

Response

RESPONSE			
Emergency Operations Plan			
Critical Incident Response/Coordination			
Recovery			

The definitions in this glossary are to deepen your understanding of the key terms in the Comprehensive School Safety Checklist.

Response Glossary:

Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). The purpose of an EOP is to identify and respond to incidents by outlining the responsibilities and duties of all school employees ahead of time. Developing, maintaining, and exercising the plan empowers employees to act quickly and knowledgeably in an incident. This plan describes how an institution will respond to a threat. It describes in detail the processes and structures within the school that will be utilized in case of an emergency. Having a plan in place helps ensure that the response will be coordinated and informed. All key staff need to be trained on the plan and understand their roles in the implementation of the EOP. (FEMA)

Critical Incident Response/Coordination. In any traumatic event that leads to strong emotional experiences, support must be provided to the community to meet their mental health well-being. A critical response team will identify people at risk and attend to their needs through providing physical and emotional support.

Recovery. Once the crisis or threat is over, the people in the school must quickly return to as normal as possible. Some people will recover before others. So, mental health supports need to be in place for some weeks before a survivor might be ready to take on the responsibilities they previously had.