



# FEDERAL GRANTS GUIDE

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# Introduction

Each year, the federal government makes investments in critical capabilities to meet security requirements, which the security industry strives to provide. Of course, security companies can compete and win contracts or complete sales through the federal supply schedules for security products. But they also can benefit through federal grants, often awarded to states or municipalities that then spend that money on security requirements.

It is important to distinguish between grants versus contracts. The most basic distinction is that contracts directly fulfill a government function, while grants are generally authorized in law for specific public purposes beyond federal agencies.

The federal government, according to Grants.gov, defines a grant as the following: “an award of financial assistance, the principal purpose of which is to transfer a thing of value from a federal agency to a recipient to carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by a law of the United States (see 31 U.S.C. 6101(3)). A grant is distinguished from a contract, which is used to acquire property or services for the federal government’s direct benefit or use.”

Currently, there are 26 grant-making agencies within the U.S. federal government. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and specifically the Federal Emergency Management agency (FEMA), is one of the largest and provides grants that often include requirements for products and services provided by the security industry. Many of these initiatives resulted from recommendations by the 9 /11 Commission that were authorized by subsequent legislation. The Security Industry association (SIA) continues to engage congress in support of key programs.

SIA has compiled the following list of key federal grant programs and related resources as a tool for members and their customers. While this list is not exhaustive, it provides information on key federal funding programs that shape the way our industry markets security solutions.

Many of these programs are fully authorized but funding has lapsed due to budget constraints. SIA is advocating the restoration funding where possible, prioritizing the most effective programs with the broadest support from lawmakers.

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# U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

## Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Preparedness Grant Programs

### Homeland Security Grant Program

**Purpose:** Created in 2003, the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) provides grants to local, state and federal government agencies to assist in the implementation of the National Preparedness System (NPS). HSGP consists of the following three programs:

- State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSP)
- Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI)
- Operation Stonegarden (OPSG)

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/fiscal-year-2016-homeland-security-grant-program>

#### State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP)

**Purpose:** The State Homeland Security Program (SHSGP) is designed to enhance national preparedness for terrorism and other catastrophes through funding equipment procurement, training, and contingency operational planning. Grant projects include, but are not limited to: threat recognition, secure identification programs, terrorist interdiction, training for active shooter scenarios and physical security procurement.

**Eligible Applicants:** Each state and territory receives a minimum allocation of funds each year in line with the thresholds established by the Implementing the Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act (Public Law 110–53), as well as additional funding based on risk.

**Program Awards:** Each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico receive a base amount of 0.35 percent of the total grant funding available. American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands and the U.S. Virgin Islands receive 0.08 percent of the total grant funding available. The balance of available funds is distributed based on risk methodology developed by DHS. \$402 million was provided for the program in fiscal 2016.

### Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI)

**Purpose:** The Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) supports planning, management, and training to address the size and sophistication of threats relating to high-threat, high-density urban areas. Equipment purchased with UASI funding must be listed on the DHS Authorized Equipment List (AEL). This includes but is not limited to all security systems, video surveillance, RFID technology and facial recognition systems. To view the full AEL, please see the link in the “Other Links” section at the end of this publication.

**Eligible Applicants:** UASI funding is provided only to the state administrative agency (SAA) in each state or territory, and subrecipients may only use the funds for purposes defined by DHS. In fiscal 2016, FEMA deemed 29 high-threat, high-density urban areas eligible for UASI funds. This process included a terrorism risk analysis of the 100 most populated metropolitan areas in the US.

**Program Awards:** The allocation amounts for UASI were based on DHS’s risk methodology and expected effectiveness. In fiscal 2016, \$580 million was provided for UASI-eligible urban areas.

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/fiscal-year-2016-homeland-security-grant-program>

### Operation Stonegarden (OPSG)

**Purpose:** The main goal of Operations Stonegarden (OPSG) is to secure the U.S. land and maritime borders through enhancing cooperation and coordination between Customs and Border Protection (CBP), United States Border Patrol (USBP), and state and local governments as well as other federal law enforcement agencies. Grantees may use funds both for personnel related costs and for vehicles and equipment. Equipment purchased with OPSG funding must be listed on the DHS AEL, which includes infrared cameras, video surveillance devices and other technologies provided by the security industry.

**Eligible Applicants:** Each border state is eligible to apply for OPSG funding. All applicants must have active ongoing USBP operations coordinated through a CBP sector office to be eligible for OPSG funding.

