



**FEMA**

## **Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) – Information for Nonprofit Organizations**

### **1. What is the purpose of the FY 2020 NSGP?**

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) is one of three grant programs that constitute Department of Homeland Security (DHS) DHS/Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) focus on enhancing the ability of state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as nonprofits, to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks. These grant programs are part of a comprehensive set of measures authorized by Congress and implemented by the DHS to help strengthen the nation's communities against potential terrorist attacks.

### **2. What legislation authorized funding for the FY 2020 NSGP?**

NSGP is authorized by the *Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2020* (Pub. L. No. 116-93) and Sections 2003 and 2004 of the *Homeland Security Act of 2002* (Pub. L. No. 107-296, as amended) (6 U.S.C. §§ 604 and 605).

### **3. How much funding is available under the FY 2020 NSGP?**

The total amount of funds available under the FY 2020 NSGP is \$90 million:

- \$50 million for NSGP-Urban Area (NSGP-UA); and
- \$40 million for NSGP-State (NSGP-S).

### **4. What are the changes in funding levels between FY 2019 and FY 2020?**

The FY 2020 NSGP-UA funding amount is the same as FY 2019. The FY 2020 NSGP-S is \$30 million more than FY 2019.

### **5. Where is the FY 2020 NSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) located?**

The FY 2020 NSGP NOFO is located online at <http://www.fema.gov/grants> as well as on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

### **6. What is the difference between NSGP-UA and NSGP-S?**

NSGP-UA provides funding for nonprofit organizations located within a FY 2020 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)-designated urban area.

NSGP-S provides funding for nonprofit organizations located outside of FY 2020 UASI-designated urban areas.

For a list of FY 2020 UASI-designated urban areas, see the FY 2020 NSGP NOFO.

## **7. How do I apply?**

Eligible nonprofit organizations must apply to their SAA for NSGP funds. Nonprofits may not apply to FEMA directly. The [SAA](#) is the only entity eligible to apply to FEMA on behalf of eligible nonprofit organizations. Contact your [SAA](#) for information on how to apply.

## **8. Which NSGP program should I apply for?**

If the physical address of the nonprofit organization for which you are applying is within a FY 2020 UASI-designated urban area, then you may apply to NSGP-UA.

If the physical address of the nonprofit organization for which you are applying is outside of a FY 2020 UASI-designated urban area, then you may apply to NSGP-S.

If you are unsure whether your nonprofit organization's physical address is located within or outside of a FY 2020 UASI-designated urban area, contact your State Administrative Agency (SAA). For a list of SAA contacts see <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/28689?id=6363>.

***You may not apply to both programs. Applications that are received for the wrong program will be deemed ineligible.***

## **9. Am I an eligible nonprofit organization?**

An eligible nonprofit organization must:

- Meet the description under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (IRC) and be exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such code;
- For NSGP-UA, be located within one of the FY 2020 UASI-designated urban areas; OR for NSGP-S, be located outside of the FY 2020 UASI-designated urban areas; and
- Be able to demonstrate, through the application, that the organization is at high risk of a terrorist attack.

## **10. What are ways a nonprofit organization can demonstrate that it has a high risk of a terrorist attack?**

Ways an organization can substantiate that it is at high risk of a terrorist attack include:

- Describe any incidents that have occurred at the facility.
- Describe any threats (e.g. verbal threats, vandalization) made against the organization.
- Monitor current events with specific attention to incidents impacting organizations that have been targeted due to a similar mission, belief, or ideology.
- Contact organizations/agencies that can provide information on the current threat environment such as local law enforcement offices, local emergency management offices, Federal Bureau of Investigation Field offices, or Regional Protective Security Advisors. To reach a Protective Security Advisor, email [NICC@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:NICC@hq.dhs.gov).

## 11. For what kinds of security related activities can I apply?

Allowable costs include *contract security*, as well as planning, equipment, training, and exercises. Below are some examples of each:

- Planning – Activities related to the development of plans such as:
  - Security Risk Management Plans
  - Continuity of Operations Plans
  - Response Plans
- Equipment – [Authorized Equipment List](#) Sections 14 and 15 only; examples include:
  - Access control equipment
  - Surveillance equipment
  - Physical protective measures such as fences, blast-proof windows, and concrete barriers
- Training:
  - Active Shooter Training
  - Security Training for employees, or members/congregation
- Exercises:
  - Response exercises

For a complete description on allowability, see the FY 2020 NSGP NOFO.

## 12. What is the maximum I can apply for?

For NSGP-UA nonprofits may apply for up to \$100,000.

For NSGP-S nonprofits may apply for up to \$100,000 but the SAA may cap the maximum grant award at a lesser amount; contact your [SAA](#) to find out if there is a cap.

