

What is the Alabama School Incident Report (SIR)

Developing and maintaining a safe and disciplined school environment requires accurate and complete information; however, schools and school systems around the nation vary widely in how they collect and track data on incidents of student violence and discipline. In Alabama, the School Incident Report (SIR) program was initiated to meet state and federal reporting needs of these violations. It was also designed to give local education agencies (LEAs) comprehensive access to as much information and data as possible.

LEAs need accurate school safety and discipline data for:

- School improvement.
- Program evaluation and planning.
- Resource allocation.
- Mandated state and federal reporting requirements.

Without this accurate and consistent data to analyze, it is difficult for educators, parents, and communities to:

- Draw conclusions on the impact of any policy or program relating to safe schools.
- Determine which schools are accomplishing their goals.
- Evaluate progress.
- Allocate their funds in the areas of greatest need.
- Locate accurate data to apply for grants, complete applications, and seek additional revenues.

SIR program provides the framework for all Alabama public schools and school systems to:

- Collect school safety and discipline information in a uniform manner.
- Prepare their annual accountability reports.
- Track and report offenses to the SDE that are violations of the law or represent a serious breach of LEA policy.

SIR program also streamlines the collection of specified data and contributes to paperwork reduction.

This program is designed to:

Overview the Major Reporting Elements:

The SIR is designed to collect data about the offense and the offender(s). It consists of three major elements:

- (1) General school/school system information
- (2) Participant information
- (3) Incident information

Incidents that will be Reported to the SDE through the SIR are Offenses which:

1. Incidents are those offenses considered severe enough to consider one of the following:
 - Report to law enforcement officials
 - Out-of-school suspension
 - Expulsion
 - Placement in an alternative program
 - Placement in an interim educational setting (special education only)
 - Removal by Hearing Officer due to possibility of injury to self or others (special education only)
 - Corporal Punishment
 - In-School Suspension
2. All data will be collected based on a school year.
3. The report should be submitted to the State Department of Education (SDE) by June 15; however, it is recommended that LEAs update the report throughout the school year.
4. The incident identification number is unique in that it is one of the key fields that link the reports together.
5. Offenses taking place at the same time and in the same place, regardless of the number of participants or the number of offenses involved, must be identified as the same incident and, therefore, will share the same incident identification number.