

Massachusetts Nonprofit Security Grant

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
Office of Grants and Research



Posting Date: February 16, 2024

Q: What does AGF stand for?

A: Availability of Grant Funds.

Q: Who is eligible to apply for this grant?

A: This grant is for applicants who are classified as 501(c)3 Nonprofit Organizations.

Q: If the applying organization has not experienced threats and/or incidents of terrorism or hate crimes, are they eligible to apply for this grant?

A: They would be eligible to apply, however high-risk applicants are prioritized.

Q: Is it possible to be approved for partial funding of a project?

A: Occasionally, we do partially fund projects depending on the total amount of grant funding and volume of applications.

Q: Is it possible to see an example list of previously approved projects?

A: Unfortunately, applications contain sensitive security information and are not able to be shared.

Q: If a church is part of an Archdiocese does the application have to come from the Archdiocese or can it come from the individual church?

A: The individual church can complete and submit the application.

Q: If a school is under the umbrella of a Diocese or Church, would we use the schools name in SAM.gov or the Diocese/Church name?

A: You would use the school's legal business name and address.

Q: If a 501(c)3 foundation supports a school district or police/fire department, can the foundation apply on behalf of them to install physical security enhancements?

A: No, the funds can't be passed through to a non-eligible entity.

Q: Are indirect costs an allowable expense?

A: No. Indirect costs are not an allowable expense.

Q: Are AED's covered under this grant?

A: AED's are not an allowable expense under this grant.

Q: Is this a cost reimbursement grant?

A: Yes, this is a cost reimbursement grant. If you are awarded funds we will review the reimbursement process with you.

Q: What is the maximum number of sites an applicant can apply for?

A: Currently there is not a maximum number, however priority will be given to nonprofit organizations who at the highest risk of a hate crime or terrorist attack.

Q: Can an organization submit receipts for equipment recently purchased and installed?

A: No, all expenditures must be within the grant's period of performance. If you are awarded funding the start date would be the date the OGR Executive Director signs your contract and the end date will be April 30, 2025.

Q: If you hire a company to install cameras would they be listed as consultants or be included in the equipment section and cost of cameras?

A: It is preferable to have the cost of equipment and installation as two separate line items.

Q: If we were awarded the Nonprofit Security Grant last fall and the funding from that grant did not cover full expenses for that project, can we apply for this grant for the remainder of funding for that project?

A: These grant funds can be used for your priority needs. Please be sure to highlight your priority needs and also prior funding received in your application as it is good for grant reviewers to be aware of.

Q: If using FedEx or UPS for mailed applications, is there a different mailing address?

A: There is no different mailing address. All hard copies of grant applications should be mailed to:

*Office of Grants and Research
35 Braintree Hill Office Park Suite 302
Braintree, MA 02184
Attn: Vicky Mboka-Boyer*

Q: Are bollards included in the allowable cost category?

A: Due to the timeline for the permit and approval for bollards this cost may be prohibited.

Q: Is there a limit to the number of small projects to include?

A: No there is no limit except to not exceed the maximum funding amount of \$75,000.

Q: How are the funds distributed to the subrecipient?

A: If you are awarded funds OGR will schedule a Technical Assistance webinar to review the grant management process and how you will be reimbursed for grant expenses.

Q: Does an organization being located near an Air Reserve Base qualify as high risk?

A: You would have to describe in your application as to why that location could make you at a high risk.

Q: Does a vendor or contractor need to be a state approved vendor/contractor?

A: No. It is not necessary for a vendor or contractor to be state approved.

Q: Is the application already available? Where can I find the Attachments A and B?

A: The application and Attachments are available on our website here:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-nonprofit-security-grant-program>

Q: Does this grant cover bullet proof vests and/or cybersecurity or only physical security enhancements?

A: This grant only covers physical security enhancements.

Q: Can we submit the hard copy by mail and also hand deliver an additional hard copy?

A: Only one hard-copy is required.

Q: Are private schools eligible for this grant?

*A: Private schools are eligible **IF** they are a 501(c)3.*

Q: What is a UEI number?

A: UEI stands for Unique Entity Identifier which is used for each organization in the SAM system.

Q: What does SAM stand for?

A: SAM stands for System for Award Management.

Q: Can I apply if I have not obtained my UEI number yet?

A: Yes. It can take several weeks to obtain a UEI number, and you are eligible to apply while you wait for your number.

Q: What can I do if I am not sure if my organization is registered in SAM?

A: Please visit [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) and use the Search feature to look-up your organization.

Q: Are consultants or contractors in the budget considered an M&A expense?

A: No, these are not the same as M&A expenses. For this grant, M&A expenses are an unallowable cost.

Q: Does the hard copy require an ink signature, or can it have a digital signature?

A: Both the ink or digital signature will be accepted.

Q: What if the hard copy arrives after March 1st?

A: As long as the hard copy is postmarked by March 1st it will be accepted even if it arrives at the office after that date.

Q: Can there be multiple editors for an application or is it only one?

A: Yes, multiple editors can edit application – they just can't work on it concurrently. So individual A can work on the application, save their work, and then send their unique save and resume link to individual B, who can do their part of the application, save their work, and then send it back to individual A, off to another colleague C, etc.

Q: Can we hand deliver the hard copy of the application?

A: Yes, you can hand deliver the hard copy to our office:

*Office of Grants and Research
35 Braintree Hill Office Park Suite 302
Braintree, MA 02184*

Q: Can we complete the application in stages and then come back to it as needed?

A: Yes, we recommend you save often! You will receive a link in your email once you begin the application and you may use that link to return to the application until complete.

Q: Is there a place to access the narrative questions separately from the live application?

A: The narrative questions are also included in the AGF.

Q: Is there a place to show matching funds in the budget?

A: This grant does not require matching funds. However, if the project outlined in your application is part of a larger project, you may include that information in the application.

Q: How can we sign up to receive notifications of future grant opportunities?

A: You can sign up to receive notifications of future grant opportunities on our website [here](#).

Q: Do we need a DHS risk-assessment prior to applying for this grant?

A: No, but if you are considering applying for the Federal Nonprofit Security Grant Program which will be announced this Spring, a risk-assessment is required.

Q: If we are a nonprofit proposing to conduct improvements at multiple physical locations, would that require multiple submissions?

A: Yes, each location must have a separate application for grant funds.

Q: How many competitive bids do we need to have at the time of application?

A: It is recommended if you use Sound Business Practices to receive more than one bid/quote to receive the most competitive pricing.

Q: Do we have to get actual costs for each equipment item?

A: It is helpful to receive actual costs but we realize your budget is an estimate.

Q: Can you tell me if radios or metal detectors are allowable?

A: No, they are not allowable equipment costs within this grant program.

Q: Is security window film allowable:

A: Yes, security window film is an allowable equipment costs within this grant program.