



FEDERAL GRANTS GUIDE 2021 EDITION

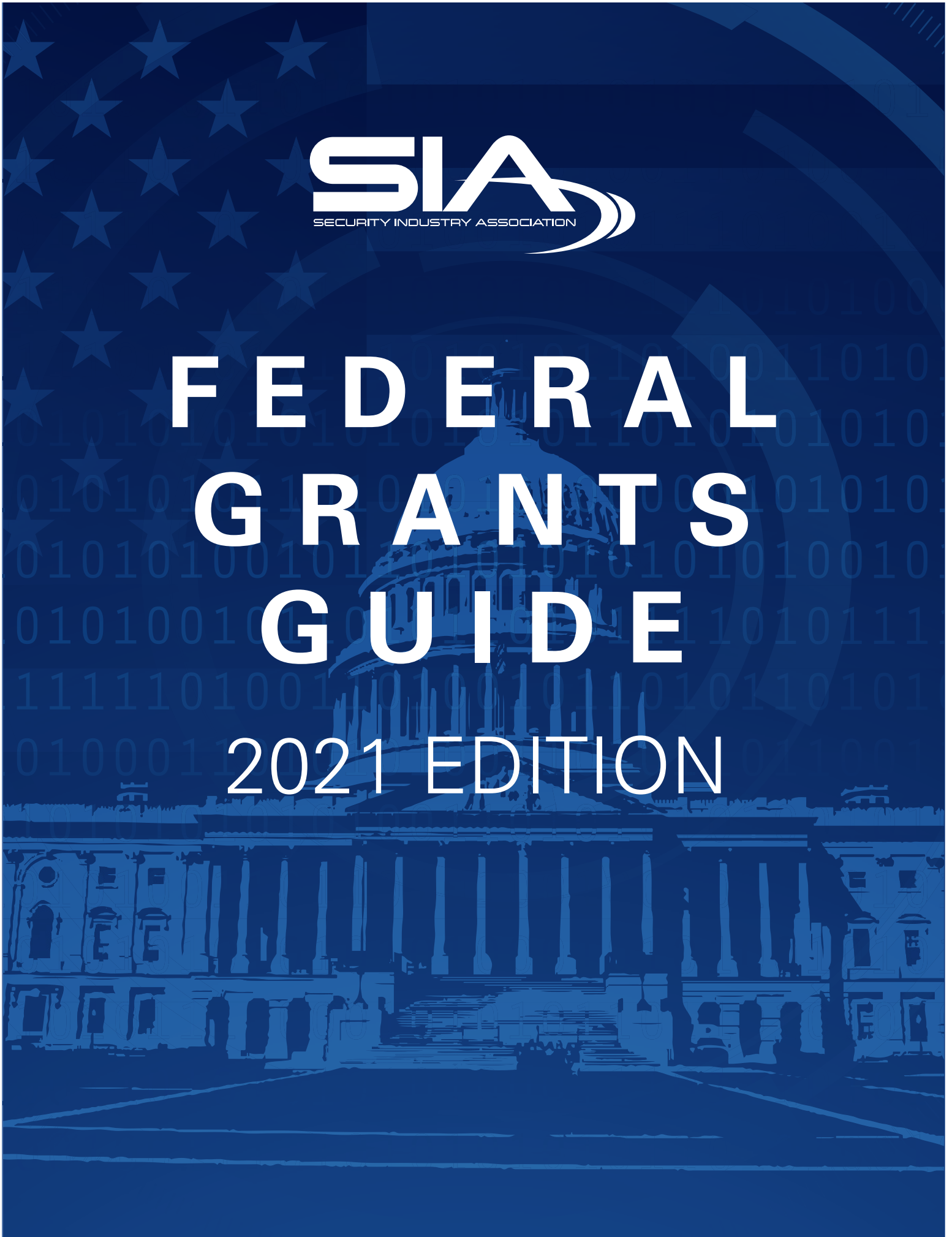


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Introduction

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 and contracts. The most basic distinction is that a contract directly fulfills 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 “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, and specifically the Federal Emergency Management Agency, are among the largest and provide 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 these key programs.

SIA has compiled this 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 support the effective implementation of security solutions.

Some of these programs are fully authorized but have lapsed or reduced funding due to budget constraints. SIA is advocating the restoration of 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 DHS provides grants to local, state, and federal government agencies to assist in the implementation of the National Preparedness System. HSGP consists of the following three programs:

- State Homeland Security Grant Program
- Urban Areas Security Initiative
- Operation Stonegarden

Website: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/homeland-security>

State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP)

Purpose: 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 or 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.

Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI)

Purpose: 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 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 directly to the state administrative agency (SAA) in each state or territory, and subrecipients may only use the funds for purposes defined by DHS and in areas designated as UASI-eligible. In fiscal 2021, FEMA deemed 31 high-threat, high-density urban areas eligible for UASI funds based on a terrorism risk analysis of the 100 most populated metropolitan areas in the US.

Program Awards: The allocation amounts for UASI are based on DHS’s risk methodology and expected effectiveness.

Operation Stonegarden (OPSG)

Purpose: The main goal of 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 \$90 million in fiscal 2021.

