

Department of Homeland Security
Notice of Funding Opportunity

Fiscal Year 2015 Intercity Bus Security Grant Program (IBSGP)

NOTE: If you are going to apply for this funding opportunity and have not obtained a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and/or are not currently registered in the System for Award Management (SAM), please take immediate action to obtain a DUNS Number, if applicable, and then to register immediately in SAM. It may take 4 weeks or more after you submit your SAM registration before your registration is active in SAM, then an additional 24 hours for Grants.gov to recognize your information. Information on obtaining a DUNS number and registering in SAM is available from Grants.gov at:

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-resources.html>.

A. Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Description

Issued By

U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Grant Programs Directorate (GPD)

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number

97.057

CFDA Title

Intercity Bus Security Grant Program

Notice of Funding Opportunity Title

Intercity Bus Security Grant Program

NOFO Number

DHS-15-GPD-057-000-01

Authorizing Authority for Program

Section 1532 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (Pub. L. No. 110-53), (6 U.S.C. § 1182)

Appropriation Authority for Program

Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015 (Pub. L. No. 114-4)

Program Type

New

Program Overview, Objectives, and Priorities

Overview

The FY 2015 Intercity Bus Security Grant Program (IBSGP) is one of DHS's FY 2015 grant programs that directly support transportation infrastructure security activities. IBSGP is one tool in the comprehensive set of measures authorized by Congress and implemented by the Administration to strengthen the Nation's critical infrastructure against risks associated with potential terrorist attacks. IBSGP provides funding support for critical infrastructure hardening and other physical security enhancements to operators serving the Nation's highest-risk metropolitan areas.

Objectives

The FY 2015 IBSGP objectives are to support efforts that:

- Build and sustain core capabilities
- Strengthen regional security cooperation
- Encourage a whole community approach to security and emergency management

For additional information on program priorities and objectives for the FY 2015 IBSGP, refer to Appendix B – FY 2015 IBSGP Priorities.

Priorities

The FY 2015 IBSGP plays an important role in the implementation of the National Preparedness System by supporting the development and sustainment of core capabilities. Core capabilities are the distinct critical activities essential for the execution of each of the five mission areas outlined in the Goal. Building and sustaining core capabilities requires the combined effort of the whole community, rather than the exclusive effort of any single organization or level of government. The FY 2015 IBSGP's allowable costs support efforts to build and sustain core capabilities across the Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery mission areas.

B. Federal Award Information

Award Amounts, Important Dates, and Extensions

Available Funding for the FY 2015 IBSGP NOFO: \$3,000,000

Period of Performance: Thirty Six (36) months

Extensions to the period of performance are allowed. For additional information on period of performance extensions, refer to Section H of this NOFO, Additional Information (Extensions).

Projected Period of Performance Start Date: September 1, 2015

Projected Period of Performance End Date: August 31, 2018

Funding Instrument: Grant

C. Eligibility Information

Eligible Applicants

Private operators providing transportation by an over-the-road bus that have completed a vulnerability assessment and developed a security plan that the Secretary of Homeland Security has approved as described in Section 1531 of the *Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007* (9/11 Act) (Pub. L. No. 110-53) (6 U.S.C. § 1181) are eligible to apply for funding under this program.

Eligibility for funding is limited to applicants that meet one or both of the following criteria:

- Operate fixed-route intercity bus transportation providing services to a defined Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) jurisdiction.
- Operate a charter bus service using over-the-road buses and provide a minimum of 50 trips annually to one or more defined UASI jurisdictions.

The following definitions are applicable for the purpose of meeting FY 2015 program eligibility requirements:

- **Fixed-route intercity bus service** is defined as passenger transportation service provided to the general public for compensation over specified, predetermined, and published routes between cities or terminals using over-the-road-buses.
- **Charter bus service** is defined as a bus service that operates neither over fixed-routes nor on regular schedules. Note: A charter bus service is characterized by the rental of a bus and the services of a driver to a person or group where all passengers embark and disembark at the same point. A charter bus service must use over-the-road buses.
- **An over-the-road bus** is defined as a vehicle designated for long-distance transportation of passengers, characterized by integral construction with an elevated passenger deck located over a baggage compartment and at least 35 feet in length, with a capacity of more than 30 passengers. Only over-the-road buses are eligible for vehicle security enhancements through this program. Limousines, mini-coaches, school buses, or any other vehicle that does not fit the definition of an over-the-road bus are not eligible.
- **UASI jurisdiction** is defined in the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) FY 2015 Notice of Funding Opportunity. Refer to Appendix A- FY 2015 IBSGP UASI-Eligible Urban Areas of this NOFO.
- **A trip** is defined as a single bus journey from an embarkation point to the furthest destination in that journey. For example, a trip from New York City to Denver to San Francisco would be considered a single trip. A trip is made to a defined UASI jurisdiction if at any point in the trip the bus stops in a UASI jurisdiction and embarks or disembarks passengers. For example, a trip from Newburgh, NY to Manhattan to

Charleston, WV is a trip to a defined UASI jurisdiction if passengers embark or disembark in Manhattan.

Note: Intracity bus service is not eligible for funding under the FY 2015 IBSGP. Funding for intracity bus security is addressed through the FY 2015 Transit Security Grant Program.

Ineligible Service Categories

- School buses
- Fixed service routes under contract to transit authorities within UASI jurisdictions
- Fixed service routes not stopping in qualifying UASI jurisdictions
- Intracity trolley and/or tour services
- Bus company owners that are not operators

Eligibility Criteria

In order to be eligible for the FY 2015 IBSGP, operators must have developed or updated their security plan, which must be based on a security assessment such as the Baseline Assessment for Security Enhancement (BASE) performed by Transportation Security Inspectors-Surface from the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), within the last three years prior to receiving an FY 2015 award. A copy of the security plan and security assessment must be available for DHS review upon request. All operators must have completed a vulnerability assessment and developed a security plan as required by Section 1531 of the 9/11 Act (6 U.S.C. § 1181).

- 1) Developing assessments or security plans that include, as appropriate:
 - Identification and evaluation of critical assets and infrastructure, including platforms, stations, terminals, and information systems
 - Identification of vulnerabilities to those assets and infrastructure
 - Identification of gaps in physical security; passenger and cargo security, the security of programmable electronic devices, computers, or other automated systems which are used in providing over-the-road bus transportation; alarms, cameras, and other protection systems communications systems and utilities needed for over-the-road bus security purposes, including dispatching systems; emergency response planning; and employee training
- 2) Development of a security plan that includes, as appropriate:
 - The identification of a security coordinator having authority to implement security actions, coordinate security improvements, and receive communications from appropriate Federal officials regarding over-the-road bus security
 - A list of needed capital and operational improvements
 - Procedures to be implemented or used by the operator in response to a terrorist attack, including evacuation and passenger communication plans that include individuals with disabilities
 - The identification of steps taken with state and local law enforcement agencies, emergency responders, and Federal officials to coordinate security measures and plans for response to a terrorist attack

- A strategy and timeline for conducting training to prepare front-line employees for potential security threats and conditions
- Enhanced security measures to be taken by the operator when the Secretary of DHS declares a period of heightened security risk
- Plans for providing redundant and backup systems required to ensure the continued operation of critical elements of the operator's system in the event of a terrorist attack

For additional information on the above resources, please contact highwaysecurity@tsa.dhs.gov.

Other project requests will not be considered until the vulnerability assessments and security plans are developed and/or certified by the bus operator. See Section D. Application and Submission Information for the Vulnerability Assessment/Security Plan certification statement.

Other Eligibility Criteria:

National Incident Management System (NIMS) Implementation

Prior to allocation of any Federal preparedness awards in FY 2015, recipients must ensure and maintain adoption and implementation of NIMS.

Emergency management and incident response activities require carefully managed resources (personnel, teams, facilities, equipment and/or supplies) to meet incident needs. Utilization of the standardized resource management concepts such as typing, credentialing, and inventorying promote a strong national mutual aid capability needed to support delivery of core capabilities. Additional information on resource management and NIMS resource typing definitions and job titles/position qualifications are available on DHS/FEMA's website under [National Integration Center Resource Management](#).

DHS/FEMA developed the NIMS Guideline for Credentialing of Personnel to describe national credentialing standards and to provide written guidance regarding the use of those standards. This guideline describes credentialing and typing processes, and identifies tools which Federal Emergency Response Officials (FEROs) and emergency managers at all levels of government may use both routinely and to facilitate multijurisdictional coordinated responses.

Although state, local, tribal, and private sector partners—including nongovernmental organizations—are not required to credential their personnel in accordance with these guidelines, DHS/FEMA strongly encourages them to do so in order to leverage the Federal investment in the [Federal Information Processing Standards \(FIPS\) 201](#) infrastructure and to facilitate interoperability for personnel deployed outside their home jurisdiction. Additional information is available from the [NIMS Guideline for the Credentialing of Personnel](#).

Maintenance of Effort

Maintenance of effort is not required under this program.

Cost Share or Match

Cost Share or Cost Match is not required under this program.

D. Application and Submission Information

Submission Date and Other Key Dates and Times

Date Posted to Grants.gov: April 2, 2015

Application Submission Deadline: May 19, 2015 at 11:59 PM EDT

All applications **must** be received by the established deadline. The Non-Disaster (ND) Grants System has a date stamp that indicates when an application is submitted. Applicants will receive an electronic message confirming receipt of the full application. In general, DHS/FEMA will not review applications that are not received by the deadline or consider them for funding. DHS/FEMA may, however, extend the application deadline on request for any applicant who can demonstrate that good cause exists to justify extending the deadline. Good cause for an extension may include technical problems outside of the applicant's control that prevent submission of the application by the deadline, or other exigent or emergency circumstances. If you experience technical issues, you must notify the respective Headquarters Program Analyst as soon as possible.

Anticipated Award Date: No later than 9/30/2015

Other Key Dates:

The chart below outlines suggested/estimated deadlines for completing the five steps required for a successful application submission prior to the deadline. These dates are only recommendations as applicants are responsible for planning far enough in advance to complete their application. The requirements outlined in the chart below are outside of FEMA's purview. Therefore, FEMA does not guarantee the timeframes for completing those processes. Failure of an applicant to comply with any of the required steps before the deadline for submitting their application may disqualify their application from funding.

