

Suicide Awareness and Prevention

Proposed Trainings, per SDCL 13-42-71

February 23, 2026

Youth Suicide: Awareness, Prevention and Postvention

By: Vector Solutions

- *Quick Description:* This course equips staff members with critical knowledge and strategies to reduce the incidence of suicide among students. It covers the prevalence and seriousness of youth suicide, identifies common risk factors and warning signs, and presents proven prevention tactics. The course also instructs staff on immediate actions if a student threatens suicide, and teaches best practices for “postvention”, or intervention and support after a suicide event.
- *Format:* Online, Self-Paced
- *Duration:* 67 minutes
- *Evidence Base:*
 - The intervention is based on a theory of change that is documented in a clear logic or conceptual model
- *Includes Information on Youth Suicide Risk Indicators:* Provides details on multiple risk factors for suicide with mental health conditions, behavioral and emotional indicators, environmental risks, family and social dynamics, school-related stressors, barriers to mental health care, and more.
- *Includes Appropriate Educator Responses and Referral Sources:* Provides clear, step-by-step protocols including asking students directly about thoughts of suicide and what to do immediately afterwards. The training covers how to communicate with students and parents, when to involve administration and counseling staff, and encouraged use of 988.
- *Cost:* \$5 - \$16 per individual, depending on the district contract. The cost covers the course.

Suicide Awareness and Response

By: The Helpline Center

- *Quick Description:* The training will review data pertaining to suicide ideation and deaths, warning signs, how to interact with students expressing suicidal thoughts or behaviors and resources available for support.
- *Format:* Online, Self-Paced
- *Duration:* 60 minutes
- *Evidence Base:*
 - The intervention is based on a theory of change that is documented in a clear logic or conceptual model

- *Includes Information on Youth Suicide Risk Indicators:* Provides suicide risk data, warning signs, and how the warning signs are expressed specifically to youth populations. The training also covers protective factors.
- *Includes Appropriate Educator Responses and Referral Sources:* Provides information on how to have conversations with youth expressing warning signs and a list of referrals for educator support.
- *Cost:* None