

**Virginia Department of Education  
Application Process for the  
2016-2017 School Security Equipment Grants Program  
Due Date: August 1, 2016**

**Introduction**

The purpose of the Public School Security Equipment Grant Act of 2013 is to help school divisions purchase and install security equipment in public schools to improve and ensure the safety of students attending public schools in Virginia. As required, the Virginia Department of Education 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 (see listing below). These grant funds may not be comingled with any other type of school construction work (building renovations or alterations) or to cover any professional costs (such as A&E fees). The addition of any other architectural brick and mortar projects will result in the disqualification of a school division's grant application.

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, 2015, for the 2016-2017 grants, as well as regional vocational centers, special education centers, alternative education centers, regular school year Governor's Schools, and the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind.

The amount of grants provided to each eligible school division may not exceed \$100,000 for each fiscal year. Eligible school divisions must apply to the Virginia Department of Education by 5 p.m. on August 1, 2016. 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) identify with specificity the security equipment for which the grant is being requested, as well as 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 Virginia Department of Education, or no later than March 1<sup>st</sup> each year.

**Security equipment items eligible for funding, but not limited to, from this grant are listed below.**

Projects for school security equipment may not involve “bricks and mortar” construction. School security equipment may include, but is not limited to, the following equipment (and associated installation costs):

1. Intercom systems
2. Security film
3. Technology equipment to support security systems
4. Security door hardware
5. Electronic access control systems
6. Visitor badging system
7. Surveillance equipment and cameras
8. Security scanning equipment
9. Two-way radios
10. Security alarm systems
11. Mass notification telephone systems equipment
12. Security panic systems
13. Security lighting systems
14. Classroom door locks
15. Uninterrupted power supply (UPS) for emergency backup power for the security equipment

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

**Contact Information**

For general questions on the School Security Equipment Grants Program or the application process, please contact Hunter Barnes or Vijay Ramnarain, architectural consultants, at (804) 225-2037 or (804) 225-2035. These individuals may be contacted by e-mail at [Vijay.Ramnarain@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Vijay.Ramnarain@doe.virginia.gov) or [Hunter.Barnes@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Hunter.Barnes@doe.virginia.gov).

The grant application process should be completed in the Single Sign-on for Web-based Systems (SSWS) portal using the Security Equipment Grant Management (SEGM) application following the instructions contained in Attachment C.

**Competitive Criteria Points**

The school security equipment grants will be awarded on a competitive basis. The Virginia Department of Education and the Department of Criminal Justice Services have developed the following criteria to be used when 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 15 points** allocated for new security equipment installed in schools with no video surveillance equipment currently.
  - 15 points allocated for schools with no video surveillance equipment currently.
  - 5 points allocated for schools with existing video surveillance equipment.
2. **Maximum 10 points** allocated if a previous school security audit recommended the installation of the school security equipment requested in this application.
  - 10 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 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 20 points** allocated if this school has never received any grant funding.
  - 20 points allocated if this school has never received any grant funding.
  - 5 points if the school received any grant funding in previous years.
5. **Maximum of 10 points** allocated if the school does not have an Uninterrupted Power Supply (USP).
  - 10 points if the school does not have an Uninterrupted Power Supply.
  - 0 points if the school does have an Uninterrupted Power Supply.
6. **Maximum 20 points** allocated for the division composite index.
  - 20 points allocated - Division composite index of .0000 - .2999
  - 15 points allocated - Division composite index of .3000 - .5999
  - 10 points allocated - Division composite index of .6000 - .8000
7. **Maximum 20 points** allocated if the number of school-level incidents per 100 students for the following offense categories as reported in the School Safety section of the 2014-2015 School Report Card is at or above certain percentiles for all schools statewide: “weapons offenses,” “offenses against student, staff, and persons,” and “property offenses.”
  - 20 points allocated - At or above the 75th percentile
  - 15 points allocated - At or above the 50th percentile but below the 75th percentile