

Security Grants for Chartered Nonpublic Schools and Educational or Childcare Centers (House Bill 49)

I. Program Description

A. Overview:

The Security Grants for Chartered Nonpublic Schools and Educational or Childcare Centers program provides funding for eligible security improvements that assist organizations in preventing, preparing for and responding to acts of terrorism. The program awards grants competitively to eligible schools. An equal cost match is required under this program.

The matching contribution may come from any lawful non-state source, including federal or local government entities, law enforcement organizations or the private sector. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a state or local law enforcement agency may provide asset forfeiture or similar funds for use as a recipient's local matching contribution. If an applicant for a grant is unable to provide a sufficient matching contribution, the applicant may, in its grant application, submit a written request for a waiver of the local matching contribution requirement. As part of an applicant's request for a waiver, the applicant shall explain why the waiver is necessary. The Department may grant a waiver only for good cause in accordance with the procedures it establishes.

There is no expectation of additional funding under this initiative. Therefore, applicants should clearly demonstrate their ability to sustain/maintain the project in the absence of grant funding. Requests for maintenance will only be approved if they accompany the initial purchase of equipment. Ongoing sustainment, maintenance, subscription costs and costs associated with leasing are unallowable.

This information is voluntarily submitted to a public office in expectation of protection from disclosure as provided by section 149.433 of the Ohio Revised Code and is not a public record under section 149.43 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Grant criteria and eligible entities were established in HB 49.

II. Award Information

A. Available Funding: \$250,000.00

Each nonprofit may apply for up to \$100,000 to expend on eligible program costs.

All decisions on the grant are in the sole discretion of the Ohio Department of Education and are not subject to appeal or review.

B. Period of Performance: Dec. 6, 2017 - June 30, 2019

Awarded funds not expended during Fiscal Year 2018 (Dec. 4, 2017, through June 30, 2018) will continue to be available in Fiscal Year 2019 (July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019). All awarded funds must be expended by June 30, 2019.

III. Eligibility Information

A. Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants include chartered nonpublic schools and educational or childcare centers. Each applicant needs to be operating under a single Information Retrieval Number (IRN). If the organization seeking funding is part of a larger organization, each IRN location should apply for funding separately. The vulnerability assessment submitted should be conducted for the IRN location submitting the application.

B. Eligibility Criteria

A chartered nonpublic school and educational or childcare center that identifies prevention, preparation and/or response to acts of terrorism may request up to \$100,000 for the purchase of equipment or the services of a resource officer for the facility.

IV. Application and Submission Information

A. Key Dates:

Intent to Apply form emailed to Chartered.Nonpublic.Schools@education.ohio.gov by **November 10, 2017**.

Grant application due **December 1, 2017**.

Vulnerability assessment due **December 1, 2017**.

Anticipated notification of award on **Dec. 13, 2017**.

B. Guidance and Resources:

Guidance and application documents will be available for interested applicants at the Ohio Department of Education, Office of Nonpublic Schools website:

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Quality-School-Choice/Private-Schools/Chartered-Nonpublic-School-Information>

The principal of the chartered nonpublic school with a completed Intent to Apply form will be granted access to upload an electronic copy of the grant application and vulnerability assessment to the Ohio Department of Education's unified grants application and verification system, the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP). Only applications submitted via CCIP will be considered for award.

V. Security Grants for Chartered Nonpublic Schools and Educational or Childcare Centers Application

As part of the application process, each eligible entity must submit the following three documents:

1. ***Intent to Apply form.***

2. ***Application - Security Grants for Chartered Nonpublic Schools and Educational or Childcare Centers***

Each applicant must fully complete and submit a formal application by uploading electronic documents to the Comprehensive Continuous Improvement Plan (CCIP). Schools that have

submitted an Intent to Apply for this grant will be guided through the CCIP upload process. The CCIP also will be utilized for fiscal tasks after grant awards have been issued.

3. *Vulnerability Assessment - Security Grants for Chartered Nonpublic Schools and Educational or Childcare Centers*

Each applicant must include its vulnerability/risk assessment and describe how the award will be used to address the vulnerabilities identified in the assessment. The vulnerability/risk assessment should be conducted by experienced security, law enforcement or military personnel, or attach a credible intelligence and threat analysis from one or more qualified homeland security, counterintelligence or anti-terrorism experts.

