FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
Ohio K-12 School Safety Grant Program for 2022 Applicants

Q1: Which schools are eligible for this program?

A1: Public school districts and chartered nonpublic schools that:
- Have not had construction completed through an OFCC program within the past five years; and
- Have not received grant funding under the $5 million S.B. 310 K-12 School Safety Grant program in 2021.

Q2: Which items are eligible to be purchased in this program?

A2: Categories of eligible items are listed in the 2022 Authorized Equipment List (AEL). This is a different list than the 2021 AEL for the 2021 K-12 School Safety Grant Program.

Q3: Why are the items on the 2022 AEL and 2021 AEL different?

A3: The 2022 AEL is shorter and more focused on building enhancements and equipment that allow a school to meet or exceed a baseline level of safety, consistent with Tier 1 of "Safety and Security Guidelines for K-12 Schools" created by the Partner Alliance for Safer Schools (PASS).

Q4: What type of vulnerability assessment is required in order to apply?

A4: The 2022 Security and Vulnerability Assessment (SVA), created specifically for this program, is required of all schools applying for this grant. It can be completed in two ways:
- For schools that did not apply for the 2021 K-12 School Safety Grant Program, the new assessment must be conducted by an experienced security, law enforcement, or military person, completed in its entirety, and signed by an authorized school official.
- Schools that did apply for the 2021 K-12 School Safety Grant Program may submit their previous 2021 SVA along with the Supplemental Questions. The Supplemental Questions may be completed by an authorized school official.

Q5: Why is the SVA different for the 2022 program?

A5: The 2022 SVA includes all the questions from the 2021 version, plus supplemental questions that address Tier 1 of "Safety and Security Guidelines for K-12 Schools" created by the Partner Alliance for Safer Schools (PASS). As with the 2022 AEL, the SVA is focused on building enhancements and equipment that allow a school to meet or exceed a baseline level of safety.

Q6: Is the 2022 program competitive?

A6: Yes. Scoring is explained in the Evaluation Guide (see Resources on the OFCC website).

Q7: I'm not familiar with the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) required in the application. What is it and how do I obtain it?

A7: On April 4, 2022, the federal government transitioned away from using the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) to identify unique entities. The new identifier to do business with the federal

government is the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), a 12-character alphanumeric value generated at SAM.gov. SAM.gov is the official, free, government-operated website for the management of government awards.

To obtain a UEI, visit SAM.gov and select the path for "Get Unique Entity ID." You do not need to register your entity with SAM.gov. for receiving this grant – simply get a UEI. For more information on getting a UEI, see this video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0uv1YNAsINk.

Q8: If my school did not receive an award from the $5 million S.B. 310 grant program, but later accepted funds from the 2021 Applicant Program, is it still eligible for the 2022 K-12 School Safety Grant Program?

A8: Yes, up to $100,000 in funding. Schools receiving payments from the 2021 Applicant Program may apply for the balance of the $100,000 maximum per school under the 2022 program.

Q9: Why are there different applications for K-12 districts and non-K12 district schools?

A9: The application process is aligned with the entity that will sign the grant agreement, should a grant be awarded. For traditional K-12 districts, the authorized district official will execute the grant agreement, while for other entities it will be a non-district school official. The K-12 district application uses a file template that allows information from multiple schools to be entered as an attachment. For single non-district schools, information is entered directly into the application fields.

Q10: For a traditional K-12 district, will the award decision be made by district or by school?

A10: Although the district will submit a single consolidated application, award decisions will be made for each individual school. The district will be notified which of its schools are recommended for awards.

Q11: If my K-12 district has just one school applying for the 2022 program, which application do I use?

A11: The K-12 district application.

Q12: Are school buildings that are currently under construction eligible for the grant program?

A12: No. The school building must currently be serving students to be eligible.

Q13: My current school building is scheduled to be demolished in a couple years. Is it eligible for the grant program?

A13: Yes, but the grant application may be assigned a lower priority unless the purchased equipment is expected to be in service at least five years. In the grant narrative, applicants are requested to affirm the five year minimum equipment life. If the equipment from the demolished building is expected to be reused at another classroom facility, thereby extending the service life to at least five years, then the applicant may explain this in the narrative and no points will be deducted.

Q14: Who is my grant contact for questions or concerns?

A14: The Ohio Grants Partnership is available to answer questions about technical issues for the application within the Funding Opportunity portal via e-mail at grants@obm.ohio.gov. For

questions about the overall program requirements or guidelines, please email grants.info@ofcc.ohio.gov.

Q15: I was unable to upload a required attachment due to technical issues. What should I do?

A15: Please email grants@obm.ohio.gov and grants.info@ofcc.ohio.gov. Indicate the issue that you encountered in your email.

Q16: I forgot to provide a required document or answer a question within the application. Whom should I contact?

A16: Since this is a competitive grant opportunity, OFCC will have to determine on case-by-case basis whether the error effects eligibility. Please contact grants.info@ofcc.ohio.gov.

Q17: What is the Assistance Listing Number (Formerly Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA)) and federal award name for this opportunity?

A17: The Assistance Listing Number (CFDA) is 21.027, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. The federal funding agency is the U.S. Treasury.

Q18: Where do I find the requirements I must follow for these funds?

A18: Grantees should refer to the terms and conditions and additional program guidance for all applicable requirements of the funding. If funds are awarded, additional award information will be e-mailed to the contacts on the application. The federal requirements for the program may be found at Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds | U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Q19: Do I need to use a specific Uniform School Accounting System (USAS) fund or federal fund number in our financial system?

A19: For this grant, entities must track the use of funds for this program as federal and separate from other financial activities of the school. For public schools using the Uniform School Accounting System, the federal fund number 599 should be used with a special cost center to allow for unique tracking of the financial activity for this program.

Q20: What procurement requirements must I follow for this grant?

A20: Grantees must follow federal procurement requirements as outlined in §200.318 – 327 of the Uniform Guidance (Procurement Standards). This also includes rules governing methods of procurement and thresholds, as well as contract provisions. Also be aware of § 200.216 of the Uniform Guidance that prohibits purchases of telecommunications and video surveillance equipment or systems that use components from specific companies and corporations.

Q21: What is the funding period?

A21: You only may use the grant funds to cover purchases made from the 2022 Authorized Equipment List that were incurred from January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2023.

Q22: What happens if there is interest earned on these grant funds since the payment is being advanced?

A22: These funds are not subject to the Cash Management and Improvement Act of 1990. Interest may be retained by the awardee and is not required to be added back to the program.

Q23: What reporting will I be required to complete and how will this grant be monitored?

A23: The Ohio Grants Partnership (OGP), part of the Office of Budget and Management, will be monitoring the use of funds by subrecipients. OGP will also work with the OFCC and recipient districts and schools on required reporting. Further information will be provided to awardees about reporting and monitoring in the coming months.

Q24: What are the audit requirements?

A24: These funds are considered federal financial assistance subject to the Single Audit Act (31 U.S.C. §§ 7501- 7507).

Q25: How long do I need to retain records relating to this grant and supporting expenditures?

A25: Records and supporting financial documentation must be maintained for five years after all funds have been expended or returned based on U.S. Treasury guidelines for the State of Ohio as prime recipient.