



FEMA

FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (HSGP) NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (NOFO) – KEY CHANGES

Urban Areas

In the Explanatory Statement accompanying the FY 2018 Appropriation for the Department of Homeland Security, Congress expressed its intent that the Secretary fund up to 85 percent of nationwide risk. In accordance with that intent, the Secretary designated 32 urban areas eligible for funding under the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). This is a decrease from the 33 urban areas eligible in FY 2017.

Cybersecurity Investment Justification

In FY 2018, State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and UASI recipients will be required to include an investment justification (IJ) that focuses on cybersecurity projects. Recipients must limit the use of SHSP and UASI funds for projects that support the security and functioning of critical infrastructure and core capabilities as they relate to terrorism preparedness, and may simultaneously support enhanced preparedness for other hazards unrelated to acts of terrorism.

Senior Advisory Council (SAC) and Urban Area Working Group (UAWG) Membership

In FY 2018, SHSP and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) recipients must include their Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) and Chief Information Officer (CIO) on their SACs and UAWGs.

Increased Emergency Communications Guidance

Recipients are given more guidance around emergency communications projects this year, including the requirement that any communications projects align to the Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP) and coordination and consultation with the Statewide Interoperability Governing Body (SIGB) or Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC). All states and territories will be required to update their SCIP by the end of the FY 2018 SHSP period of performance, with a focus on communications resilience/continuity, to include assessment and mitigation of all potential risks.

Recipients will be required to test their emergency communications capabilities and procedures in conjunction with regularly planned exercises (separate/addition emergency communications exercises are not required) and submit an After Action Report within 90 days of exercise completion.

All HSGP recipients must designate a Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC). The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) will maintain SWIC contact information.

Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA)/Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR) Reporting

HSGP recipients will complete the new THIRA/SPR methodology that will be implemented in 2018, with a revised THIRA methodology for response, recovery, and cross-cutting core capabilities by December 31, 2018. Jurisdictions will need to complete the entire methodology for all 32 core capabilities by December 2019. Beginning in 2019, recipients will submit a THIRA only every three years. An annual capability assessment will still be required.

Operational Overtime

In FY 2018, the HSGP NOFO requires additional criteria for operational overtime requests including specifying which types of overtime are eligible. Also, aside from National Terrorism Advisory System alerts (which do not require pre-approval), operational overtime must be pre-approved before an event.

Fusion Centers

In FY 2018, fusion centers should prioritize the following capabilities in order to strengthen capacities to identify, collect, analyze, and share information:

- Addressing Emerging Threats;
- Analytic Capability; and
- Technological Integration.