



North Carolina Center for Safer Schools
<http://www.centerforsaferschools.org>



What is "SPK UP NC"?

SPK UP NC is a school safety program for students that enables them to send anonymous tips about school safety concerns from an app they download on their phone, iPad, mac book, or other mobile and web based technology. The tips will be received by school administration who will appropriately respond based on the type of tip. The SPK UP NC program combines the school safety prevention, intervention and response expertise of the N.C. Center for Safer Schools (NCCFSS). See it. Tip it. Stop it.

- What kind of tips can be submitted? The tip categories include bullying, illegal drug and alcohol use, fighting, weapons, and a Report It category for all other types of tips. Students can submit digital photos or videos along with text information from their cell phones directly to the school administrative team.
- What if a Student is experiencing suicidal thoughts? If a student has a suicide or mental health concern, they can engage the bar that reads Suicide Lifeline and then hit the call button. Those calls will go outside the phone app, and be answered by a trained mental health professional.
- Who can SPK UP NC help? SPK UP NC gives an anonymous voice to those who submit tips, and an assurance that their voices will be heard. SPK UP NC can also be downloaded by parents, teachers, or others concerned about school safety. See it. Tip it. Stop it.
- The SPK UP NC app is available for download from the Android Marketplace and on iTunes, and is compatible with iPhone 3 and up.
- Go to <http://www.centerforsaferschools.org> for more information.

Why it exists

Over 160,000 school children miss school each day in the United States out of fear. Being able to report their fears is paramount in reducing these absences. Over 90 percent of students say they would use an anonymous reporting tool if they had one available. This is also important because over 80 percent of school shooters tell someone before they act. An anonymous reporting tool could help prevent many school shootings and other violent actions on school campuses. SPK UP NC is a tangible anonymous application for smart phones that has been developed with the needs of North Carolina's school children in mind.



Pilot project, and counties participating; intention to roll-out statewide over the coming year

In an effort to ensure the long-term viability of SPK UP NC, the NCCFSS determined it would be best to work with a few school districts of varying populations to pilot the project and work out any issues with training, marketing, and the application before offering it statewide. Collaboration with the school districts of Avery County Schools, Johnston County Schools, Lenoir County Schools, Macon County Schools, and Winston-Salem / Forsyth Schools has been ongoing to develop this product specifically for the students of North Carolina. This project is slated for statewide availability beginning in the 2016-2017 school year.

Links to SPK UP NC Tip page

See It. Tip It. Stop It. Use this link to send an anonymous tip to school administrators and school resource officers.

<http://speakupapp.tips/home.php?id=116>

For Android

The SPK UP NC app is available for download from the Android Marketplace, making it easier than ever to install to your phone. Follow this link to download: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.ithinqware.speakup&hl=en>


For iPhone

For iPhone, the SPK UP NC app is compatible with iPhone 3 and up. Follow this link to get the most recent update:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/speakupapp/id1031639757?mt=8>

SPK UP NC Web Page

<http://speakupapp.tips/home.php> (functions optimally in Chrome)

 SPK UP NC Application Overview	
Feature	SPK UP NC App
Is it anonymous?	Yes! The tip is processed through an out-of-state server that removes device information prior to passing the tip on to the designated school team.
Can tips be submitted on mobile devices?	Yes! You may use either iPhone or Android by downloading the free application to your device.
Is there a quick link to download the App?	Yes! For the Android version search speakupapp nc or go to https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.ithinqware.speakup&hl=en And for the iPhone version search speakupappnc or go to https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/speakupapp/id1031639757?mt=8
Does SPK UP NC work across mobile phone carriers?	YES!
Does it cost anything to send a tip?	No!
Is it easy to use?	Yes! After you have downloaded the App to your phone, simply pick your school and the app will always be set-up to report to your school's SPK UP NC team members. Then you simply select the type of activity and write a short description of who, what, when and where this activity is occurring.
Is it reliable?	Yes! Each school has identified who should be contacted for each of the reporting groups and your report instantly goes to the proper people.
Can images be submitted with the tip?	Yes! Photo images and videos can be submitted with any tip.
Is there a capability for two-way dialog?	Yes! You must select this option as the default is for a one-way push of information.
Can I tip using a tablet or computer?	Yes! Simply go to http://speakupapp.tips/home.php?id=116 and fill out a tip form.



North Carolina Department of Public Safety

<http://www.ncdps.gov>