

# SCHOOL SAFETY STANDARDS AND NEW GRADE OPPORTUNITY WEBINAR FAQ

## Silent Panic Alert Technology (SPAT)

1. Can you clarify what constitutes the ability for a substitute to trigger an alarm?  
Substitutes would need access to the system and/or button and have the ability to trigger an alert in the event of an emergency.
2. Can we get the rule for SPAT?  
Silent Panic Alert Technology is included in the School Safety Standards, 19 TAC 61.1031. Please see the rule here: <https://tea.texas.gov/about-tea/laws-and-rules/commissioner-rules-tac/coe-tac-currently-in-effect/ch061cc.pdf>
3. Can you have a cell phone based SPAT system?  
Installation on personal devices could possibly constitute usage on a district controlled device if installation were accompanied by policies controlling consistent availability and accessibility of those devices to satisfy SPAT rule requirements.
4. Does an alert have to be silent only? What are the silent component requirements?  
Requirements for SPAT can be found in (c)(10) of the School Safety Standards rule.
5. For the silent panic alert can it be an icon on the teacher's desktop?  
It would also have to meet the other requirements of the SPAT system. Feel free to email us at [safeschools@tea.texas.gov](mailto:safeschools@tea.texas.gov) to discuss further.
6. Does Raptor software qualify as a SPAT?  
TEA cannot recommend or otherwise endorse a specific vendor for Silent Panic Alert Technology. Please speak with potential vendors regarding their ability to comply with SPAT requirements.
7. Why does SPAT have to be school owned? We were also wanting to train mature responsible students. Most of the cell phone apps do not come with all components. Please provide clarification.  
Installation on personal devices could possibly constitute usage on a district controlled device if installation were accompanied by policies controlling consistent availability and accessibility of those devices to satisfy SPAT rule requirements.
8. Does dialing 91-1 from the classroom phone meet the silent panic requirement? Admin & law enforcement is immediately notified of the name and location of the 91-1 call.  
It would also have to meet the other requirements of the SPAT system.
9. For the panic button, does a VOIP Phone in the classroom with the capability to call 911 satisfy the requirement?  
It would also have to meet the other requirements of the SPAT system.

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## Exterior Secured Area

### Fencing

10. Would fencing requirements also include the fencing that is around a playground?

No, it would not. Fencing is not a required component of the rule, and existing fencing does not need to be modified unless the campus uses the added flexibility of the Exterior Secured Area, as outlined in the rule.

11. Would a school with a small practice Football Field need a non-scalable fence?

No

12. Would a 1 strand of barbed wire on top of the fence meet the requirement for scalable?

Razor wire is not a allowable cost for School Safety Allotment funding. Feel free to email us at safeschools@ta.texas.gov to discuss further.

## Forced Entry Resistant Film

13. If we apply Film on all doors and windows, it's not required to have fencing?

Correct, however, a few points to clarify - fencing is not a requirement, but it is allowable to ensure operational flexibility. If you cannot reinforce windows or need to allow certain doors to remain unlocked during the instructional d-6.4 ( (t)8-6.4 ( (p)1.7 (h)-h( d)- [(e)-0.7 (n)0.5 ( (t)8-7 (o)-u (d) adi a23e T (3)33.h (p)0.5 (s)]TJ 0 Tc 0 8.109361 0 Td ( )Tj -0.001 Tw 0.23 0 Tdf (i)-0.ilm( r)20.5o 2 di25 : afn.11.s (4)-3. to((d)-u (l)n)-ch ()0.9 ( )-5.th (l)n3 l ra-4.8d( r)(1n)-0.o((d)-r (s)]TJ 0 T6 601126 0 (? ( )0.46.