Applicants are encouraged to register early for Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) authorization. The registration process can take four weeks or more to be completed. Therefore, registration should be done in sufficient time to ensure it does not impact your ability to meet required submission deadlines.

Task	Suggested timeframe for completion of task to meet submission deadline
Obtain DUNS Number	April 21, 2015
Obtain valid Employer Identification Number (EIN)	April 21, 2015
Update SAM registration	April 21, 2015
Submit initial application in grants.gov	May 9, 2015
Submitting application in ND Grants	May 19, 2015 (firm)

Address to Request Application Package

Application forms and instructions are available at [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). To access these materials, go to <http://www.grants.gov>, select “Applicants” then “Apply for Grants,” read the registration requirements and register if necessary (**Wait at least 7-10 business days after you submit your SAM registration before your registration is active, then an additional 24 hours for [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) to recognize your information**). In order to obtain the application package select “Download a Grant Application Package.” Enter the CFDA and/or the funding opportunity number located on the cover of this NOFO, select “Download Package,” and then follow the prompts to download the application package.

If you experience difficulties accessing information or have any questions please call the [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) customer support hotline at (800) 518-4726.

Hard copies of the FY 2015 IBSGP NOFO are not available.

In addition, the following Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD) and/or Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) number available for this Notice is: (800) 462-7585.

Applications will be processed through the [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) portal and DHS/FEMA’s Non-Disaster Grants (ND Grants) System.

Content and Form of Application Submission

Applying for an award under this program is a multi-step process and requires time to complete. To ensure that an application is submitted on time applicants are advised to start the required steps well in advance of their submission. Please review the table above under “Submission Dates and Other Key Dates and Times” for estimated deadlines to complete each of the six steps listed below. Failure of an applicant to comply with any of the required steps before the deadline for submitting their application may disqualify their application from being considered for funding.

The steps involved in applying for an award under this program are:

1. Applying for, updating or verifying their DUNS Number;
2. Applying for, updating or verifying their EIN Number;
3. Updating or verifying their SAM Number;
4. Establishing an authorized Organizational Representative (AOR) in [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov);
5. Submitting an initial application in [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov); and
6. Submitting the complete application in ND Grants.

For additional information regarding the DUNS Number, EIN Number, SAM Number, and AOR requirements, please see the section below entitled Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number, System for Award Management (SAM), and Authorized Organization Representative (AOR).

Submitting an Initial Application in Grants.gov.

All applicants must submit their initial application through Grants.gov. Applicants may need to first create a Grants.gov user profile by visiting the Get Registered section of the Grants.gov website. Successful completion of this step is necessary for DHS/FEMA to determine eligibility of the applicant. Applicants should complete this initial step on-line which requires completing:

- Standard Form 424 (SF-424), Application for Federal Assistance, and
- Grants.gov (GG) Form Certification Regarding Lobbying Form.

Both forms are available in the Forms tab under SF-424 Family. The initial application cannot be started or submitted in Grant.gov unless the applicant's registration in SAM is confirmed.

Application forms and instructions are available at Grants.gov by selecting *Apply for Grants*. Enter the CFDA number or the Opportunity ID Number noted in this NOFO, select *Download Application Package*, and follow the prompts to download the application package. The information submitted in Grants.gov will be retrieved by ND Grants, which will allow DHS/FEMA to determine if an applicant is eligible. **Applicants are encouraged to submit their initial application in Grants.gov at least ten days before the May 19, 2015 application deadline.**

If you need assistance applying through Grants.gov, please go to the Grant Application page, contact support@grants.gov, or call 800-518-4726. *DHS/FEMA cannot assist applicants with questions related to registering with Grants.gov.*

Submitting the Complete Application in Non Disaster Grants System (ND Grants).

Eligible applicants will be notified by DHS/FEMA and asked to proceed with submitting their complete application package in ND Grants. Applicants can register early with ND Grants and are encouraged to begin their ND Grants registration at the time of this announcement. Early registration will allow applicants to have adequate time to start and complete their application.

In ND Grants applicants will be prompted to submit all of the information contained in the following forms. Applicants should review these forms before applying to ensure they have all the information required.

- Standard Form 424A, Budget Information (Non-construction)
- Standard Form 424B, Standard Assurances (Non-construction)
- Standard Form LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

In addition applicants must submit copies of the following in ND Grants:

- Investment Justification
- Budget
- Vulnerability Assessment/Security Plan Certificate (if applicable)
- Standard Form 424C, Budget Information (Construction), if applying to use funds for construction or renovation
- Standard Form 424D, Standard Assurances (Construction) if applying for funds to use for construction; and
- Indirect Cost Agreement

If you need assistance registering for the ND Grants system, please contact ndgrants@fema.gov or (800) 865-4076.

Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number, System for Award Management (SAM), and Authorized Organizational Representative (AOR)
Before you can apply for a DHS grant at Grants.gov, you *must* have a DUNS number and must be registered in the System for Awards Management (SAM).

Obtain a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number
The DUNS number must be included in the data entry field labeled "Organizational DUNS" on the SF-424 form. Instructions for obtaining a DUNS number can be found at the following website: <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration/step-1-obtain-duns-number.html>

The applicant must provide a DUNS number with their application. This number is a required field for all subsequent steps in the application submission. Applicants should verify they have a DUNS number, or take the steps necessary to obtain one.

Applicants can receive a DUNS number at no cost by calling the DUNS number request line at (866) 705-5711. DHS/FEMA cannot assist applicants with questions related to obtaining a current DUNS number.

Obtain an Employer Identification Number (EIN)

DHS/FEMA requires both the EIN and a DUNS number prior to the issuance of a financial assistance award and for grant award payment; both are also required to register with SAM (see below). The EIN base for an organization is the IRS Tax ID number, for individuals it is their social security number, both of which are nine-digit numbers. Organizations and individuals submitting their applications must correctly identify the EIN from the DUNS since both are 9-digit numbers. If these numbers are not correctly identified in the application, this may result in a delay in the issuance of the funding award and/or incorrect payment to a recipient organization.

Organization applicants [applying for an EIN](#) should plan on a minimum of 2 full weeks to obtain an EIN. If you need assistance registering an EIN please contact the [IRS helpline](#). DHS/FEMA cannot assist applicants with questions related to obtaining a current EIN.

Register with the System for Award Management (SAM)

Applicants applying for grant funds electronically through [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) must register with the Federal System for Award Management (SAM). Step-by-step instructions for registering with SAM can be found here:

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration/step-2-register-with-sam.html>. All applicants must register with SAM in order to apply online. Failure to register with the SAM will result in your application being rejected by [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) during the submissions process.

Payment under any DHS/FEMA award is contingent on the recipient's having a current [SAM](http://www.grants.gov) registration. The SAM registration process must be completed by the applicant. It is imperative that the information provided by the applicant is correct and current. Please ensure that your organization's name, address, DUNS number and EIN are up to date in SAM and that the DUNS number used in SAM is the same one used to apply for all other DHS/FEMA awards.

SAM registration is a multi-step process including validating your EIN with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to obtain a Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) code. *The CAGE code is only valid for one year after issuance and must be current at the time of application.*

SAM sends notifications to the registered user via email 60, 30, and 15 days prior to expiration of the SAM registration for the Entity. SAM registration may lapse due to inactivity. To update or renew your Entity records(s) in SAM you will need to create a SAM User Account and link it to your migrated Entity records.

If you need assistance registering, please go to [SAM](http://www.sam.gov) or call 866-606-8220. DHS/FEMA cannot assist applicants with questions related to registering in SAM or obtaining a current CAGE code.

Authorized Organization Representative

The next step in the registration process is creating a username and password with [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) to become an AOR. AORs will need to know the DUNS number of the organization for which they will be submitting applications to complete this process. To read more detailed instructions for creating a profile on [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) visit: <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration/step-3-username-password.html>.

AOR Authorization

After creating a profile on [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov), the E-Biz Point of Contact, (E-Biz POC) a representative from your organization who is the contact listed for SAM, will receive an email to grant the AOR permission to submit applications on behalf of their organization. The E-Biz POC will then log in to [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) and approves an applicant as the AOR, thereby giving him or her permission to submit applications. To learn more about AOR Authorization visit: <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration/step-4-aor-authorization.html>. To track an AOR status visit:

<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration/step-5-track-aor-status.html>.

Applicants are, therefore, encouraged to register early. The registration process can take four weeks or more to be completed. Therefore, registration should be done in sufficient time to ensure it does not impact your ability to meet required submission deadlines. After you have been approved as an AOR you will be able to submit your application online.

Electronic Signature

Applications submitted through [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) constitute a submission as electronically signed applications. The registration and account creation with [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) with E-Biz POC approval, establishes an AOR. When you submit the application through [Grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov), the name of your AOR on file will be inserted into the signature line of the application. Applicants must register the individual who is able to make legally binding commitments for the applicant organization as the AOR; this step is often missed and it is crucial for valid submissions.

DHS/FEMA may not make an IBSGP award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable DUNS and SAM requirements and, if an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time DHS/FEMA is ready to make an award, DHS/FEMA may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award and use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

IBSGP Specific Application Instructions:

Investment Justification (IJ)

As part of the FY 2015 IBSGP application process, applicants must develop a formal IJ that addresses each initiative being proposed for funding, including estimated M&A costs. Applicants may submit up to three investment justifications. These IJs must demonstrate how proposed projects address gaps and deficiencies in current programs and capabilities. The IJ must demonstrate the ability to provide enhancements consistent with the purpose of the program and guidance provided by DHS/FEMA. IBSGP projects must be: 1) both feasible and effective at reducing the risks for which the project was designed; and 2) able to be fully completed within the 3-year period of performance. Applicants must ensure that the IJ is consistent with all applicable requirements outlined in this NOFO.

IJs for all projects must be **completed in full** in order to be considered for funding.