**Program Awards:** Subrecipient law enforcement agencies compete for OPSG funding based on a risk-analysis and anticipated effectiveness of the proposed investments. The OPSG program was provided with \$55 million in fiscal 2016.

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/fiscal-year-2016-homeland-security-grant-program>

### Port Security Program (PSGP)

**Purpose:** The Port Security Program (PSGP) provides funding to port authorities, city and local governments, first responders, and other U.S. maritime critical infrastructure stakeholders. The main goal of this program is to help these entities improve portwide maritime risk management through education, training, and the strengthening of rules and standards.

The current focus of the PSGP is enhancing Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA); enhancing IED and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRNE) prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery capabilities; port resilience and recovery capabilities; training and exercises; and Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) implementation. Allowable uses include surveillance, access control and perimeter security systems among other products supplied by the security industry.

**Eligible Applicants:** Previously, DHS/FEMA abided by a system that separated ports into groupings dependent on a DHS risk formula: Group 1 (“highest risk”) and Group 2 (“all other eligible ports”). Starting in fiscal 2016, however, DHS/FEMA rescinded this system and currently no group distinctions exist.

**Program Awards:** In fiscal 2016, DHS/FEMA awarded 287 grants which accumulated to \$100 million.

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/fiscal-year-2016-port-security-grant-program>

### Transit Security Grant Program

**Purpose:** The Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP) provides funds to owners and operators of transit systems (which include intracity bus, commuter bus, ferries and all forms of passenger rail) to protect critical surface transportation infrastructure and the traveling public from acts of terrorism and to increase the resilience of transit infrastructure. Allowable uses include risk assessments and operational, physical and electronic security risk mitigation measures.

**Eligible Applicants:** Eligibility for the TSGP is determined by ridership (number of daily unlinked passenger trips) and transit systems that serve historic UASI jurisdictions.

Ferry systems that participated and accepted awards under the fiscal 2016 TSGP are not eligible for the fiscal 2016 PSGP. In addition, ferry systems that applied for funding under the PSGP will not be considered for funding under the TSGP.

**Program Awards:** DHS uses a competitive, risk-based process to allocate its TSGP funds to the systems with the highest risk. For fiscal 2016, \$87 million was awarded to 32 transit systems in 17 different states.

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/fiscal-year-2016-transit-security-grant-program>

### Intercity Passenger Rail (IPR) Security Grant Program – Amtrak

**Purpose:** The Intercity Passenger Rail (IPR) program provides funding to The National Railroad Passenger Corp. (Amtrak) for the promotion of sustainable, risk-based efforts that address vulnerabilities in critical surface transportation from potential acts of terrorism or other significant catastrophes. The program focuses on strengthening the resiliency of high-risk/high-consequence intercity passenger rail assets.

**Eligible Applicants:** Amtrak has been the only entity allowed to apply for funding under the IPR program. It was awarded \$10 million for fiscal 2016.

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/fiscal-year-2016-intercity-passenger-rail-program-amtrak>

### Freight Rail Security Grant Program (FRSGP)

**Purpose:** The Freight Rail Security Grant Program (FRSGP) provides funding for owners, operators or lessors of freight cars, as well as owners of rail bridges, to protect critical surface transportation infrastructure from acts of terrorism and increase the overall resilience of the freight rail system. Allowable uses specifically include vulnerability assessments, GPS tracking, access control systems, video monitoring systems, lighting systems and physical barriers, among others.

**Eligible Applicants:** Eligible applicants for the FRSGP were categorized by DHS as Class I, II or III freight railroad carriers that transport rail security sensitive materials (RSSM), owners and lessors of railroad cars that transport toxic inhalation hazard (TIH) materials, and owners of rail bridges that have a volume exceeding 4.9 million gross ton miles.

**Program Awards:** FRSGP funds were allocated competitively based on their ability to deliver protection to rail bridges and high-risk rail assets/shipments, provide counter-terrorism training and develop security plans based on vulnerability assessments.

**Grant Requirements:** The FRSGP has a 75 percent federal and 25 percent grantee cash or in-kind matching requirement. This requirement does not include vulnerability assessments and they were marked exempt.