VI. Funding Restrictions

Grants awarded under this initiative may be used for eligible security improvements only. Eligible security improvements means the following:

1. Physical security enhancement equipment or inspection and screening equipment included on the Authorized Equipment List (AEL) as published by FEMA/DHS.
2. Attendance fees and associated materials, supplies and equipment costs for security-related training courses and programs regarding the protection of critical infrastructure and key resources, physical and cyber security, target hardening, or terrorism awareness or preparedness.
 - o PLEASE NOTE: Personnel and travel costs associated with training **are not** eligible expenses under this grant.
3. School Resource Officers (SROs).

Appendix A contains a list of physical security enhancement equipment. Priority will be given to requests to purchase equipment on the list. If applicants choose to request equipment that is not on the priority list, they must demonstrate it appears on the DHS/FEMA Authorized Equipment List. Requests for equipment that are not on the priority list must be pre-approved. These purchases must be explained in depth and the explanation must include why the equipment is necessary for the security of the organization/facility.

Attendance fees and associated costs for training, while allowable, will be given lower priority during the review process.

No Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (EHP) Compliance is required with this funding initiative.

Maintenance: Requests for maintenance will only be approved if they accompany the initial purchase of equipment.

Management & Administration: Management and administration costs are not allowable under this grant program.

Indirect and Pre-award Costs: Indirect and pre-award costs are not allowable under this grant program.

Operational Overtime: Operational overtime costs are not allowable under this grant program.

Other Unallowable Costs:

- General use expenditures;
- Overtime and backfill;
- Development of risk/vulnerability assessment models;

- Development of the investment justification; or
- Organizational operating expenses.

VII. Application Review Information

The Ohio Department of Education, with assistance from Ohio Homeland Security, will assemble a review panel to score the applications based on criteria set forth in this notice of funding opportunity. All decisions made during this review process are final and not subject to appeal. Awards under this initiative will be based on the success of the applicant in addressing the following points:

- Identification and substantiation of current or persistent threats or attacks by a terrorist organization, network or cell against the applicant based on ideology, beliefs or mission;
- Symbolic/strategic value of the site or sites as a highly recognized possible target of terrorism and the potential consequences if the site is damaged, destroyed or disrupted by terrorism;
- Findings from current and previously conducted threat and/or vulnerability assessments;
- Complete, feasible investment justification that addresses an identified risk, including the assessed threat, vulnerability and consequence of the risk;
- How the grant will be used to integrate organizational preparedness with broader state and local preparedness efforts;
- Maintenance/sustainment of project without grant dollars; and
- Completion of the project within the performance period.

VIII. Conflict of Interest

To eliminate and reduce the impact of conflicts of interest, recipients must follow their own policies and procedures regarding the elimination or reduction of conflicts of interest when procuring equipment, entering in contracts or in the conducting of other program activities. Recipients also are required to follow any applicable state or local statutes or regulations governing conflicts of interest when entering into contracts.

Conflicts of interest may arise when a contract is awarded or purchase made where the benefactor is an employee/officer/agent of the recipient organization; a member of the immediate family of an employee/officer/agent of the recipient organization; or has a close business or personal relationship with an employee/officer/agent of the recipient organization.

Procurement in connection with this grant should be conducted in a way that is open and allows for competition wherever feasible to do so. Although recipients of this grant are not held to state and federal procurement standards, it would be wise to research both standards and procure in a compliant fashion to avoid the appearance of impropriety in the procurement process.

IX. Modifications

Modifications to approved projects will be considered on a case by case basis. Under no circumstance should a recipient modify its project and incur costs associated with this modification without first receiving approval. Moving forward on a modification without approval could result in the recipient incurring unallowable costs and could jeopardize future funding should it become available.

XI. Grant Submission Deadlines

1. **Intent to Apply: Email the Intent to Apply to Chartered.Nonpublic.Schools@education.ohio.gov by Nov.10, 2017.**
2. **Application: Upload the grant application to the CCIP by Dec. 1, 2017.**
3. **Vulnerability Assessment: Upload the vulnerability assessment to CCIP by Dec. 1, 2017.**