

For many years now, law enforcement officers have been trained to respond to Active Shooter incidents. We found that many schools and businesses were looking for a way to train their employees and students on how to react and respond during an active shooter situation while the police are on the way. The police may respond fast but you may still have to buy yourself some time.

Many schools across the country have trained their staff and students in a method called Lockdown. Once a lockdown order or alert is given, students and staff lock their classroom doors, turn out the lights, hide in a far corner of the classroom and remain calm and quiet. But is that enough?

Because of the speed of the active shooter and the ability to enter locked doors by force, we feel that we must provide staff and students with more options beyond just locking the door and hiding. The options that are presented may be used to help them mount an effective response and survive.

NSCC has adopted a program called A.L.I.C.E. which is an Active Shooter Response Training course that can be taught to employees, students and visitors. The A.L.I.C.E. acronym stands for the following:

A lert	How you are alerted to the danger and how you are able to warn others by dialing 911.
L ockdown	Shows you how to not only lock the door but to also use what you have available to barricade the door in an attempt to prevent the aggressor from making it into your safe room/area. There are three goals to lockdown: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Keep the aggressor out of your safe room/area.2. Discourage, deter or slow down the aggressor from getting to you.3. Give the police more time to respond before the aggressor gets to you.
I nform	Provide continual information to 911 so that the police know where to go and so that Public Safety can give other staff and students updated information so that they can make informed decisions.
C ounter	As a last resort, use the skills that are taught to throw items at the aggressor's head to distract, disorient, stress and allow you and others to run or take the person to the ground and hold him/her down until police arrive.
E vacuate	Run from the aggressor thereby reducing the number of potential targets for the shooter and allowing you and others to get to a safer place.

Again, the goal is to keep people safe. Without any training, people will do what they think is best and in many cases, that may mean just hiding under the desk or table. We agree that sometimes hiding works but that may not be enough. A.L.I.C.E. is not a step by step process. In fact, you may just choose to simply run away from the aggressor to a safer place. In the Active Shooter Response Training we stress that the Counter option is always a last resort but should be an option.

A.L.I.C.E Hostile Intruder Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V7efBK0iLc8>