**Note:** This program has not been funded since fiscal 2011, when it was provided with \$7.7 million.

**Website:** <https://www.tsa.gov/for-industry/surface-transportation>

### Intercity Bus Security Grant Program

**Purpose:** The Intercity Bus Security Grant Program (IBSGP) provides funding for the protection of intercity bus systems and the traveling public. This program assists operators of fixed-route intercity and charter bus services create sustainable security improvements. These can include: enhanced planning, facility security upgrades, and vehicle and driver protection. Allowable uses specifically include development of security plans, and vehicle and facility security systems—including cameras, sensors, alarms, passenger and cargo screening, real-time tracking of vehicles, and 24/7 live monitored surveillance systems.

**Eligible Applicants:** Eligible applicants include operators of fixed route intercity and charter buses operating within UASI-eligible urban areas. For a charter bus service to qualify, it must make at minimum of 50 trips to one or more UASI jurisdiction.

**Program Awards:** Recipients of IBSGP grant funds were selected through a competitive process and ratings from the National Review Panel. The program was provided with \$3 million in fiscal 2016.

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/intercity-bus-security-grant-program>

### Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP)

**Purpose:** The Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) supports projects that address physical security vulnerabilities for nonprofit organizations considered “high-risk” for a terrorist attack and located within one of the fiscal 2016 UASI-eligible urban areas.

**Eligible Applicants:** The SAA in each state is the only eligible entity able to apply for NSGP funds on behalf of nonprofit organizations.

**Program Awards:** This program received \$20 million in fiscal 2016. NSGP recipients were awarded grants of up to \$75,000 based on a risk-analysis, anticipated effectiveness and integration with state and local law enforcement.

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/fiscal-year-2016-nonprofit-security-grant-program>

### Emergency Management Performance Grants Program

**Purpose:** The Emergency Management Performance Grants Program (EMPG) provides funding to help state and local governments strengthen contingency operational capacity for potential natural disasters or other major emergencies. Authorized after the 2005 Katrina Hurricane emergency, the federal government provides direction, coordination and guidance to enhance all hazards emergency preparedness system. Allowable uses include physical security enhancement, detection and information technology equipment.

**Eligible Applicants:** All 56 States and territories, including the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia, are eligible to apply for EMPG Program funds. The designated SAA and the state’s Emergency Management Agency are eligible to apply for funds, and often suballocate to local jurisdictions. However, only one application is allowed from each state/territory.

**Program Awards:** Each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico receive a base amount of 0.75 percent of the total grant funding available (territories receive 0.25 percent) of the total grant funding available. The balance of available funds is distributed based on population. \$350.1 million was provided to the program for fiscal 2016.

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/fiscal-year-2016-emergency-management-performance-grant-program>

### Emergency Operations Center Grant Program

**Purpose:** The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Grant Program provides funding to improve EOC capabilities, with a focus on addressing identified deficiencies and needs. The funding provided by this program can be used for construction or renovation of a state

or local government's primary EOC. Allowable uses specifically include physical security assessments and physical security enhancement equipment.

**Eligible Applicants:** All U.S. states and territories are eligible to apply for EOC grant funds.

**Grant Requirements:** The EOC grant program has a 75 percent federal and 25 percent grantee cash or in-kind matching requirement.

**Note:** This program has not been funded since fiscal 2011, when it received \$14.6 million.

**Website:** <http://www.fema.gov/fy-2011-emergency-operations-center-grant-program>

### Assistance to Firefighters Grants

**Purpose:** The Assistance to Firefighter Grants (AFG) provides funding to fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical services (EMS) organizations for the procurement of life safety equipment, emergency vehicles, training and other resources to help emergency responders protect the public from fire and other hazards.

**Eligible Applicants:** Eligible applicants for the AFG include fire departments, nonaffiliated EMS organizations and state fire training academies anywhere in the United States.

**Grant Requirements:** There is a cost-share requirement of 5, 10 or 15 percent based on the population served by the jurisdiction submitting the application. The program was provided with \$304.5 million for fiscal 2016.

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/assistance-fire-fighters-grant>

### National Special Security Event (NSSE) Grant Program

**Purpose:** The National Special Security Event (NSSE) Grant Program provides funding to states and local governments for costs associated with providing emergency management, public safety and security during the preparation and conduct of an NSSE.

**Eligible Applicants:** States and local governments that have:

- **Significant Unreimbursed Costs** – Costs that are above and beyond normal expenditures to conduct such an event.

- **Lack of Alternate Funding Sources** – Applicants who have not received previous direct Congressional appropriations for such an event, or presidential-declarations related to a NSSE.

