

FY26 COPS School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP) – Grant Summary (Projected)

Funder: U.S. Department of Justice – Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)

Assistance Listing Number: 16.071

Estimated FY26 NOFO Release Date: April–May 2026 (anticipated based on prior cycle)

Estimated Grants.gov Deadline (SF-424): May–June 2026

Estimated JustGrants Deadline: May–June 2026 (approximately one week after Grants.gov submission)

Estimated Period of Performance: 36 months (3 years)

Estimated Project Start Date: October 1, 2026

Estimated Total Funding Available: Approximately \$70–\$75 million

Estimated Number of Awards: Approximately 200 awards

Maximum Award Amount: \$500,000

Microgrant Category:

- Maximum award: \$100,000
- Match requirement waived for approved microgrant applicants

Standard Match Requirement:

- 25% cash match required for standard awards
- Match waivers may be requested in cases of fiscal hardship

Program Purpose

The School Violence Prevention Program provides federal funding to support evidence-based school safety strategies designed to improve security at K–12 schools and on school grounds through technology, infrastructure improvements, law enforcement coordination, and safety planning.

The program was established under the Students, Teachers, and Officers Preventing (STOP) School Violence Act of 2018 and focuses on strengthening partnerships between schools and law enforcement while implementing physical security improvements and emergency response systems.

Grant Priorities

Applicants must propose projects aligned with one or more statutory purpose areas:

- 1. Coordination with local law enforcement**
 - Formal collaboration between school districts and police departments
 - Information sharing protocols
 - Joint safety planning
- 2. Training for law enforcement officers**
 - Training related to prevention of student violence
 - Threat assessment training
 - Suicide and self-harm prevention awareness
- 3. Security infrastructure improvements**
 - Metal detectors
 - Door locking systems
 - Lighting improvements
 - Security barriers
- 4. Emergency notification technology**
 - Panic button systems
 - Mobile alert platforms
 - Integrated emergency communication systems
 - Law enforcement notification technology
- 5. Other safety improvements approved by the COPS Office**
 - Safety coordination personnel
 - Security monitoring systems
 - Threat assessment tools
 - Technology enabling faster law enforcement response

The overall program goal is to improve school safety through evidence-based security strategies that support rapid response to threats and improved collaboration between schools and law enforcement.

Program Goals and Expected Outcomes

Funded projects are expected to achieve the following outcomes:

- Improved information sharing between schools and law enforcement
- Faster emergency notification and response times
- Increased collaboration between school officials and police

- Improved school safety planning and risk mitigation
- Expanded implementation of community policing principles within schools

Eligible Applicants

The following entities are eligible to apply:

States

Units of local government (including municipalities, boroughs, towns, counties)

Indian tribes and tribal governments

Public agencies

Eligible public agencies include:

Public school districts

Public charter school districts

School boards

Local law enforcement agencies

School districts with only one school are eligible.

Ineligible Applicants

The following entities cannot apply as primary applicants:

Private schools

Private charter schools

Individual schools not organized as school districts

Nonprofit organizations

Private organizations

Nonprofits may participate only as contractors or subrecipients, not as the primary applicant.

Eligible (Allowable) Expenditures

Examples of allowable expenses include:

Security equipment and infrastructure

- Surveillance camera systems
- Access control systems
- Metal detectors
- Door locks and security hardware

- Security lighting
- Bullet resistant entry points
- Visitor screening systems

Emergency communication technology

- Panic button systems
- Emergency notification systems
- Mobile alert systems
- Integrated emergency communication platforms

School safety planning

- Comprehensive school safety assessments
- Threat assessment tools
- Safety planning consultants

Law enforcement coordination

- Civilian school safety coordinators
- Law enforcement training programs
- Joint school-police response training

Technology improving response time

- Integrated monitoring platforms
- Security management software
- Communication technology linking schools with law enforcement

Installation costs for security equipment are typically allowable.

Ineligible (Unallowable) Expenditures

The following costs are typically not allowed:

New construction of school buildings

Major capital construction projects

Hiring school resource officers or security guards

General mental health services not tied to law enforcement coordination

Food, entertainment, giveaways, or fundraising costs

Supplanting existing security funding

Costs incurred prior to the award start date
Projects already funded under other DOJ STOP Act programs

Application Process

The SVPP application requires two submission systems.

Step 1 – Grants.gov

Applicants must submit:

SF-424 (Application for Federal Assistance)

Step 2 – JustGrants System

Full application components include:

Proposal Abstract
Proposal Narrative responses
Budget Detail Worksheet
Budget Justification Narrative
Letters of Support
Data Requested with Application survey responses
DOJ Standard Assurances
DOJ Certifications
Lobbying Disclosure Form (SF-LLL) if applicable
Consultant rate justification if applicable
Sole source procurement justification if applicable
Match waiver request if applicable

Reporting and Compliance Requirements

Award recipients must comply with federal reporting requirements including:

Quarterly Federal Financial Reports (SF-425)
Semiannual program performance reports
Participation in federal monitoring reviews
Compliance with federal civil rights requirements

Recipients must also:

Conduct comprehensive school safety assessments for each school included in the project
Maintain documentation for audits and compliance reviews
Implement internal financial controls consistent with federal grant management standards.

Estimated Application Review Criteria

Applications are typically scored based on:

Program impact and number of schools served
Demonstrated need for improved security
Need for federal funding assistance
School safety planning and preparedness
Management and implementation plan
Sustainability strategy

Priority consideration may be given to:

Rural or underserved communities
Applicants that have not received prior SVPP funding
Communities experiencing significant safety challenges.

Information Required From Client to Submit an Application

To prepare the SVPP application, the following information must be collected:

Organizational Information

- UEI number
- Active SAM.gov registration
- Legal entity name and address
- Authorized Representatives (Programmatic and Financial)

Project Design

- Description of school safety challenges
- Current security infrastructure status
- Incident data and safety concerns
- Goals and objectives of the project
- Proposed safety improvements

School Data

- List of schools to be served
- Student enrollment per school
- Staff counts
- Description of security measures currently in place

Partnership Documentation

- Law enforcement partners
- School board support
- Letters of support from partners

Budget Information

- Detailed equipment list
- Installation costs
- Training costs
- Match source documentation (if applicable)

Planning Documentation

- Safety assessments
- Risk assessments
- Safety improvement plan
- Sustainability plan after grant period

Compliance Information

- Assurance of stakeholder consultation
- Immigration information sharing compliance certification
- Civil rights compliance confirmation