Port Security Program (PSGP)

Purpose: The PSGP provides funding to port authorities, city and local governments, first responders, and other U.S. maritime critical infrastructure stakeholders.

The current focuses of the PSGP are enhancing maritime domain awareness; enhancing IED and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery capabilities; port resilience and recovery capabilities; training and exercises; and Transportation Worker Identification Credential implementation. Allowable uses include surveillance, access control and perimeter security systems among other products supplied by the security industry.

Eligible Applicants: All entities that are required to have an Area Maritime Transportation Security Plan, including but not limited to port authorities, facility operators and state, local, tribal and territorial government agencies.

Program Awards: In fiscal 2021, DHS/FEMA will award grants totaling \$100 million.

Website: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/port-security>

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.

Program Awards: DHS uses a competitive, risk-based process to allocate its TSGP funds to the systems with the highest risk. For Fiscal 2021, the TSGP was provided with \$88 million.

Website: <https://www.fema.gov/transit-security-grant-program>

Intercity Passenger Rail (IPR) Security Grant Program – Amtrak

Purpose: The 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 2021.

Website: <https://www.fema.gov/intercity-passenger-rail-amtrak>

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 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 \$2 million in fiscal 2021.

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

Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP)

Purpose: NSGP supports projects that address physical security vulnerabilities for nonprofit organizations considered “high-risk” for a terrorist attack.

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 \$180,000,000 million in fiscal 2021. NGSP recipients were awarded grants of up to \$150,000 per site for up to three sites (\$450,000) based on a risk-analysis, anticipated effectiveness, and integration with state and local law enforcement. \$90 million is provided for recipients located within one of the UASI-eligible urban areas, and the remaining \$90 million is provided for recipients outside these areas.

Website: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/nonprofit-security>

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 grand funding available (territories receive 0.25 percent) of the total grant funding available. The balance of available funds is distributed based on population. \$355.1 million was provided to the program for fiscal 2021.

Website: <https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/emergency-management-performance>

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 \$319.5 million for fiscal 2019.

Website: <https://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-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 will distribute over \$1.56 billion in grants for fiscal 2021-2022.

Website: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/CIG>

Urbanized Area Formula Grant Program

Purpose: The Urbanized Area Formula Grant 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 will provide over \$5.3 billion for the Urban Area Formula Grant Program in fiscal 2019.

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 2020, more than \$464 million will be 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/bus-program>

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: \$758.9 million was allocated among states for the program in fiscal 2020.

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.

Website: <https://www.transit.dot.gov/rural-formula-grants-5311>

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-sized 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 \$3.2 billion for the AIP program in fiscal 2019.

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 \$484 million in grants to states, territories and local governments during fiscal 2021.

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

Body-Worn Cameras (BWC) 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: Grants 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 will provide \$ 35 million in grants for fiscal 2021.

Website: <https://www.bja.gov/bwc/topics-funding.html>

STOP School Violence Act Programs

School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP)

Purpose: The purpose of the program, administered by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), is "to improve security at schools and on school grounds in the jurisdiction of the grantee through evidence-based school safety programs" with a focus on physical security measures, emergency communications and related training.

Allowable Uses: The most common project elements were camera systems, access controls (e.g., doors, locks), communications technology (e.g., panic alarms, radios, repeaters), expedited notification to law enforcement, training for law enforcement and visitor management technologies. For a full list of allowable uses see links below.

Eligible Applicants: Applications may be submitted directly by local districts, police departments and sheriff's departments in addition to units of "general" government (state, city, county, township, etc.).

Program Awards: SVPP was provided with \$53 million in fiscal 2021.

Grant Requirements: Grants consist of 36-month awards up to a maximum of \$500,000 and require a local cash match of 25 percent. Use of technology and equipment must be “consistent with best practices for school security,” including those established by a federal or state government agency, and findings and recommendations of public commissions and task forces, and must also be compliant with all applicable codes, including building and life safety codes. For more information on best practices and allowable uses see SIA’s SVPP page, <https://www.securityindustry.org//school-violence-prevention-program>.

Website: <https://cops.usdoj.gov/svpp>

Bureau of Justice Assistance Program (BJA)

Purpose: The purpose of the program, administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance Programs (BJA), is “to improve security at schools and on school grounds in the jurisdiction of the grantee through evidence-based school safety programs” with a focus on violence prevention and mental health training, as well as threat assessment and technology reporting programs.

Allowable Uses: Development and operation of anonymous reporting systems, such as hotlines, websites and mobile applications; school threat assessment programs; specialized mental health response and violence prevention training; and any other measure the BJA determines may provide a significant improvement in security.

Eligible Applicants: Applications may be submitted directly by local districts, police departments and sheriff’s departments in addition to units of “general” government (state, city, county, township, etc.).

Program Awards: BJA STOP School Violence Act programs were provided with \$79million in fiscal 2021.

Grant Requirements: Grants consist of 24-month awards and require a local cash match of 25 percent. Use of technology and equipment must be “consistent with best practices for school security” including those established by a federal or state government agency, findings and recommendations of public commissions and task forces, and must also be compliant with all applicable codes, including building and life safety codes.

Website: <https://www.bja.gov/stop-school-violence-program/index.html>

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 AEL: The 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; learn more at <https://www.fema.gov/authorized-equipment-list>.



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

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