**Program Awards:** NSSE was last funded in fiscal 2013, when it was provided with \$4.6 million.

**Website:** <https://www.fema.gov/fy-2013-national-special-security-event-grant-program>

### Driver's License Security Grant Program

**Purpose:** The Driver's License Security Grant Program (DLSGP) helps states strengthen counterterrorism measures and reduce fraud by improving identity verification and the quality and reliability of personal identification documents.

**Eligible Applicants:** Departments within a state whose responsibility is driver's license issuance, to include: State Department of Motor Vehicles, Motor Vehicle Administrations and Public Safety Agencies.

**Program Awards:** In fiscal 2011, funds were allocated to all 56 states and territories. For purposes of this grant, states were grouped into four categories based up on the number of driver's licenses/IDs issued. Final determinations for awards were based upon applications received as well as the results of a FEMA Grants Programs Directorate and DHS Office of Policy review.

**Note:** This program has not been funded since fiscal 2011, when it received \$45 million.

**Website:** <http://www.fema.gov/preparedness-non-disaster-grants/fy-2011-drivers-license-security-grant-program>

## U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

### Federal Transit Administration (FTA)

#### Capital Investment Grant Program

**Purpose:** The Capital Investment Grant (CIG) program serves as the FTA's primary grant program and provides funding for heavy rail, commuter rail, light rail, street cars and bus rapid transit.



**Eligible Applicants:** Transit systems throughout the United States and selected territories.

**Program Awards:** The CIG program distributed \$2.3 billion in grants for fiscal 2016.

**Website:** <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grant-programs/capital-investments/capital-investment-grant-program>

### Urbanized Area Formula Funding Program

**Purpose:** The Urbanized Area Formula Funding Program provides funding to urbanized areas and state governments to enhance operational capacities of city transit systems.

**Allowable uses include:** planning, engineering, design and evaluation of transit projects as well as other technical transportation-related studies, capital investments in bus and bus-related activities such as replacement, overhaul and rebuilding of buses, crime prevention and security equipment and construction of maintenance and passenger facilities; and capital investments in new and existing fixed guideway systems including rolling stock, overhaul and rebuilding of vehicles, track, signals, communications and computer hardware and software.

**Eligible Recipients:** According to the FTA, an urbanized area is defined as an area with a population of 50,000 or more, designated by the Bureau of the Census at the U.S. Department of Commerce. For urbanized areas under 200,000 in population, the funds are apportioned to the governor of each state for distribution. For urbanized areas with a population of more than 200,000, funds are apportioned and flow directly to a designated recipient selected locally to apply for and receive federal funds.

**Program Awards:** The FTA has provided over \$4.5 billion for the Urban Area Formula Funding Program in fiscal 2016.

**Grant Requirements:** Funds are available the year appropriated plus five years.

The federal share is not to exceed 80 percent of the net project cost for capital expenditures. The federal share may be 90 percent for the cost of vehicle-related equipment attributable to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Clean Air Act. The federal share may not exceed 50 percent of the net project cost of operating assistance.

**Website:** <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/urbanized-area-formula-grants-5307>

### Buses and Bus Facilities Grants Program

**Purpose:** The Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program provides federal resources to states and direct recipients to replace, rehabilitate and purchase buses and related equipment and to construct bus-related facilities including technological changes or innovations to modify low or no emission vehicles or facilities. Funding is provided through formula allocations and competitive grants. A subprogram, the Low- or No-Emission Vehicle Program, provides competitive grants for bus and bus facility projects that support low and zero-emission vehicles.

**Eligible Applicants:** Eligible recipients include direct recipients that operate fixed route bus service or that allocate funding to fixed route bus operators, state or local governmental entities, and federally recognized Indian tribes that operate fixed route bus service that are eligible to receive direct grants under 5307 and 5311.

Subrecipients include eligible recipients that receive grant funding under the formula or discretionary programs may allocate amounts from the grant to subrecipients that are public agencies or private nonprofit organizations engaged in public transportation.

**Program Awards:** In fiscal 2016, \$696 million was provided for the Buses and Bus Facilities Grant Program through a combination of formula and competitive grants.

**Grant Requirements:** The federal share of eligible capital costs is 80 percent of the net capital project cost, unless the grant recipient requests a lower percentage.

**Website:** <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/buses-and-bus-facilities-grants-program-5339>

### Formula Grants for Rural Areas

**Purpose:** The Formula Grants for Rural Areas program provides funding, training, and technical and operational assistance to states in support of public transportation networks in rural areas with populations of less than 50,000. Eligible activities include: planning, capital, operating, job access and the acquisition of public transportation services.



