was not aligned with the training needs in our state as it relates to all middle and high schools staff and students in California. AB1808 calls for the online training to be "offered" but does not address the capacity issue. CDE and SDCOE are advocating at the state to continue funding AB1808 each year.

Can our COE purchase additional licenses and if so, how much are they? We recommend that you distribute the 600 licenses and first see if they all get used. By the time they do, you can check with SDCOE to see if we can reallocate any unused licenses to your county. CDE is advocating for the state to make an annual appropriation for AB1808. You are welcome to contact LivingWorks directly by reaching out to Jarrod Hindman at jarrod.hindman@livingworks.net or Kathleen Snyder at kathleen.snyder@livingworks.net

How long will COE's have to use the licenses? You have until the end of December 2020 and if your districts have not used them, SDCOE will reallocated them to another COE that needs them unless your COE has plans to use them in 2021.

Can staff do the training in a large group? No, the 600 licenses are individual user licenses and each user will receive a certificate at the completion of the training.

After disseminating licenses, what is COE's responsibilities? The COE has an option to monitor the license usage to determine specifics such as how many staff have taken the training, how many started the training and didn't complete it, and which staff are taking the training. If the COE chooses to not monitor the licenses, SDCOE and LivingWorks will already be monitoring each county's usage

Are licenses all supposed to be for school/district staff in our county? Yes, AB1808 states that it is for middle and high school staff and students. If there is community interest, they can contact LivingWorks for further information.

Are some of the 600 licenses intended to be for students? No, each COE will receive approximately 500 additional user licenses for students.

I have already taken the Start training; do I need to take it again? No, only unless you want to refresh yourself with the training.