Detailed Budget

The applicant must also provide a detailed budget for the funds requested. The budget must be complete, reasonable, and cost-effective in relation to the proposed project. The budget should provide the basis of computation of all project-related costs, any appropriate narrative, and a detail of all M&A costs. Budgets should also round costs to the nearest whole dollar, and not include cents.

The detailed budget must be submitted with the grant application as a file attachment within <https://portal.fema.gov>. Applicants must use the following file naming convention when submitting required documents as part of the FY 2015 IBSGP:

Legal Name of Bus Company_IJ Number_Budget (Example: ABC Bus Lines_IJ#1_Budget)

When completing the budget, applicants should break costs down to the smallest unit possible. For instance, a fencing project should provide the cost per linear foot of fencing and a closed circuit television (CCTV) project should provide the cost per camera. This will greatly assist the review panel in determining the type and cost effectiveness of the different components of the project.

Additionally, any technical or computer equipment should be described in adequate detail to improve understanding of the function of such devices. The budget narrative section of the application allows applicants the opportunity to describe the purpose and function of project components. Budget narratives should also clearly identify any optional features or capabilities, such as a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit equipped with a panic button. Optional or potential capabilities not clearly identified will be assumed as not being present.

Applicants will find a sample budget detail worksheet in Appendix D - FY 2015 IBSGP Investment Justification and Budget Template. This worksheet may be used as a guide to assist applicants in the preparation of the budget and budget narrative.

Vulnerability Assessment and Security Plan Certification Statement (if applicable)

If an operator already has a current (updated within the last three years) vulnerability assessment and security plan and wishes to apply for other projects, they must certify as such using the certification Appendix.

If applying for other projects, applicants must justify those projects based on the findings and recommendations in their vulnerability assessment and security plan. Applicants that do not tie their proposed projects back to their company specific security plans risk receiving lower scores than applicants that do tie their proposed projects to their security plan.

Intergovernmental Review

An intergovernmental review may be required. Applicants must contact their State's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to comply with the state's process under Executive Order 12372 (see <http://www.fws.gov/policy/library/rgeo12372.pdf>). Name and addresses of the SPOCs are maintained at the Office of Management and Budget's home page at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants_spoc to ensure currency.

Funding Restrictions

Federal funds made available through this award may only be used for the purpose set forth in this award and must be consistent with the statutory authority for the award. Award funds may not be used for matching funds for any other Federal award, lobbying, or intervention in Federal regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings. In addition, Federal funds may not be used to sue the Federal government or any other government entity.

Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (EHP) Compliance

As a Federal agency, DHS/FEMA is required to consider the effects of its actions on the environment and/or historic properties to ensure that all activities and programs funded by the agency, including grants-funded projects, comply with Federal EHP regulations, laws and Executive Orders as applicable. Recipients and subrecipients proposing projects that have the potential to impact the environment, including but not limited to construction of communication towers, modification or renovation of existing buildings, structures and facilities, or new construction including replacement of facilities, must participate in the DHS/FEMA EHP review process. The EHP review process involves the submission of a detailed project description that explains the goals and objectives of the proposed project along with supporting documentation so that DHS/FEMA may determine whether the proposed project has the potential to impact environmental resources and/or historic properties. In some cases, DHS/FEMA is also required to consult with other regulatory agencies and the public in order to complete the review process. The EHP review process must be completed before funds are released to carry out the proposed project. DHS/FEMA will not fund projects that are initiated without the required EHP review.

Additionally, all recipients are required to comply with DHS/FEMA EHP Policy Guidance. This EHP Policy Guidance can be found in FP 108-023-1, [Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation Policy Guidance](#), and FP 108.24.4, [Environmental Planning and Historical Preservation Policy](#)

SAFECOM

Recipients (including subrecipients) who receive awards under IBSGP that wholly or partially provide funding for emergency communication projects and related activities must comply with the most recent version of the SAFECOM Guidance on Emergency Communications Grants. This guidance provides recommendations to recipients regarding interoperable emergency communications projects, including allowable costs, eligible activities, grants management best practices for emergency communications grants, and information on technical standards that ensure greater interoperability. The guidance is intended to ensure that Federally-funded investments are compatible, interoperable, and support the national goals and objectives for improving emergency communications nationwide. Recipients (including subrecipients) investing in broadband-related investments should review [IB 386, Clarification on Use of DHS/FEMA Public Safety Grant Funds for Broadband-Related Expenditures and Investments](#), and consult their DHS/FEMA HQ Program Analyst on such investments before developing applications.

Pre-award Costs

Pre-award costs are allowable only with the prior written approval of DHS/FEMA and if they are included in the award agreement. To request pre-award costs a written request must be included with the application, signed by the Representative of the entity. The letter must outline what the pre-award costs are for, including a detailed budget break-out of pre-award costs from the post-award costs, and a justification for approval.

Direct Costs

Cost Principles

Costs charged to this award must be consistent with the Cost Principles for Federal Awards located at 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E.

Planning

Planning related costs are allowed under this program only as described in this NOFO.

Organization

Organization related costs are allowed under this program only as described in this NOFO.

Equipment

Equipment costs are allowed under this program only as described in this NOFO.

Applicants should analyze the cost benefits of purchasing versus leasing equipment, especially high cost items and those subject to rapid technical advances. Large equipment purchases must be identified and explained. For more information regarding property management standards for equipment, please reference 2 C.F.R. § 200.313, located at http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=c836a011886f180dac489e15c059b1aa&node=sg2.1.200_1309.sg2&rgn=div7.

Training

Training related costs are allowed under this program only as described in this NOFO.

Exercises

Exercise related costs are allowed under this program only as described in this NOFO.

Travel

Domestic travel costs are allowed under this program only as described in this NOFO. International travel is not an allowable cost unless otherwise approved in advance by FEMA.

Construction and Renovation

Construction and renovation costs for modifying terminals, garages, and facilities to increase their security are allowed under this program only as described in this NOFO.

Operational Overtime

Operational Overtime costs are allowed under this program only as described in this NOFO.

Maintenance and Sustainment

Maintenance and sustainment costs are not allowed under this program only as described in this NOFO.

Critical Emergency Supplies

Critical Emergency Supply related costs are not allowed under this program. For additional details on allowable costs under the IBSGP, See Appendix C - FY 2015 IBSGP Funding Guidelines for additional details.

Management and Administration (M&A)

Management and Administration (M&A) costs are allowed under this program. Any M&A costs associated with individual projects submitted for consideration of funding under the FY 2015 IBSGP must be included in the budget for that project. M&A costs associated with managing the overall IBSGP award itself must be accounted for separately. M&A costs may not exceed five percent (5%) of the total grant award.

Indirect (Facilities and Administrative (F&A)) Costs

Indirect costs are allowable under this program as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.414. With the exception of recipients who have never received a negotiated indirect cost rate as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.414(f), recipients must have an approved indirect cost rate agreement with their cognizant Federal agency to charge indirect costs to this award. A copy of the approved rate (a fully executed, agreement negotiated with the applicant's cognizant Federal agency) is required at the time of application, and must be provided to DHS/FEMA before indirect costs are charged to the award.

E. Application Review Information

Criteria

FY 2015 IBSGP applications will be evaluated through a review process for completeness, adherence to programmatic guidelines, and anticipated effectiveness of the proposed investments. This section is a synopsis. For additional information, please see Appendix E – Application Review Information.

Grant projects must be: 1) both feasible and effective at reducing the risks for which the project was designed; and 2) able to be fully completed within the 3-year period of performance.

FEMA will use the information provided in the application, as well as any supporting documentation, to determine the feasibility and effectiveness of the grant project. Information that would assist in the feasibility and effectiveness determination includes the following:

- Scope of work (purpose and objectives of the project, identification of what is being protected)
- Desired outcomes, including expected long-term impact where applicable
- Summary of status of planning and design accomplished to date (e.g. included in a capital improvement plan)
- Project schedule

Grantees are expected to conform, as applicable, with accepted engineering practices, established codes, standards, modeling techniques, and best practices.

Applications requesting funds will be reviewed and selected based on the following criteria:

Funding priorities. Projects will be evaluated and prioritized based on the extent to which they address the specific funding priorities described in this FY 2015 NOFO. The IJ should provide details on specific needs to be addressed, vision, goals, and objectives. It should also provide evidence of how the project fits into an overall effort to meet critical infrastructure security requirements, and how the investment provides significant security impact.

Review Panel Funding Priorities Score: 0-55 points

Cost effectiveness. Projects will be evaluated and prioritized on the expected impact on security relative to the investment. The IJ should provide quantitative evidence of the security impact, as well as justification for the strategic use of the proposed budget. The IJ should reflect robust regional coordination and an investment strategy that institutionalizes regional security strategy integration in the Nation's highest risk metropolitan areas. The project cost levels should be commensurate with the security impact, and the proposed solution should be reasonable and advantageous over other possible solutions.

Possible Review Panel Cost Effectiveness Score: 0-10 points

Ability to reduce risk of catastrophic events. Projects will be evaluated and prioritized on their ability to reduce risk. The IJ should demonstrate an ability to reduce risk, providing quantitative evidence of the project's security impact, consequence of not funding the project, and strategy to address specific risk areas.

Possible Review Panel Risk Reduction Score: 0-15 points

Sustainability without additional Federal funds and leveraging of other funding.

Projects will be evaluated and prioritized regarding the extent to which they exhibit a likelihood of success, or continued success, without requiring additional Federal assistance, as well as offer a long-term sustainability plan.

Possible Review Panel Sustainability Score: 0-10 points

Timelines. Projects will be evaluated and prioritized on the ability of the applicant to complete the proposed project within submitted timeframes. The IJ should provide a timeline and schedule, and demonstrate evidence of ability to complete it within submitted timeline based on proposed strategy, identified implementation challenges, management and resource plan, and reasonableness of anticipated schedule.

Possible Review Panel Timelines Score: 0-10 points

Risk to critical infrastructure. Priority will be given to bus systems serving UASI jurisdictions within the Homeland Security Grant Program and to systems with routes passing through underwater tunnels. This score is calculated by a risk process developed and maintained by TSA and provided separately in accordance with proper Sensitive Security Information (SSI) handling.

