



Homeland Security

FY 2015 Homeland Security National Training Program Continuing Training Grants Program

Overview

As appropriated by the *Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015* (Pub. L. 114-4); and authorized by the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (Pub. L. 110-53) (hereafter “9/11 Act”) and the *Homeland Security Act of 2002* (6 U.S.C. § 101 et seq.); the Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Homeland Security National Training Program (HSNTP) Continuing Training Grants (CTG) program provides funding via cooperative agreements to training partners to develop and deliver training to prepare whole communities to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism, and natural, man-made, and technological hazards.

The FY 2015 HSNTP/CTG program plays an important role in the implementation of the National Preparedness System by supporting the building, sustainment, and delivery of core capabilities essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal of a secure and resilient nation. FY 2015 HSNTP/CTG focus areas support presidential, legislative, and departmental priorities for improving security and resilience.

Funding

For FY 2015, the total amount of HSNTP funds available under the CTG program is \$11,521,000 to be used for training in the following focus areas:

- Cybersecurity;
 - Hazardous Materials;
 - Countering Violent Extremism; and
 - Rural Training
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Eligibility

The FY 2015 HSNTP/CTG is an open and competitive funding opportunity, available to entities with existing programs or demonstrable expertise relevant to the focus areas in the funding opportunity announcement to include: state, local, tribal, and territorial entities; nonprofit national associations and organizations; non-profit higher education institutions; and non-profits including community and faith-based organizations. Guidance regarding eligibility can be found in the FY 2015 HSNTP/CTG Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) posted on Grants.gov.

Funding Guidelines

DHS grant funds may only be used 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.

Federal employees are prohibited from serving in any capacity (paid or unpaid) on any proposal submitted under this program. Federal employees may not receive funds under this award.

Key Changes

The FY 2014 Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) contained the following focus areas:

- Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction
- Cybersecurity
- Rural Training
- Medical Readiness/Immediate Victim Care at Mass Casualty Events
- Countering Violent Extremism
- Maturing the Role of Public-Private Partnerships

The FY 2015 NOFO (formerly 'FOA') contains the following focus areas:

- Cybersecurity
- Hazardous Materials
- Countering Violent Extremism
- Rural Training

The key changes regarding the topic of *Rural Training* are as follows:

The FY 2014 rural training topics included:

- Hazardous Materials
- Mass Fatality Planning and Response
- Crisis Management for School Based Incidents
- Development of Emergency Operations Plans
- Bioterrorism Awareness
- Media Engagement Strategies for First Responders

The FY 2015 rural training topics include:

- Hazardous Materials
- Mass Fatality Planning and Response
- Crisis Management for School Based Incidents
- Development of Emergency Operations Plans
- Rail Car Safety
- Agroterrorism and Food/Animal Safety
- Media Engagement Strategies for First Responders

Applications for Rural training must address all seven rural training topics in a single submission.

The HSNTP/CTG application review and scoring guidance has been updated in the FY 2015 HSNTP/CTG NOFO, which can be found on Grants.gov.

Application Process and Evaluation Criteria

Applicants are restricted to one application per focus area but may apply for more than one focus area. Applications are evaluated in the following three areas:

Eligibility check: Applications will be evaluated based on the eligibility criteria in the NOFO. Applicants that do not meet eligibility requirements will be removed from consideration.

Subject Matter Expert (SME) Review and Scoring: Applications will be scored by SMEs using guidance contained in the NOFO. Results of this process will be used to inform a FEMA Review.

FEMA Review: FEMA will review, evaluate, and score all applications.

HSNTP/CTG Resources

There are a variety of resources available to address programmatic, technical, and financial questions which can assist with HSNTP/CTG.

- The FY 2015 HSNTP/CTG NOFO is located online at: <http://www.fema.gov/grants> as well as on <http://www.grants.gov>. CFDA 97.005
- For additional program-specific information, please contact the Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID) help line at (800) 368-6498 or AskCSID@dhs.gov. CSID hours of operation are from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday.
- For financial-related questions, including pre-and post-award administration and technical assistance, applicants may contact the FEMA Grant Programs Directorate Call Center at (866) 927-5646 or via e-mail to ASK-GMD@dhs.gov.