

TOOLKIT ONE: ASSESS

QUESTIONS & CONSIDERATIONS FOR SCHOOL SECURITY CONSULTANTS & FIRMS



Navigating the field of security professionals is a daunting task for even the most savvy of your security team members. The following are some basic questions and considerations aimed at helping you choose the professional or firm that best suits your school community.

To Ask...

- Are they experienced in working with children and schools in school security?
- What diplomas, degrees, certifications, and licenses can they show to verify credentials?
- Do they have repeat clients in school security?
- What local references can they provide?
- Will they provide a plan to implement recommendations?
- Will they provide ongoing assistance and/or audit services?
- Do they have a strong working knowledge of police, fire and EMS services?

To Consider...

- Are they experienced in working with children and schools in school security?
- Do they have a well-established reputation in the field of school security?
- Are they recognized by others in the field?
- Are they associated with any product vendors? If so, how? It is important to receive impartial and unbiased guidance, especially with regard to purchasing products to enhance school safety.
- What security measures have been successfully implemented in schools based on their past assessments?
- Are they able to effectively communicate with and address the needs of all team members (school administration, teachers, staff, parents, architects, boards of education, and police, fire and EMS responders)?
- Do they have a demonstrated ability to keep critical information confidential?
- Who from the company actually does the work?

This is not an exhaustive list of interview questions or considerations. It is a list designed to help schools think through and generate questions and considerations for potential consultants and experts.