Possible Review Panel Critical Infrastructure Score: 0-10 points

Review and Selection Process

Recipients must comply with all administrative requirements described herein — including the submission of IJs, budgets, and other application materials as required. Having met all administrative requirements, the application will be scored based on a methodology that will ensure consistent and accurate evaluations of projects and proposals.

The FY 2015 IBSGP will use risk-based prioritization consistent with DHS policy. The following method of selection will be followed under this program:

The following process will be used to make awards for the program:

- DHS/FEMA will verify compliance with each of the administrative and eligibility criteria identified in the application kit.
- Eligible applications will be reviewed by a National Review Panel (NRP) to determine the risk mitigation and regional collaboration scores. The NRP will consist of Federal officials from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Transportation Security Administration, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Each panelist will independently review each application and score it based on the above criteria outlined using a standard scoring sheet.
- The NRP will meet to review and compare scores with discussion of project criteria. Each panelist will then confirm their final scores. Panelist scores will be averaged to obtain scores for each criteria on each project.

DHS/FEMA will calculate a total score to aid with funding selections. The total score will consist of the sum of the funding priorities score (0-55), cost effectiveness score (0-10), risk reduction score (0-15), sustainability score (0-10), time-line (0-10), and the risk to critical infrastructure score calculated by TSA (0-10).

DHS/FEMA will calculate a total score to aid with funding selections.

- The NRP results, scoring summary, and funding recommendations, will be reviewed by an Executive Committee made up of senior leadership from DHS/FEMA and TSA.
- The output of the Executive Committee review will be the final slate of recommended projects, the associated funding recommendations and official comments and justifications. DHS/FEMA and TSA will brief the final results of the Executive Committee's review, approved projects and funding to senior DHS leadership through multiple briefings. Ultimately, IBSGP authorizing statutes place final funding determinations at the discretion of the Secretary of Homeland Security. The final slate of approved projects will then be forwarded to GPD for final award processing.

Financial Review

The DHS/FEMA headquarters grants management specialists will also conduct a financial risk assessment using the following criteria:

- Allowability, allocability, and financial reasonableness of the proposed budget and investment information.
- If the recipient meets the financial and legal requirements listed in 2 C.F.R. Part 200.

F. Federal Award Administration Information

Notice of Award

Notification of award approval is made through the ND Grants system through an automatic electronic mail to the awardee authorized official listed in the initial application. The "award date" for IBSGP will be the date that DHS/FEMA approves the award. The awardee should follow the directions in the notification to confirm acceptance of the award.

Recipients must accept their awards no later than 90 days from the award date. The recipient shall notify the awarding agency of its intent to accept and proceed with work under the award through the ND Grants system. For instructions on how to accept or decline and award in the ND Grants system, please see pages 40-43 in the [ND Grants Grantee Training Manual](#).

Funds will remain on hold until the recipient accepts the award through the ND Grants system and all other conditions of award have been satisfied, or the award is otherwise rescinded. Failure to accept the grant award within the 90 day timeframe may result in a loss of funds.

Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Successful applicants for all DHS grant and cooperative agreements are required to comply with DHS Standard Administrative Terms and Conditions, which are available online at: <http://www.dhs.gov/publication/fy15-dhs-standard-terms-and-conditions>. Before accepting the award the authorized official should carefully read the award package. The award package contains instructions on administering the grant award, as well as the terms and conditions with which the recipient must comply. Recipients must accept all the conditions in this NOFO as well as all Terms and Conditions in the Notice of Award to receive an award under this program.

Reporting

Recipients are required to submit various financial and programmatic reports as a condition of their award acceptance. Future awards and funds drawdown may be withheld if these reports are delinquent.

Federal Financial Requirements

Federal Financial Report (FFR)

Recipients must report obligations and expenditures on a quarterly basis through the FFR (SF-425) to DHS/FEMA. Recipients must file the FFR electronically using the Payment and Reporting System (PARS). A FFR report must be submitted quarterly throughout the period of performance, including partial calendar quarters, as well as for periods where no grant award activity occurs. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if these reports are delinquent, demonstrate lack of progress, or are insufficient in detail.

Recipients may review the Federal Financial Reporting Form (FFR) (SF-425) here: http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/grants/approved_forms/SF-425.pdf, SF-425 OMB #00348-0061.

Financial Reporting Periods and Due Dates

The following reporting periods and due dates apply for the FFR:

Reporting Period	Report Due Date
October 1 – December 31	January 30
January 1 – March 31	April 30
April 1 – June 30	July 30
July 1 – September 30	October 30

Financial and Compliance Audit Report

For audits of fiscal years beginning on or after December 26, 2014, all recipients other than for-profit entities that expend \$750,000 or more from all Federal funding sources during their fiscal year are required to submit an organization-wide financial and compliance audit report. The audit must be performed in accordance with the requirements of GAO's Government Auditing Standards, located at <http://www.gao.gov/govaud/ybk01.htm>, and the requirements of Subpart F of 2 C.F.R. Part 200, located at <http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=55e12eead565605b4d529d82d276105c&node=2:1.1.2.1.1.6&rgn=div6>.

For audits of fiscal years beginning prior to December 26, 2014, recipients that expend \$500,000 or more from all Federal funding sources during their fiscal year are required to submit an organization-wide financial and compliance audit report. The audit must be performed in accordance with GAO’s Government Auditing Standards, located at <http://www.gao.gov/govaud/ybk01.htm>, and OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations, located at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a133_compliance_supplement_2012.

Program Performance Reporting Requirements

Performance Progress Report (SF-PPR)

Recipients are responsible for providing updated performance reports using the SF-PPR on a biannual basis. Recipients must submit the cover page of the SF-PPR as an attachment to the ND Grants system. The SF-PPR can be accessed online at http://www.na.fs.fed.us/fap/SF-PPR_Cover%20Sheet.pdf.

Performance Reporting Periods and Due Dates

The following reporting periods and due dates apply for the PPR:

Reporting Period	Report Due Date
January 1 – June 30	July 30
July 1 – December 31	January 30

Closeout

DHS/FEMA will close out the grant award when it determines that all applicable administrative actions and all required work of the IBSGP award have been completed by the recipient. This section summarizes the actions that the recipient must take to complete the closeout process in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.343 at the end of the grant’s period of performance or the issuance of a Grant Amendment Notice issued to close out the grant.

Within 90 days after the end of the period of performance, or after an amendment has been issued to close out a grant, whichever comes first, recipients must submit a final FFR and final progress report detailing all accomplishments and a qualitative summary of the impact of those accomplishments throughout the period of performance, as well as the following documentation:

- 1) Final request for payment, if applicable;
- 2) SF-425 –Final Federal Financial Report;
- 3) SF-PPR – Final Performance Progress Report;
- 4) A qualitative narrative summary on the impact of those accomplishments throughout the entire period of performance submitted to the respective Grant Programs Directorate (GPD) HQ Program Analyst in a Word document;
- 5) SF-428 – Tangible Personal Property Report – Inventory of all tangible personal property acquired using funds from this award.

6) Other documents required by program guidance or terms and conditions of the award.

If applicable, an inventory of all construction projects that used funds from this program has to be reported using the Real Property Status Report (Standard Form SF 429) available at http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/grants/approved_forms/sf-429.pdf

Additionally, the recipient must liquidate all obligations incurred under the IBSGP award no later than 90 calendar days after the end date of the period of performance or issuance of a Grant Amendment Notice that closes out the award, whichever comes first. Recipients who do not liquidate their obligations within this time period may have the costs of their unliquidated obligations disallowed. Recipients are also responsible for promptly returning to DHS/FEMA the balance of any funds that have been drawn down, but remain unliquidated.

After these reports have been reviewed and approved by DHS/FEMA, a close-out notice will be completed to close out the grant. The notice will indicate the period of performance as closed, list any remaining funds the recipient has not drawn down that will be deobligated, and address requirements for record retention, and disposition and reporting requirements for any equipment or real property purchased using IBSGP grant funding.

If DHS/FEMA has made reasonable attempts through multiple contacts to close out awards within the required 180 days, DHS/FEMA may waive the requirement for a particular report and administratively close the award. If this action is taken, consideration for subsequent awards to the recipient may be impacted or restricted.

In addition, any IBSGP recipient that issues subgrants to any subrecipients is responsible for closing out those subgrants as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.343. IBSGP recipients must ensure that they complete the closeout of their subgrants in time to submit all necessary documentation and information to DHS/FEMA during the closeout of their own grant award.

G. DHS Awarding Agency Contact Information

Contact and Resource Information

Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID)

CSID is a non-emergency comprehensive management and information resource developed by DHS for grants stakeholders. CSID provides general information on all DHS/FEMA grant programs and maintains a comprehensive database containing key personnel contact information at the Federal, state, and local levels. When necessary, recipients will be directed to a Federal point of contact who can answer specific programmatic questions or concerns. CSID can be reached by phone at (800) 368-6498 or by e-mail at askcsid@dhs.gov, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. EST.

Grant Programs Directorate Grant Operations Division

GPD's Grant Operations Division Business Office provides financial support and technical assistance. Additional guidance and information can be obtained by contacting the DHS/FEMA Call Center at (866) 927-5646 or via e-mail to ASK-GMD@dhs.gov. The Grant Operations division manages, administers, and conducts application budget review, creates the award package, approves, amends and closes out awards.

FEMA Regions

DHS/FEMA Regions may also provide fiscal support, including pre- and post-award administration and technical assistance such as conducting cash analysis, financial monitoring, and audit resolution to the grant programs included in this solicitation. GPD will provide programmatic support and technical assistance. A list of contacts in DHS/FEMA Regions is available online.

Systems Information

Grants.gov. For technical assistance with Grants.gov, please call the Grants.gov customer support hotline at (800) 518-4726.

Non Disaster (ND) Grants. For technical assistance with the ND Grants system, please contact ndgrants@fema.gov or (800) 865-4076.