**Eligible Applicants:** Eligible recipients include direct recipients that operate fixed route bus service or that allocate funding to fixed route bus operators, state or local governmental entities, and federally recognized Indian tribes that operate fixed route bus service that are eligible to receive direct grants under 5307 and 5311.

**Program Awards:** \$620 million was allocated among states for the program in fiscal 2016.

**Grant Requirements:** Federal share: 80 percent for capital projects, 50 percent for operating assistance, and 80 percent for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) non-fixed-route paratransit service, using up to 10 percent of a recipient's apportionment. Recipients may use up to 20 percent of their 5311 allocation (previously 10 percent) for the operation of paratransit service.

Each state must spend no less than 15 percent if its annual apportionment for the development and support of intercity bus transportation, unless it can certify, after consultation with intercity bus service providers, that the intercity bus needs of the state are being adequately met.

**Website:** <https://www.transit.dot.gov/funding/grants/enhanced-mobility-seniors-individuals-disabilities-section-5310>

## Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

### Airport Improvement Program (AIP)

**Purpose:** The AIP program provides grants to assist public-use airports with improvements related to enhancing airport safety, capacity, security, and environmental concerns.

**Eligible Applicants:** Public-use airports included in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS), which can be publicly or privately owned as long more than 2,500 annual enplanements.

**Grant Requirements:** For large and medium primary hub airports, the grant covers 75 percent of eligible costs (or 80 percent for noise program implementation). For small primary, reliever and general aviation airports, the grant covers a range of 90-95 percent of eligible costs, based on statutory requirements.

**Availability of Funding:** Congress provided \$3.35 billion for the AIP program in fiscal 2016.

**Website:** <https://www.faa.gov/airports/aip/>

## U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)

### Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program

**Purpose:** The JAG program is the primary source of federal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions, for a wide range of uses that include technology improvements for law enforcement, crime reduction and other purposes, which encompasses security industry products and services developed for government use.

**Grant Requirements:** Grants are awarded on a formula basis to each state and territory based on their share of violent crime and population, with a floor of 0.25 percent of total available funding. Each award amount is then divided between state (60 percent) and local governments (40 percent).

**Availability of Funding:** DOJ provided \$188.5 million in grants to states and territories and \$86.4 million to local jurisdictions during fiscal 2016.

**Website:** <https://www.bja.gov/jag/>

### Body-Worn Camera Program

**Purpose:** The intent of the program is to help develop, implement, and evaluate a BWC program as one tool in a law enforcement comprehensive problem-solving approach to enhance officer interactions with the public and build community trust.

**Eligible Applicants:** Grant are awarded on a competitive basis to state, city, tribal and municipal law enforcement agencies.

**Grant Requirements:** Grants are awarded based on project design, the number of cameras, size of the agency and other factors. Applicants also must have established use policies and evidence management practices required for successful implementation of BWC systems.

**Availability of Funding:** DOJ provided over \$20 million in grants during fiscal 2016 to 106 law enforcement agencies in 34 states and Puerto Rico, bringing the total to over\$40 million since the program began in 2015.

**Website:** [https://www.bja.gov/ProgramDetails.aspx?Program\\_ID=115](https://www.bja.gov/ProgramDetails.aspx?Program_ID=115)

## Secure Our Schools (SOS)

**Purpose:** The Secure Our Schools (SOS) grant program under the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) provides funding for state and local governments working in partnership with public school systems to improve school safety.

**Eligible Applicants:** Schools, local governments and law enforcement agencies are eligible.

**Grant Requirements:** Grants are competitively awarded and require a 50 percent local match. Allowable include but are not limited to facility security measures, security assessments, security training for faculty and students, and emergency communications technology that links to local law enforcement.

**Note:** This program has not been funded by Congress since fiscal 2011 when the program received \$13 million, and was distributed among 76 local governments and law enforcement agencies throughout the nation.

## Useful Links

**Grants.gov:** A centralized location by which funding seekers can find and apply for federal funding. This website houses more than 1,000 grant programs and vets applications for 26 grant-making agencies. <http://www.grants.gov>.

**DHS Authorized Equipment List:** The Authorized Equipment List (AEL) is a list of approved equipment types allowed under FEMA's preparedness grant programs. The list consists of 21 equipment categories divided into categories, subcategories and then individual equipment types. <https://www.fema.gov/authorized-equipment-list>.



**[securityindustry.org](https://securityindustry.org)**

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