

Michigan Section 31aa

School Safety Funding Guide

Up to
\$147.06
per pupil

is available for school
safety for FY 2026—27

Start planning now.

THE INFORMATION DISTRICTS NEED

Know your funding. Assess your needs.
Align your stakeholders. Build your plan.



Section 31aa, Simplified

For FY 2026–27, Michigan has dedicated up to \$200 million specifically to student safety through Section 31aa, part of a \$310 million investment in mental health and school safety.

Eligible schools can receive **up to \$147.06 per pupil for approved priorities**, including emergency response systems, safety infrastructure, training, security assessments, and coordination with law enforcement.

While MDE has not yet released the complete participation process and deadlines, now is the **time to identify your safety priorities** and prepare to put these funds to work.

For FY 2026–27, Michigan has created a distinct allocation for student safety, rather than requiring districts to divide one combined payment between mental health and safety priorities.

\$310M

Total base Section
31aa funding

Up to \$200M

Dedicated to
student safety

Up to \$147.06

In school safety
funding per pupil

Who is eligible?

Funding is available to local school districts, public school academies, intermediate school districts, nonpublic schools, and the Michigan Schools for the Deaf and Blind.

What can school safety funding support?

Section 31aa gives schools the flexibility to address their individual safety needs. Allowable uses include:

- Emergency response systems
- Safety and security assessments
- Safety infrastructure
- Threat-assessment and response training
- Crisis-communication training
- Coordination with local law enforcement
- School resource officers
- Other eligible school-safety investments

Invest in a more connected emergency response

When evaluating how to use Section 31aa funding, start with a simple question: What happens from the moment someone needs help? A comprehensive emergency response system should help your district move quickly from awareness to action.



ALERT

Give staff an easy, accessible way to signal for assistance wherever an incident occurs.



LOCATE

Identify precisely where help is needed so responders know where to go.



NOTIFY

Communicate clear information across classrooms, hallways, common areas, and outdoor spaces.



INFORM

Give administrators and responders greater context through digital maps, video, and other connected safety information.



RESPOND

Support coordination between school personnel, 911, law enforcement, and other public-safety partners.

Key Opportunity

Michigan expressly identifies “an emergency response system” as an allowable use of FY 2026–27 school-safety funding.

That gives districts an opportunity to look beyond individual security products and consider how quickly their entire emergency-response process works when someone needs help.

The CENTEGIX **Safety Platform**® brings emergency response capabilities together, with wearable panic buttons that activate emergency alerts, precise location identification, campus-wide notification, dynamic digital mapping, and PSAP integrations. [LEARN MORE](#)

Plan for Today's Needs and Tomorrow's Expectations

Section 31aa provides funding that schools can use today. But districts making long-term safety investments should also consider where Michigan's school-safety requirements may be headed.



Alyssa's Law | Part of the conversation

Michigan lawmakers have introduced Alyssa's Law legislation, which would establish requirements for mobile panic alert systems in schools.

The proposed legislation has not yet become law, but it gives district leaders another reason to consider emergency response capabilities when making long-term investments.

Ask before you invest

Does your emergency response solution:

- ✓ Give staff wearable access to help throughout campus?
- ✓ Identify the precise location of an emergency?
- ✓ Support campuswide notification?
- ✓ Help coordinate response with 911 and public-safety partners?
- ✓ Integrate with your district's existing safety technology?
- ✓ Include implementation, testing, and training needed to support long-term readiness?



SAFETY IN ACTION | VALDOSTA CITY SCHOOLS

37 seconds

from recognizing a threat to initiating a lockdown.

When an armed individual began shooting near S. L. Mason Elementary, an assistant principal used their CENTEGIX wearable badge to initiate a campuswide lockdown. Within seconds, visual and audio notifications were activated, and 911 dispatch was alerted. No students, staff, or parents were injured. [READ THEIR FULL STORY](#)

Invest in Safety That Supports Every School Day

Preparing for campus-wide emergencies is a necessity. But the value of a strong safety strategy doesn't begin and end with the worst-case scenario. Staff need help with the incidents that happen every day.