GPD Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (GPD-EHP)

The DHS/FEMA GPD-EHP Team provides guidance and information about the EHP review process to recipients and sub-recipients. All inquiries and communications about GPD projects or the EHP review process should be sent to gpdehpinfo@fema.gov. EHP Technical Assistance, including the EHP Screening Form, can be found at http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1806-25045-2839/gpd_ehp_screening_form_omb_1660_0115_june_2015.pdf.

Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD)

The Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD) and/or Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) number available for this announcement is: (800) 462-7585.

Hard copies of the NOFO

Hard copies of the NOFO can be downloaded from the common electronic "storefront" Grants.gov.

H. Additional Information

National Preparedness

DHS coordinates with local, state, territory, tribal, and Federal governments as well as the private and non-profit sectors to facilitate an all-of-nation/whole community, risk driven, and capabilities-based approach to preparedness. This risk driven, capabilities-based approach is grounded in the identification and assessment of risk through the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA). For additional

information on the THIRA, please refer to the following website: <http://www.fema.gov/threat-and-hazard-identification-and-risk-assessment>. Information on the National Preparedness System can be found in the National Preparedness System Description (released Nov 2011), which is posted on the DHS/FEMA website at http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1828-25045-9792/national_preparedness_system_2011.pdf. Additional details regarding the National Preparedness System and how it is supported by IBSGP can be found in Appendix B - FY 2015 IBSGP Priorities.

Payments

DHS/FEMA utilizes the DHS/FEMA [Payment and Reporting System \(PARS\)](#) for financial reporting, invoicing and tracking payments.

DHS/FEMA uses the Direct Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer (DD/EFT) method of payment to recipients. To enroll in the DD/EFT, the recipients must complete a Standard Form 1199A, Direct Deposit Form.

Monitoring

Recipients will be monitored on an annual and as needed basis by DHS/FEMA staff, both programmatically and financially, to ensure that the project goals, objectives, performance requirements, timelines, milestone completion, budgets, and other related program criteria are being met.

Monitoring may be accomplished through either a desk-based review or on-site monitoring visits, or both. Monitoring will involve the review and analysis of the financial, programmatic, performance, compliance and administrative processes, policies, activities, and other attributes of each Federal assistance award and will identify areas where technical assistance, corrective actions and other support may be needed.

Conflict of Interest

To eliminate and reduce the impact of conflicts of interest in the subaward process, recipients and pass-through entities must follow their own policies and procedures regarding the elimination or reduction of conflicts of interest when making subawards. Recipients and pass-through entities are also required to follow any applicable state, local, or tribal statutes or regulations governing conflicts of interest in the making of subawards.

The recipient or pass-through entity must disclose to DHS/FEMA, in writing, any real or potential conflict of interest as defined by the Federal, state, local, or tribal statutes or regulations or their own existing policies, that may arise during the administration of the Federal award. Recipients and pass-through entities must disclose any real or potential conflicts to the Program Analyst within five days of learning of the conflict of interest. Similarly, subrecipients must disclose any real or potential conflict of interest to the pass-through entity as required by the Recipient's conflict of interest policies, or any applicable state, local, or tribal statutes or regulations.

Conflicts of interest may arise during the process of DHS/FEMA making a Federal award in situations where an employee, officer, or agent, any members of his or her immediate

family, his or her partner has a close personal relationship, a business relationship, or a professional relationship, with an applicant, subapplicant, recipient, subrecipient, or DHS/FEMA employees.

Extensions

Extensions to this program are allowed.

Extensions to the initial period of performance identified in the award will only be considered through formal, written requests to the recipient's respective HQ Program Analyst and must contain specific and compelling justifications as to why an extension is required. IBSGP recipients are advised to coordinate with the HQ Program Analyst, as needed, when preparing an extension request. All extension requests must address the following:

- 1) Grant Program, Fiscal Year, and award number;
- 2) Reason for delay – this must include details of the legal, policy, or operational challenges being experienced that prevent the final outlay of awarded funds by the applicable deadline;
- 3) Current status of the activity/activities;
- 4) Approved period of performance termination date and new project completion date;
- 5) Amount of funds drawn down to date;
- 6) Remaining available funds, both Federal and non-Federal;
- 7) Budget outlining how remaining Federal and non-Federal funds will be expended;
- 8) Plan for completion, including milestones and timeframes for achieving each milestone and the position/person responsible for implementing the plan for completion; and
- 9) Certification that the activity/activities will be completed within the extended period of performance without any modification to the original Statement of Work, as described in the investment justification and approved by DHS/FEMA.

Recipients must submit all proposed extension requests to DHS/FEMA for review and approval no later than 120 days prior to the end of the period of performance. In accordance with GPD policy, extensions are typically granted for no more than a six month time period.

For more details please review Information Bulletin 379 at <http://www.fema.gov/pdf/government/grant/bulletins/info379.pdf>.

Appendix A – FY 2015 IBSGP UASI-Eligible Urban Areas

State/Territory	Funded Urban Area
Arizona	Phoenix Area
California	Anaheim/Santa Ana Area
	Bay Area
	Los Angeles/Long Beach Area
	Riverside Area
	San Diego Area
Colorado	Denver Area
District of Columbia	National Capital Region
Florida	Miami/Fort Lauderdale Area
	Tampa Area
Georgia	Atlanta Area
Hawaii	Honolulu Area
Illinois	Chicago Area
Maryland	Baltimore Area
Massachusetts	Boston Area
Michigan	Detroit Area
Minnesota	Twin Cities Area
Missouri	St. Louis Area
Nevada	Las Vegas Area
New Jersey	Jersey City/Newark Area
New York	New York City Area
North Carolina	Charlotte Area
Oregon	Portland Area
Pennsylvania	Philadelphia Area
	Pittsburgh Area
Texas	Dallas/Fort Worth/Arlington Area
	Houston Area
Washington	Seattle Area

Appendix B – IBSGP Priorities

The Alignment of IBSGP to the National Preparedness System

The Nation utilizes the National Preparedness System to build, sustain, and deliver core capabilities in order to achieve the National Preparedness Goal (the Goal). The Goal is “a secure and resilient Nation with the capabilities required across the whole community to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk.” The objective of the National Preparedness System is to facilitate an integrated, all-of-Nation, risk informed, capabilities-based approach to preparedness. The guidance, programs, processes, and systems that support each component of the National Preparedness System enable a collaborative, whole community approach to national preparedness that engages individuals, families, communities, private and non-profit sectors, faith-based organizations, and all levels of government (<http://www.fema.gov/whole-community>).

The FY 2015 IBSGP Program contributes to the implementation of the National Preparedness System by supporting the building, sustainment, and delivery of core capabilities. Core capabilities are essential for the execution of critical tasks identified in the National Planning Frameworks for each of the five mission areas outlined in the Goal. Delivering core capabilities requires the combined effort of the whole community, rather than the exclusive effort of any single organization or level of government. The IBSGP Program’s allowable costs support efforts to build and sustain core capabilities across the Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery mission areas.

Emphasis is placed on capabilities that address the greatest risks to the security and resilience of the United States, and the greatest risks along the Nation’s borders. When applicable, funding should support deployable assets that can be utilized anywhere in the Nation through automatic assistance and mutual aid agreements, including but not limited to the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC).

Using the core capabilities, the FY 2015 IBSGP Program supports the achievement of the Goal by:

- Preventing a threatened or an actual act of terrorism;
- Protecting our citizens, residents, visitors, and assets against the greatest threats and hazards;
- Mitigating the loss of life and property by lessening the impact of future disasters;
- Responding quickly to save lives, protect property and the environment, and meet basic human needs in the aftermath of a catastrophic incident; and/or
- Recovering through a focus on the timely restoration, strengthening, and revitalization of infrastructure, housing, and a sustainable economy, as well as the health, social, cultural, historic, and environmental fabric of communities affected by a catastrophic incident.

The core capabilities contained in the Goal are highly interdependent and require the use of existing preparedness networks and activities, improve training and exercise programs, promote innovation, and ensure that the appropriate administrative, finance, and logistics systems are in place.

To support building, sustaining, and delivering these core capabilities, recipients will use the components of the National Preparedness System, which are: Identifying and Assessing Risk; Estimating Capability Requirements; Building and Sustaining Capabilities; Planning to Deliver Capabilities; Validating Capabilities; and Reviewing and Updating. For more information on each component, read the National Preparedness System description available at <http://www.fema.gov/national-preparedness/national-preparedness-system>. Recipients are expected to use the components when using grant funds to address their capability gaps.

Building and Sustaining Capabilities

The FY 2015 IBSGP focuses on the development and sustainment of core capabilities as outlined in the Goal. Particular emphasis will be placed on building and sustaining capabilities that address high consequence events that pose the greatest risk to the security and resilience of the United States and that can be utilized nationwide.

Capabilities are the means to accomplish a mission, function, or objective based on the performance of related tasks, under specified conditions, to target levels of performance. The most essential capabilities are the core capabilities identified in the Goal.

Working together, individuals, government officials, and elected leaders can develop plans to allocate resources effectively and reduce risk. For these plans to be effective, those involved must consider methods to reduce and manage risk as well as how to sustain appropriate levels of capability and address potential gaps in order to achieve the Goal.

Achieving the Goal will require participation and resources from the whole community. Not all capabilities can be addressed in a given local, state, or Federal funding cycle, nor can funding be expected to flow from any one source. Officials must prioritize the achievement of certain capabilities to most effectively ensure their security and resilience while understanding the effects of not addressing other identified needs. Building and sustaining capabilities will include a combination of organizational resources, equipment, training, and education. Consideration must also be given to finding, connecting to, and strengthening community resources by using the expertise and capacity of the whole community: individuals, communities, private and non-profit sectors, faith-based organizations, and all levels of government. Jurisdictions must also use mutual aid agreements to fill needs and work with partners to develop regional capabilities. Ultimately, a jurisdiction may need to rely on other levels of government or partners to address a particular need. This expectation should be communicated well before an event occurs when the capabilities are most urgently needed.

