Attachment B

Superintendent’s Memo #129-23

June 29, 2023

**Virginia Department of Education**

**Application Process for the 2023-2024**

**Public School Security Equipment Grants Program**

**Due Date: August 1, 2023**

**Introduction**

The purpose of the Public School Security Equipment Grant Act of 2013, as amended, is to help school divisions purchase and install "security equipment," including building modifications for erecting security vestibules*,* security-related devices located outside of the school building on school property, and security-related devices located on school buses to improve and ensure the safety of students attending public schools in Virginia.

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) will award grants authorized under this legislation to school divisions on a competitive basis. School security grant funds are to be used solely for the purpose of purchasing and installing security equipment, which may include building modifications and fixtures such as security vestibules, security equipment for school site and buses (see detailed listing below). These grant funds may not be comingled with any other type of school construction work (i.e., building renovations or alterations)*,* or used to cover any professional services costs (such as A&E or other fees), or the cost of extended equipment warranties or service contract agreements.

For purposes of this grant program, “eligible school division” means a local school division or

regional vocational center, special education center, alternative education center, or academic

year Governor’s School serving public school students in grades K through 12. The term also

includes the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind. “Eligible schools” include schools that

are subject to state accreditation and reporting membership in grades K through 12 as of

September 30, 2022, for the 2023-2024 grants, as well as regional vocational centers, special education centers, alternative education centers, academic year Governor’s Schools, and the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind.

Beginning in grant award year 2020-2021, the total funding available is $12.0 million. The amount of grants provided to each eligible school division may not exceed $250,000 for each fiscal year. Eligible school divisions must apply to the VDOE between July 1, 2023, and August 1, 2023, by 5 p.m. As a condition of receiving a grant, a local match of 25 percent of the grant amount is required. The Superintendent of Public Instruction is authorized to reduce the local match for school divisions with a composite index of local ability to pay less than 0.2000, including any school division participating in a regional vocational center, special education center, alternative education center, or academic year Governor’s School. The Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind is exempt from the match requirement.

Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis, using criteria described later in this application.

School divisions applying for the grant must (1) select the security equipment from the approved list of equipment for which the grant is being requested, as well as indicate the estimated costs to purchase and install the security equipment, and (2) certify that it is the intent of the division to

purchase the security equipment within six months of the grant award notification by the VDOE, or no later than March 1 each year.

**Security equipment items eligible for funding from this grant are listed below.**

These grant funds may not be used for extended warranties or any professional service costs.

Allowable security equipment may include the following equipment (and associated installation costs):

1. Voice and video internal communication systems.

2. Technology hardware equipment to support mass notifications systems.

3. Hurricane or Ballistic Security window film.

4. Motion detection systems.

5. Technology equipment and software to support security systems.

6. Classroom security door hardware.

7. Security door hardware, or electronic card access reader systems for student ID verification at main entrances, other points of entry into the school building, and on school buses.

8. Visitor I.D. badging system.

9. Security scanning equipment.

10. Surveillance cameras (mounted on interior/exterior walls and existing site structures)

11. Site surveillance cameras

12. Hand-held two-way radios.

13. Push to talk wireless communications systems.

14. Security alarm systems.

15. Security panic systems.

16. Security lighting systems (mounted on interior/exterior walls and existing site structures).

17. Uninterrupted power supply to support the security equipment (UPS).

18. Security Vestibules.

19. Gunshot Detection System.

20. Vaping Detectors.

21. Security related devices located inside school buses (interior security cameras, two-way talk radios) that serve bus routes for the school listed in this application.

22. G.P.S. tablets to facilitate school bus routing, communications with school buses, and school bus and student tracking.

23. Security lighting and cameras on ball fields.

24. School perimeter security fencing.

25. Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in school buildings

**Instructions for Completing the School Security Equipment Grant Program Application**

School divisions can apply for the grant using the Security Equipment Grant Management (SEGM) application located in the VDOE’s Single Sign-on for Web-based Systems (SSWS) portal.

For more information or questions, see the table below with VDOE staff contact information.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name  | Email  | Phone Number  |
| Vijay Ramnarain, Director Office of Support Services  | Vijay.Ramnarain@doe.virginia.gov  | (804) 225-2774  |
| Office of Support Services Staff   | Support.services@doe.virginia.gov  | (804) 225-2035  |

**Competitive Application Criteria Points**

The school security equipment grants will be awarded on a competitive basis. The VDOE and the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) have developed the following criteria for reviewing and scoring the grant applications to determine the eligible schools that will be awarded grants and the amount of funds to be awarded.

**1. Maximum of 10 points** allocated for new security equipment installed in schools with no

video surveillance equipment currently.

* 10 points allocated for schools with no video surveillance equipment currently.
* 5 points allocated for schools with existing video surveillance equipment.

**2. Maximum of 5 points** allocated if a previous school security audit recommended the

installation of the school security equipment requested in this application be installed in

the school.

* 5 points allocated if the school security equipment requested in this application was recommended in a previous school security audit.
* 0 points allocated if school security equipment requested in this application was not recommended in a previous school security audit.

**3. Maximum of 5 points** allocated for year the school was built**.**

* 5 points allocated for school buildings built prior to 1990.
* 0 points for school buildings built in 1990 or after.

**4. Maximum of 10 points** allocated if this school has never received any grant funding.

* 10 points allocated if school never received any funding in previous years.
* 7 points allocated if the school received funding in one (1) previous year only.
* 5 points allocated if the school received funding in two (2) previous years.
* 0 points allocated if school was funded in three (3) or more previous years.

**5. Maximum of 5 points** allocated if the school does not have an Uninterrupted Power

Supply (UPS) to support security equipment.

* 5 points allocated if the school does not have an Uninterrupted Power Supply.
* 0 points allocated if the school does have an Uninterrupted Power Supply.

**6. Maximum of 15 points** allocated if the number of school-level incidents per 100 students

for the following offense categories as reported in the is at or above certain percentiles for all schools statewide as reported in the Student Behavior and Administrative Response (SBAR) report: “weapons offenses,” “offenses against student, staff, and persons,” and “property offenses.”

* 15 points allocated - at or above the 75th percentile.
* 10 points allocated - at or above the 50th percentile but below the 75th percentile.

**7. Maximum of 15 points** allocated for the Division Composite Index.

* 15 points allocated - Division Composite Index of .0000 - .2999.
* 10 points allocated - Division Composite Index of .3000 - .5999.
* 5 points allocated - Division Composite Index of .6000 - .8000.

**8. Maximum of 15 points** allocated based upon the Institutional Poverty Level Report.

* 15 pointsallocatedif the school poverty level is 60% or greater.
* 10 points allocated if the school poverty levelis between 30% -59%.
* 5 pointsallocatedif the school poverty level isless than 30%.

**9. Maximum of 5 points** allocated if the school is an elementary school.

* 5 points if the school is an elementary school.

**10. Maximum of 15 points** awarded if interior cameras and/or two-way radios are to be installed in current or new school buses.

* 15 points allocated if current bus fleet serving bus routes for the school has security equipment installed on 49% or less of the fleet.
* 10 points allocated if current bus fleet serving bus routes for the school has security equipment installed on 50% - 74% of the fleet.
* 5 points allocated if current bus fleet serving bus routes for the school has security equipment installed on 75% or more the fleet.

**Indicate total number of buses to be equipped with cameras/and or two-way radios, tablets, or card access reader systems for student ID verification.**