99% of CENTEGIX alerts are activated for everyday emergencies. Behavioral incidents. Medical emergencies. Staff assistance. Student conflicts. Situations that can escalate quickly. Investing in emergency response gives staff a way to act when they need help, while enabling district leaders to better understand when, where, and why incidents are occurring.

SAFETY IN ACTION

NORTH BRANCH AREA SCHOOLS, MI

Emergency response for everyday incidents...and the extreme.

On November 30, 2021, in Oxford Township, Michigan—just 20 miles south of North Branch Area Schools—a mass shooting took place at Oxford High School. After that incident, administrators at North Branch Area Schools knew they needed to do more.

There were multiple communication gaps that North Branch Area Schools wanted to fill with the CrisisAlert solution, from the ability to send an alert even with spotty cell service or a poor Wi-Fi connection to the ability to initiate an alert from any location.

Now, with CrisisAlert, North Branch administrators are able to see the difference it has made across their district. Describing how the CrisisAlert solution has been received by their teachers and staff, they remark, "It gives them comfort to know that they can get a hold of somebody in the case of an emergency."

[**READ THEIR FULL STORY**](#)



We went out and we looked for the best possible solution to enhance a lot of the things that we had already done...And we felt this platform, with everything else that it does, was the best option for us."

- JIM FISH

SUPERINTENDENT, NORTH
BRANCH AREA SCHOOLS

North Branch Area Schools demonstrated that safety technology designed for the most extreme emergencies can deliver value every day.

Your Section 31aa Action Plan

You don't need to wait for additional MDE guidance to begin planning. Section 31aa gives Michigan schools an opportunity to strengthen emergency response *today* while preparing for evolving safety expectations. Now is the time to identify priorities and plan your next steps.

Use this framework to prepare:

- 1 Understand your allocation**
Estimate how much FY 2026–27 Section 31aa funding may be available to support your school-safety priorities, and how much has already been committed.
- 2 Bring the right people together**
Identify the leaders responsible for safety, finance, operations, board-approval processes, technology, procurement, and implementation.
- 3 Assess your emergency response procedures**
Look for gaps in how staff signal for help, incidents are located, campuses are notified, and first responders receive information.
- 4 Prioritize your investment**
Determine which eligible investments will have the greatest impact on your district's safety strategy today and in the future.
- 5 Plan for implementation**
Account for procurement, installation, implementation, testing, training, and coordination with public-safety partners.

Funding is only the starting point.

The right planning can help your district move efficiently from identifying needs to implementing and preparing your teams for long-term readiness.



Funding



Assessment



Alignment



Procurement



Implementation



Testing



Training



Readiness

CENTEGIX works alongside customers from planning and implementation through training, testing, and ongoing support.

Proven technology. Ongoing partnership. Confidence at every step.

LEARN MORE

99%

of users say
CrisisAlert™
is easy to use

1M+

alert
activations
supported

Turn available 31aa funding into a stronger emergency response strategy.

CENTEGIX can help your district align the CENTEGIX Safety Platform® with your safety priorities and plan for funding, procurement, implementation, testing, and training.

Start Your Section 31aa Safety Plan Today

Talk with a CENTEGIX school-safety expert about your district's funding and emergency-response priorities.

[**START THE CONVERSATION**](#)



Funding Note

MDE has not yet published complete FY 2026–27 Section 31aa participation procedures and deadlines. Districts should consult the latest MDE guidance before making funding or procurement decisions. Source: Enrolled House Bill 5630, FY 2026–27 School Aid Budget.

Funding amounts, allocations, participation procedures, deadlines, payment timing, allowable costs, procurement requirements, reporting, and carry-forward treatment are governed by Michigan law and Michigan Department of Education guidance. Projected administrative dates and procedures are based on the prior-year MDE process and may change. This material is provided for general informational purposes, is not legal advice, does not guarantee funding or reimbursement, and does not represent that CENTEGIX or any specific product configuration is pre-approved by MDE. Recipients should confirm product-specific costs and administrative requirements with MDE and their legal and financial advisers before contracting.