Strengthening Governance Integration

DHS preparedness grant programs are intended to support the core capabilities across the five mission areas of Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery that are necessary to prepare for incidents that pose the greatest risk to the Nation's security. Each program reflects the Department's intent to build and sustain an integrated network of national capabilities across

all levels of government and the whole community. With declining Federal funds available to support these capabilities, disparate governance structures must be integrated and refined to ensure resources are targeted to support the most critical needs of a community based on risk driven, capabilities-based planning. Strong and inclusive governance systems better ensure that disparate funding streams are coordinated and applied for maximum impact.

DHS requires that all governance processes that guide the allocation of preparedness grant funds adhere to the following guiding principles:

- *Prioritization of Investments* – resources must be allocated to address the most critical capability needs.
- *Transparency* – stakeholders must be provided visibility on how preparedness grant funds are allocated and distributed, and for what purpose.
- *Substantive Local Involvement* – the tools and processes that are used to inform the critical priorities, which DHS grants support must include local government representatives. At the state and regional levels, local risk assessments must be included in the overarching analysis to ensure that all threats and hazards are accounted for.
- *Flexibility with Accountability* – recognition of unique preparedness gaps at the local level, as well as maintaining and sustaining existing capabilities.
- *Support of Regional Coordination* – recognition of inter/intra-state partnerships and dependencies at the state and regional level, and within metropolitan areas.

Enhancing Cybersecurity Capabilities

Applicants are encouraged to propose projects to aid in implementation of all or part of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Cyber Security Framework (CSF) when requesting funds for cybersecurity. The CSF is available at

<http://www.nist.gov/cyberframework/upload/cybersecurity-framework-021214-final.pdf>.

The Framework gathers existing global standards and practices to help organizations understand, communicate, and manage their cyber risks. For organizations that don't know where to start, the Framework provides a road map. For organizations with more advanced cybersecurity, the Framework offers a way to better communicate with their leadership and with suppliers about management of cyber risks.

The Department of Homeland Security's Critical Infrastructure Cyber Community C³ Voluntary Program also provides resources to critical infrastructure owners and operators to assist in adoption of the Framework and managing cyber risks. For more information visit

<http://www.us-cert.gov/ccubedvp>.

Appendix C – Funding Guidelines

IBSGP grant recipients and sub-recipients may only use IBSGP grant funds for the purpose set forth in the grant, and must be consistent with the statutory authority for the award. Grant funds may not be used for matching funds for other Federal grants/cooperative agreements, lobbying, or intervention in Federal regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings. In addition, Federal funds may not be used to sue the Federal government or any other government entity.

Pre-award costs are allowable only with the prior written consent of DHS and if they are included in the award agreement.

The following pages outline general allowable and unallowable IBSGP costs guidance.

Allowable Costs

Management and Administration (M&A). M&A Activities are those costs defined as directly relating to the management and administration of IBSGP funds, such as financial management and monitoring. M&A costs may not exceed five percent (5%) of the total grant award. Any M&A costs associated with individual projects submitted for consideration of funding under the FY 2015 IBSGP must be included in the budget for that project. M&A costs associated with managing the overall IBSGP award itself must be accounted for separately. This includes:

- Hiring of full-time or part-time staff or contractors/consultants responsible for activities relating to the management and administration of IBSGP funds
- Meeting-related expenses directly related to M&A of IBSGP funds

Indirect Costs. Indirect costs are allowable only if the applicant has an approved indirect cost rate with its cognizant Federal agency. A copy of the approved rate (a fully executed, agreement negotiated with the applicant's cognizant Federal agency) is required at the time of application. Indirect costs will be evaluated as part of the application for Federal funds to determine if allowable and reasonable.

Equipment

Facility Security Enhancements

FY 2015 IBSGP funds may be used for the following facility security enhancement costs:

- **Capital Projects.** Grant funds may be used on projects that focus on lighting, fencing, securing gates, door access codes, cameras, etc.
- **Full or Part-Time Staff or Contractors/Consultants.** Full or part-time staff or contractors/consultants may be hired to support facility security enhancement-related activities.

Please Note: Camera, video surveillance, and alarm systems MUST either be live monitored 24/7 or have the capability for real-time incident-based monitoring. Systems that do not clearly specify live monitoring in the IJ will not be funded.

Vehicle/Driver Security Enhancements

FY 2015 IBSGP funds may be used for the following costs:

- **Vehicle Security Enhancements** focus on vehicle disabling and anti-theft devices, real-time bus inventory and inventory control, tracking, monitoring, and locating technologies. Driver security enhancements focus on protection for the bus driver to prevent would-be terrorists from immobilizing the driver and/or hijacking the bus. Applicants are discouraged from submitting projects that propose the use of CCTV alone as an on-board deterrent to terrorism. Rather, any cameras should have the capability and protocols in place for incident-based real-time monitoring.
- **Full or Part-Time Staff or Contractors/Consultants.** Full or part-time staff or contractors/consultants may be hired to support security enhancement-related activities.

Please Note: Camera, video surveillance, and panic button systems MUST either be live monitored 24/7 or have the capability for real-time incident-based monitoring. Systems that do not clearly specify live monitoring in the IJ will not be funded.

Other Authorized Expenditure Guidance

- Emergency communications technology that focuses on theft prevention, real-time bus inventory, tracking, monitoring, and locating technologies
- Coordinating with local police and emergency responders to address the response to and recovery from a catastrophic event and/or a terrorist attack
- Training and Exercises that focus on domain awareness and coordinating and preparing for an incident or attack
- Improvement of ticket identification and further implementation of passenger and baggage screening enhancements which utilize an established methodology for screening passengers, their carry-on baggage, and/or their checked baggage, for weapons and/or explosives

Note: Unless otherwise noted, equipment must be certified that it meets required regulatory and/or DHS-adopted standards to be eligible for purchase using these funds. Equipment must comply with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirement for certification of electrical equipment by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, and demonstrate compliance with relevant DHS-adopted standards through a supplier's declaration of conformity with appropriate supporting data and documentation per ISO/IEC 17050, parts 1 and 2. In addition, agencies must have all necessary certifications and licenses for the requested equipment, as appropriate, prior to the request.

Construction and Renovation

For construction costs to be allowed, they must be specifically approved by DHS/FEMA in writing prior to the use of any IBSGP program funds for construction or renovation. Limits on the total amount of grant funding that may be used for construction or renovation may apply. Additionally, recipients are required to submit a SF-424C Budget and Budget detail citing the project costs.

Construction projects are only permitted where they will assist intercity bus agency operators achieve capability targets related to preventing, preparing for, protecting against, or responding to acts of terrorism, including through the alteration or remodeling of existing buildings for the purpose of making them secure against acts of terrorism. All recipients of IBSGP program funds must request and receive approval from DHS/FEMA before any IBSGP program funds are used for any construction or renovation. Additionally, recipients are required to submit a SF-424C Budget and Budget detail citing the project costs. The total cost of any construction or renovation paid for using IBSGP Program funds may not exceed the greater amount of \$1,000,000 or 15% of the IBSGP award. Recipients and sub-recipients are also encouraged to have completed as many steps as possible for a successful EHP review in support of their proposal for funding (e.g., coordination with their State Historic Preservation Office to identify potential historic preservation issues and to discuss the potential for project effects, compliance with all state and EHP laws and requirements). Projects for which the recipient believes an Environmental Assessment (EA) may be needed, as defined in 44 C.F.R. §§ 10.8 and 10.9, must also be identified to the DHS/FEMA Program Analyst within six months of the award and completed EHP review materials must be submitted no later than 12 months before the end of the period of performance. EHP review packets should be sent to gpdehpinfo@fema.gov.

IBSGP Program recipients using funds for construction projects must comply with the *Davis-Bacon Act* (40 U.S.C. § 3141 *et seq.*). Grant recipients must ensure that their contractors or subcontractors for construction projects pay workers employed directly at the work-site no less than the prevailing wages and fringe benefits paid on projects of a similar character. Additional information, including Department of Labor (DOL) wage determinations, is available from the following website: <http://www.dol.gov/compliance/laws/comp-dbra.htm>.

Training

FY 2015 IBSGP funds may be used for the following training activities:

- **Training Workshops and Conferences.** Grant funds may be used to plan and conduct training workshops or conferences including costs related to planning, meeting space and other meeting costs, facilitation costs, materials and supplies, travel, and training plan development.
- **Full or Part-Time Staff or Contractors/Consultants.** Full or part-time staff may be hired to support training-related activities. The services of contractors/consultants may also be procured in the design, development, conduct, and evaluation of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) training.
- **Overtime and Backfill Costs.** Overtime and backfill costs associated with the design, development, and conduct of training are allowable expenses. Payment of overtime expenses will be for work performed by recipient or sub-recipient employees in excess of

the established work week related to the planning and conduct of the training project(s). Furthermore, overtime payments and backfill costs associated with sending personnel to training are allowable, provided that the event being attended is a DHS-approved course. Grant funds cannot be used for personnel or direct salary costs for employees to attend training sessions. Recipients seeking to claim overtime or backfill costs will be required to submit verification. Straight time costs are not eligible expenses.

- **Travel.** Travel costs (i.e., airfare, mileage, per diem, hotel, etc.) are allowable as expenses by employees who are on travel status for official business related to the planning and conduct of the training project(s) or for attending DHS-approved courses. These costs must be in accordance with applicable state law and regulations.
- **Supplies.** Supplies are items that are expended or consumed during the course of the planning and conduct of the training project(s) (e.g., copying paper, gloves, tape, and non-sterile masks)
- **Other Items.** These costs include the rental of space/locations for planning and conducting training, badges, etc. Recipients are encouraged to use free public space/locations, whenever available, prior to the rental of space/locations.

