

# Online Learning Path For Act 71

# Understanding Youth Suicide & Prevention

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## Act 71

As of the 2015-2016 school year, districts are **required to provide professional development to educators and staff of students grade 6-12** regarding suicide prevention. For each suicide death among young people, there may be as many as 100–200 suicide attempts (McIntosh, 2010). Approximately 1 out of every 15 high school students attempts suicide each year (CDC, 2010a).

### Target Audience:

K-12 Educators, Non-Teaching Staff, Administrators and Paraprofessionals

### Act 48 Hours: 4

### Dates:

Participants can register and complete learning paths at any time.

### Cost:

\$10 Per Person

### Registration:

[www.ciu20.org/Act71Registration](http://www.ciu20.org/Act71Registration)

### Questions:

Call Susan Kandianis, Ed.D.

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## Description

In this learning path, participants will review the prevalence of suicide, risk factors, warning signs, school-related epidemiology, protective factors and prevention. Participants will be able to complete the 4 hours of suicide prevention training to meet the requirements set forth in Act 71 of 2014. This law requires school entities to: (1) adopt a youth suicide awareness and prevention policy; and (2) provide ongoing professional development in youth suicide awareness and prevention for professional educators in buildings serving students in grades 6-12.

There will be four modules that can be completed in about four hours in either an independent, asynchronous environment or within a blended session, including:

- Short videos
- Helpful readings, tables, charts and templates
- Interactive discussions
- Opportunities for personal reflection
- Pre and Post Assessments

## Objectives

1. Discuss the prevalence of suicide and why it occurs
2. Review the Pennsylvania Youth Suicide Prevention Plan
3. Review possible links to bullying, substance abuse, and sexual orientation
4. Inventory school policies and resources in your area
5. Identify and distinguish between risk factors, protective factors and warning signs
6. Recognize resources that can provide support to students at risk for suicide

## Outcomes

- ➔ Articulate differences between warning signs and risk factors
- ➔ Develop a knowledge of the Pennsylvania Youth Suicide Prevention Plan and the Local Youth Suicide Prevention Plan
- ➔ Create an action plan specific to your role



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