## 13. What do I need to submit to my SAA to apply for FY 2020 NSGP funds?

Each eligible nonprofit organization must submit the following to their SAA:

**a. Vulnerability/Risk Assessment**

A vulnerability/risk assessment specific to the location/facility for which the nonprofit organization is applying. Currently, there are no other FEMA specific requirements for the vulnerability assessment.

**b. NSGP Investment Justification (IJ)**

The IJ is the application form used to apply for NSGP. It must include the nonprofit organization's risks, vulnerabilities, and the proposed projects that are intended to address/mitigate the identified risks and vulnerabilities. Proposed projects must be for the locations that the nonprofit occupies at the time of application. Applicants can find the NSGP IJ *DHS/FEMA Form 089-24 (OMB Control Number: 1660-0110)* on grants.gov (Search Grants Tab; *C DFA: 97.008*).

**c. Mission Statement**

A Mission Statement and any mission implementing policies or practices that may elevate the organization's risk. The SAA will use the Mission Statement along with the information provided in the IJ to determine the central purpose of the organization and will validate the nonprofit's 'organization type' selected by the nonprofit organization on the IJ. The organization type may be one of the following: 1) Ideology-based/Spiritual/Religious; 2) Educational; 3) Medical; or 4) Other.

**d. Supporting documentation related to actual incidents that have occurred at the location/facility, if applicable.**

If applicable, nonprofit organizations may include any proof of actual incidents that have occurred at the location or facility; this includes items such as police reports or photographs (include a brief description of the items you are submitting in your IJ).

**e. Any other SAA required documentation.**

Contact your [SAA](#) to get information on any additional requirements.

**14. What makes a strong IJ?**

- Clearly identified risks, vulnerabilities, and consequences;
- Description of findings from a previously conducted vulnerability assessment;
- Details of any incident(s) including description, dates etc.;
- A brief description of any supporting documentation (such as police reports or photographs) that is submitted as part of the application, if applicable;
- Explanation of how the investments proposed will mitigate or address the vulnerabilities identified from a vulnerability assessment;
- Establish a clear linkage with investment(s) and core capabilities (See National Preparedness Goal); see <http://www.fema.gov/national-preparedness-goal> for information on core capabilities;
- Verify all proposed activities are allowable costs per the FY 2020 NSGP NOFO;

- Realistic milestones that consider the [Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation \(EHP\)](#) review process, if applicable; and
- Description of the project manager(s) level of experience.

### 15. Can I apply for multiple locations/facilities for the same organization?

Yes, you may apply for multiple locations of the same organization but for each location/facility that you apply for, you must:

- a) Submit a complete Investment Justification;
- b) Have a vulnerability assessment specific to the location/facility that you are applying for; and
- c) Ensure that the total amount you are requesting for all locations/facilities does not exceed \$100,000 or the cap defined by the SAA for NSGP-S.

### 16. What is a period of performance and how long is it for NSGP?

The period of performance is the amount of time you have to complete your proposed projects. For NSGP, the period of performance is 36 months; this includes any EHP considerations required for the project, if applicable. For more information on the EHP process, contact your SAA, also see: [DHS Instruction Manual 023-01-001-01, Revision 01, FEMA Directive 108-1 and FEMA Instruction 108-1-1](#).

### 17. What is the application period and deadline?

The application period starts when the FY 2020 NSGP NOFO is released on February 14, 2020. *The application deadline for nonprofit organizations is determined by your [SAA](#); contact your [SAA](#) for details on the application deadline.*

### 18. How will my application be reviewed or evaluated?

FY 2020 NSGP applications will be scored by the SAA in coordination with its state, territory, and urban area partners, as applicable. The SAA will submit a prioritized list of IJs with all scores to FEMA. FEMA will review the highest state scored applications; two Federal reviewers will review each of the selected IJs. In the final scoring process, organizations that are at risk due to their ideology, beliefs, or mission are prioritized; additionally, organizations that have never received NSGP funding are also prioritized.

Based on the review process described above, FEMA will then make recommendations for funding to the Secretary of Homeland Security. All final funding determinations will be made by the Secretary, who retains the discretion to consider other factors and information in addition to FEMA's funding recommendations. For additional information on how IJs are reviewed and scored at the [SAA](#) and Federal levels, please refer to the FY 2020 NSGP NOFO.

**19. What if the FY 2020 NSGP application period has closed?**

FEMA encourages nonprofit organizations to prepare their application for the following fiscal year's application period using the FY 2020 NSGP NOFO as a guide. The organization may also contact the respective SAA for additional guidance.