FY 2015 IBSGP funds may be not used for the following training activities:

- Training that is not on the DHS-approved course list
- Personnel costs that are not specifically identified as overtime or backfill
- Food or refreshments during training sessions

When completing a training IJ, please address the following, as applicable:

- Include a course syllabus, curriculum, or topic plan identifying the proposed course material and contents
- Provide the total cost of the training course, the number of participants, and the cost per participant breakdown

Exercises

FY 2015 IBSGP funds may be used for the following exercise activities:

- **Exercise Planning Workshop.** Grant funds may be used to plan and conduct an Exercise Planning Workshop including costs related to planning, meeting space and other meeting costs, facilitation costs, materials and supplies, travel, and exercise plan development
- **Contractors/Consultants.** Contractors/Consultants staff may be hired to support exercise-related activities. The services of contractors/consultants may also be procured to support the design, development, conduct, and evaluation of terrorism exercises.
- **Overtime and Backfill Costs.** Overtime and backfill costs associated with the design, development, and conduct of terrorism exercises are allowable expenses. Payment of overtime expenses will be for work performed in excess of the established work week related to the planning and conduct of the exercise project(s). Further, overtime payments and backfill costs associated with sending personnel to exercises are allowable, provided that the event being attended is a DHS sponsored exercise. Grant funds cannot be used for personnel or straight salary costs for employees to attend exercises.

Recipients seeking to claim overtime or backfill costs will be required to submit verification. Straight time costs are not eligible expenses.

- **Travel.** Travel costs (i.e., airfare, mileage, per diem, hotel, etc.) are allowable as expenses by employees who are on travel status for official business related to the planning and conduct of the exercise project(s). These costs must be in accordance with applicable state law and regulations.
- **Supplies.** Supplies are items that are expended or consumed during the course of the planning and conduct of the exercise project(s) (e.g., copying paper, gloves, tape, non-sterile masks, and disposable protective equipment)
- **Other Items.** These costs include the rental of space/locations for exercise planning and conduct, exercise signs, badges, etc. Recipients are encouraged to use free public space/locations, whenever available, prior to the rental of space/locations.

Unallowable Costs. The following projects and costs are considered **ineligible** for award consideration:

- Hiring of Public Safety Personnel
- General-use Expenditures
- Overtime and Backfill (except as detailed above)
- Initiatives that do not address the implementation of programs/initiatives to build prevention and protection-focused capabilities directed at identified facilities and/or the surrounding communities
- Initiatives in which Federal agencies are the beneficiary or that enhance Federal property
- Initiatives which study technology development
- Proof-of-concept initiatives
- Initiatives that duplicate capabilities being provided by the Federal government
- Organizational operating expenses
- Reimbursement of pre-award security expenses. Expenditures for items such as general-use software (word processing, spreadsheet, graphics, etc.), general-use computers and related equipment (other than for allowable M&A activities, or otherwise associated preparedness or response functions), general-use vehicles, licensing fees, recurring operating costs (e.g., cell phone services, maintenance contracts, etc.), weapons systems, and ammunition
- Activities unrelated to the completion and implementation of projects approved under the IBSGP
- Personnel costs (except as noted under Allowable Training, Exercise, and M&A Costs above)
- Maintenance costs
- Monthly service charges or recurring costs
- Pre-agreement costs (i.e., costs incurred prior to the start of the grant period)
- Other indirect costs (i.e., property purchase, depreciation, or amortization expenses)

Appendix D – IBSGP Investment Justification and Budget Template

Investment Heading	
State	
Bus System Name	
Urban Area(s) Served	
Investment Name	
Investment Phase	
Requested Amount	\$

I. Background

Note: This section only needs to be completed once per application, regardless of the number of investments proposed. The information in this section provides background/context for the investment(s) requested, but does not represent the evaluation criteria used by DHS for rating individual investment proposals. It will also be used to confirm eligibility.

I.A. Identify the bus system and that system’s point(s) of contact (POC) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), as well as the POC and CEO for additional bus systems/partners.

Response Instructions	<p>Identify the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • POC’s name and title; • POC’s full mailing address; • POC’s telephone number; • POC’s fax number; • POC’s email address; • CEO’s name; • CEO’s full mailing address; • CEO’s telephone number; • CEO’s email address; • POC and CEO information (as above) for additional bus systems/partners; and • Include the corresponding information for the single authorizing official for your organization—i.e., the individual authorized to sign a grant award.
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I.B. Describe the extent of your operations in UASI jurisdictions. (Note – this response will help DHS determine your eligibility to participate in the FY 2015 IBSGP.)

Response Instructions	<p>Provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of UASI jurisdictions serviced; • For charter services only, the number of trips annually to each UASI jurisdiction (must be a minimum of 50 trips); and • A source, such as a web site or brochure, which would allow DHS to verify service provided.
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I.C. Describe your system infrastructure and scope of operations for fixed-route services and/or charter services.

Response Instructions	Describe the size of your fleet, including a source (such as a website or
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	<p>brochure) which would allow DHS to verify fleet size.</p> <p>For fixed-route services, address each of the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System Infrastructure; • Area of Operations; • Number of Passengers (Annually); • Number of Miles Driven (Annually); • Number of Employees (Specify categories, such as drivers, administration, management, and mechanics); • Description of Terminals/Bus Lots: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of Terminals/Bus Lots (Owned/Leased and Operated); ○ Location (street address and city) of each Terminal/Bus Lot (within which UASI jurisdiction it is located); • Passenger Traffic for Each Terminal; • Other tenants at Each Terminal (other bus companies);and • Any other important system features. <p>For charter services, address each of the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Company Infrastructure; • Area of Operations; • Number of Passengers (Annually); • Number of Employees (Specify categories, such as drivers, administration, management, and mechanics); • Description of Bus Lots: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of Bus Lots (Owned/Leased and Operated); ○ Location of each Bus Lot (within which UASI jurisdiction it is located); and • Any other important features of the charter service.
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II. Strategic and Program Priorities

II.A. Provide an abstract for this investment.	
Response Instructions	<p>Provide a statement summarizing this investment, addressing the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What bus security risk will the project address? • How will the investment address a transportation security need? • How will the investment enhance overall system security?

II.B. Describe how the investment will address one or more of the Intercity Bus Security Fundamentals.

Response Instructions

- Describe how, and the extent to which, the proposed investment addresses one or more of the following:
 - Development of assessments or security plans
 - Operating and capital costs associated with over-the-road bus security awareness, preparedness, and response training, including training for front-line employees for potential security threats and conditions as well as training developed by institutions of higher education and by non-profit employee labor organizations, for over-the-road bus employees
 - Live or simulated exercises for the purpose of assessing and improving the capabilities of entities to prevent, prepare for, mitigate, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism
 - Public awareness campaigns for enhanced over-the-road bus security
 - Operational costs to hire, train, and employ police and security officers, including canine units, assigned to full-time security or counterterrorism duties related to over-the-road bus transportation, including reimbursement of state, local, and tribal government costs for such personnel. Establishing and improving an emergency communications system linking drivers and over-the-road buses to the recipient's operations center or linking the operations center to law enforcement and emergency personnel.
 - Implementing and operating passenger screening programs for weapons and explosives
 - Protecting or isolating the driver of an over-the-road bus
 - Chemical, biological, radiological, or explosive detection, including canine patrols for such detection
 - Acquiring, upgrading, installing, or operating equipment, software, or accessorial services for collection, storage, or exchange of passenger and driver information through ticketing systems or other means and for information links with government agencies, for security purposes
 - Overtime reimbursement, for enhanced security personnel assigned to duties related to over-the-road bus security during periods of high or severe threat levels, National Special Security Events, or other periods of heightened security as determined by the Secretary of DHS
 - Modifying over-the-road buses to increase their security
 - Installing cameras and video surveillance equipment on over-the-road buses and at terminals, garages, and over-the-road bus facilities
 - Constructing and modifying terminals, garages, and facilities, including terminals and other over-the-road bus facilities owned by state or local governments, to increase their security

Note: If this investment is for a facility security enhancement, you must identify the exact location of the facility.

- Regardless which priority above is addressed through the investment, ensure that your response includes a justification for your approach to accomplishing your goals and objectives. Provide an explanation that considers answering such questions as:
 - Has a security assessment been conducted? If so, identify who conducted the assessment, when it was completed, and summarize the results;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How does the proposed approach achieve the best possible balance of enhanced security and cost effectiveness available to your organization? ○ Other unique, organization-specific factors leading to this project investment?
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III. Impact

III.A. Describe how the implementation of this investment will decrease or mitigate risk. Describe how the project offers the highest risk reduction potential at the least cost. Include output and outcome metrics.

Response Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discuss how this investment will reduce risk (e.g., reduce vulnerabilities or mitigate the consequences of an event) in a cost effective manner by addressing the needs and priorities identified in earlier analysis and review; ● Identify the nature of the risk and how the risk and need are related to show how addressing the need through this investment will also mitigate risk (e.g., reduce vulnerabilities or mitigate the consequences of an event); and ● Outline the expected, high-level impacts this investment is expected to attain or achieve if implemented, and potential negative impacts if the investment is not implemented.
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IV. Funding & Implementation Plan

IV.A. Investment Funding Plan.

Response Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complete the chart below to identify the amount of funding that is being requested for this investment only; ● Funds should be requested by allowable cost categories (as identified in the FY 2015 IBSGP NOFO); ● Applicants must make funding requests that are reasonable and justified by direct linkages to activities outlined in this particular investment; and, ● Applicants must indicate whether additional funding (non-FY 2015 IBSGP) will be leveraged for this investment. <p>Note: Investments will be evaluated on the expected impact on security relative to the amount of the investment (i.e., cost effectiveness). Anitemized Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative must also be completed for this investment. See Sample in this document for a sample format.</p>
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	Federal IBSGP Request	Total Match (Cash or In-Kind)	Grand Total
<i>Facility Security Enhancements</i>			
<i>Enhanced Ticket Identification and Passenger Screening</i>			
<i>Vehicle and Driver Security Enhancements</i>			
<i>Emergency Communications</i>			
<i>Coordination with Local Police and Emergency Responders</i>			
<i>Training</i>			
<i>Exercises</i>			
<i>Development of Vulnerability Assessments/Security Plans</i>			
<i>M&A</i>			
Total			

IV.B. Discuss funding resources beyond this fiscal year's funding that have been identified and will be leveraged to support the implementation of this investment.

Response Instructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss other funding sources (e.g., non-IBSGP grant programs, public or private agreements, future fiscal year grants) that you plan on utilizing for the implementation of this investment; and • If no other funding resources have been identified or if none are necessary, provide rationale as to why the requested FY 2015 IBSGP funding is sufficient for the implementation of this investment.
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IV.D. Provide a high-level timeline, milestones and dates, for the implementation of this investment. Up to 10 milestones may be provided.

Response Instructions	<p>Applicants should supply a timeline indicating the proposed milestones within the project keeping in mind the performance period on the grant is up to 36 months. The sample table below may aid the applicant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only include major milestones that are critical to the success of the investment; • While up to 10 milestones may be provided, applicants should only list as many milestones as necessary to sufficiently describe the project; • Milestones are for this discrete investment – those that are covered by the requested FY 2015 IBSGP funds and will be completed over the 36-month grant period; • Milestones should be kept to high-level, major tasks that will need to occur; • Identify the planned start date associated with the identified milestone. The start date should reflect the date at which the earliest action will be taken to start achieving the milestone; • Identify the planned completion date when all actions related to the milestone will be completed and overall milestone outcome is met; and • List any relevant information that will be critical to the successful completion of the milestone (such as those examples listed in the question text above). • Examples of possible milestones: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Define kill switch implementation plan ○ Complete installation ○ Complete successful test of kill switches
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SAMPLE MILESTONES

Sample Project Milestones	Anticipated Dates
Grant is awarded	Award Date
Recipient works on EHP and Financial clearance	Award Date + 3 months
Recipient receives confirmation that special conditions are released	Release of Funds Date
Recipient works with vendors to obtain GPS Unit contract	Release Date + 1 month
Vendor equips GPS units onto buses	Release Date + 6 months
Recipient trains staff on new GPS units	Release Date + 7 months
GPS Project is complete	Release Date + 9 months
Recipient submits final closeout documents to DHS/FEMA GPD	Release Date + 12 months

A. Sample Budget Detail Worksheet

Purpose. The Budget Detail Worksheet may be used as a guide to assist applicants in the preparation of the budget and budget narrative. You may submit the budget and budget narrative using this form or in the format of your choice (plain sheets, your own form, or a variation of this form). However, all required information (including the budget narrative) must be provided. Any category of expense not applicable to your budget may be deleted.

A. Personnel. List each position by title and name of employee, if available. Show the annual salary rate and the percentage of time to be devoted to the project. Compensation paid for employees engaged in grant activities must be consistent with that paid for similar work within the applicant organization.

Name/Position	Computation	Cost
		\$
Total Personnel		\$

B. Fringe Benefits. Fringe benefits should be based on actual known costs or an established formula. Fringe benefits are for the personnel listed in budget category (A) and only for the percentage of time devoted to the project.

Name/Position	Computation	Cost
		\$
Total Fringe Benefits		\$

C. Travel. Itemize travel expenses of project personnel by purpose (e.g., staff to training, field interviews, advisory group meeting, etc.). Show the basis of computation (e.g., six people to 3-day training at \$X airfare, \$X lodging, \$X subsistence). In training projects, travel and meals for trainees should be listed separately. Show the number of trainees and unit costs involved. Identify the location of travel, if known. Indicate source of any Travel Policies applied.

Purpose of Travel	Location	Item	Computation	Cost
				\$
Total Travel				\$

D. Equipment. List non-expendable items that are to be purchased. Non-expendable equipment is tangible property having a useful life of more than one year. (Note: Organization’s own capitalization policy and threshold amount for classification of equipment may be used). Expendable items should be included either in the “Supplies” category or in the “Other” category. Applicants should analyze the cost benefits of purchasing versus leasing equipment, especially high cost items and those subject to rapid technical advances. Rented or leased equipment costs should be listed in the “Contractual” category. Explain how the equipment is necessary for the success of the project. Attach a narrative describing the procurement method to be used.

Budget Narrative: Provide a narrative budget justification for each of the budget items identified.

Item	Computation	Cost
		\$
Total Equipment		\$

E. Supplies. List items by type (office supplies, postage, training materials, copying paper, and other expendable items such as books, hand held tape recorders) and show the basis for computation. (Note: Organization’s own capitalization policy and threshold amount for classification of supplies may be used). Generally, supplies include any materials that are expendable or consumed during the course of the project.

Supply Items	Computation	Cost
		\$
Total Supplies		\$

F. Consultants/Contracts.

Consultant Fees: For each consultant enter the name, if known, service to be provided, hourly or daily fee (8-hour day), and estimated time on the project.

Budget Narrative: Provide a narrative budget justification for each of the budget items identified.

Name of Consultant	Service Provided	Computation	Cost
			\$
Subtotal – Consultant Fees			\$

Consultant Expenses: List all expenses to be paid from the grant to the individual consultant in addition to their fees (i.e., travel, meals, lodging, etc.)

Budget Narrative: Provide a narrative budget justification for each of the budget items identified.

Item	Location	Computation	Cost
			\$
Subtotal – Consultant Expenses			\$

Contracts: Provide a description of the product or services to be procured by contract and an estimate of the cost. Applicants are encouraged to promote free and open competition in awarding contracts. Any sole source contracts must follow the applicable requirements set forth in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317 through 200.326.

Budget Narrative: Provide a narrative budget justification for each of the budget items identified.

Item	Cost
	\$
Subtotal – Contracts	\$
Total Consultants/Contracts	\$

G. Other Costs. List items (e.g., reproduction, janitorial or security services, and investigative or confidential funds) by major type and the basis of the computation. For example, provide the square footage and the cost per square foot for rent, and provide a monthly rental cost and how many months to rent.

Budget Narrative: Provide a narrative budget justification for each of the budget items identified.

Important Note: If applicable to the project, construction costs should be included in this section of the Budget Detail Worksheet.

Description	Computation	Cost
		\$
	Total Other	\$

H. Indirect Costs. Indirect costs are allowed only if the applicant has a Federally approved indirect cost rate. A copy of the rate approval, (a fully executed, negotiated agreement), must be attached. If the applicant does not have an approved rate, one can be requested by contacting the applicant’s cognizant Federal agency, which will review all documentation and approve a rate for the applicant organization, or if the applicant’s accounting system permits, costs may be allocated in the direct costs categories.

Description	Computation	Cost
		\$
	Total Indirect Costs	\$

Budget Summary - When you have completed the budget worksheet, transfer the totals for each category to the spaces below. Compute the total direct costs and the total project costs. Indicate the amount of Federal funds requested and the amount of non-Federal funds that will support the project.

Appendix E – IBSGP Application Review Information

Review Criteria

The review panel uses the following criteria to score applications. Applicants can score up to 110 points.

Funding priorities. Projects will be evaluated and prioritized based on the extent to which they address the specific funding priorities described in this FY 2015 NOFO. The IJ should provide details on specific needs to be addressed, vision, goals, and objectives. It should also provide evidence of how the project fits into an overall effort to meet critical infrastructure security requirements, and how the investment provides significant security impact.

Review Panel Funding Priorities Score: 0-55 points

Cost effectiveness. Projects will be evaluated and prioritized on the expected impact on security relative to the investment. The IJ should provide quantitative evidence of the security impact, as well as justification for the strategic usage of the proposed budget. The IJ should reflect robust regional coordination and an investment strategy that institutionalizes regional security strategy integration in the Nation’s highest risk metropolitan areas. The project cost levels should be commensurate with the security impact, and the proposed solution should be reasonable and advantageous over other possible solutions.

Possible Review Panel Cost Effectiveness Score: 0-10 points

Ability to reduce risk of catastrophic events. Projects will be evaluated and prioritized on their ability to reduce risk. The Investment Justification should demonstrate an ability to reduce risk, providing quantitative evidence of the project’s security impact, consequence of not funding the project, and strategy to address specific risk areas.

Possible Review Panel Risk Reduction Score: 0-15 points

Sustainability without additional Federal funds and leveraging of other funding. Projects will be evaluated and prioritized regarding the extent to which they exhibit a likelihood of success, or continued success, without requiring additional Federal assistance, as well as offer a long-term sustainability plan.

Possible Review Panel Sustainability Score: 0-10 points

Timelines. Projects will be evaluated and prioritized on the ability of the applicant to complete the proposed project within submitted timeframes. The IJ should provide a timeline and schedule, and demonstrate evidence of ability to complete it within submitted timeline based on proposed strategy, identified implementation challenges, management and resource plan, and reasonableness of anticipated schedule.

Possible Review Panel Timelines Score: 0-10 points

Risk to critical infrastructure. Priority will be given to bus systems serving UASI jurisdictions within the Homeland Security Grant Program and to systems with routes passing through underwater tunnels.

Possible Review Panel Critical Infrastructure Score: 0-10 points

Appendix F - Helpful Hints for Applicants

Are the following components included in the application package?

- SF 424, SF 424A, SF 424B, SF 424C (if applicable), SF 424D (if applicable), and SF LLL
- IJs for projects
- Detailed budgets containing only allowable costs
- Vulnerability Assessment/Security Plan Certification (if applicable)

Are the following items addressed within the Investment Justification narratives and detailed budgets?

- Is the type of service provided easily identifiable in the application package (Fixed-route, Charter, or Both)?
- For charter bus companies, are the number of UASI service areas identified?
- Do the IJ and the detailed budget only include allowable costs?
 - Are all of the expenses in the detailed budget addressed in the IJ narrative? (for example, a camera equipment budget line item should be addressed in narrative form in the IJ as it pertains to the overall security program)
 - Does the information in the detailed budget align with the budget summary in the IJ narrative?
- Do IJs clearly explain how the projects fit into a funding priority area (FPA) (as identified in Part I)?
- Does the IJ detail the value that this investment has in reducing the risk? Does it specify the current state of the company's security program, the gaps that must be filled to reduce risk, and how the project will fill that gap?
- Is the cost effectiveness of the project clearly explained in the IJ? How does this project provide a high security return on investment?
- Are timelines realistic and detailed?
- Does the M&A total no more than five percent (5%) of the total award?
- Do requested amounts in the IJ coincide with the amounts listed in the detailed budget?