



FEMA

Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 Intercity Bus Security Grant Program (IBSGP) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the purpose of the FY 2016 IBSGP?

The purpose of the FY 2016 IBSGP is to provide funding support for critical infrastructure hardening and other physical security enhancements to operators of intercity bus systems serving the Nation's highest-risk metropolitan areas to create a sustainable program for the protection of those systems and the traveling public from terrorism. The program provides assistance to operators of fixed route intercity and charter bus services in obtaining the resources required to support security measures such as enhanced planning, facility security upgrades, and vehicle and driver protection.

The IBSGP 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. The building, sustainment, and delivery of these core capabilities are not exclusive to any single level of government, organization, or community, but rather, require the combined effort of the whole community. The FY 2016 IBSGP supports core capabilities across the five mission areas of Prevention, Protection, Mitigation, Response, and Recovery based on allowable costs.

2. How much funding is available under the FY 2016 IBSGP?

The total amount of funds distributed under the FY 2016 IBSGP will be \$3,000,000.

3. Who is eligible to apply for FY 2016 IBSGP funds?

Eligible applicants under the FY 2016 IBSGP are 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*. Applicants must either operate fixed route intercity bus transportation providing services to a defined Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) jurisdiction; or, 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 to be eligible. All owner/operators that meet the basic eligibility criteria may apply.

4. What are the key milestones associated with the FY 2016 IBSGP?

The key milestones associated with the FY 2016 IBSGP are:

- February 16, 2016: Release date for the FY 2016 IBSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
- April 25, 2016: Applications for FY 2016 IBSGP due to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

5. How will the FY 2016 IBSGP funds be allocated?

DHS intends to focus its available IBSGP dollars on the highest-risk systems through a competitive process.

Bus companies will compete for funds irrespective of their size and without the use of a tier system. Recipients will be selected through a competitive process based on the ratings of the National Review Panel.

6. What are the changes in funding levels between FY 2015 and FY 2016?

The FY 2016 funding level for the IBSGP has remained unchanged from FY 2015.

7. What legislation authorized funding for the FY 2016 IBSGP?

IBSGP is authorized by Section 1532 of the *Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007*, Public Law No. 110-53, (6 U.S.C. § 1182).

8. Where is the FY 2016 IBSGP NOFO located?

The FY 2016 IBSGP NOFO is located online at <http://www.fema.gov/grants> as well as on www.grants.gov.

9. How will the FY 2016 IBSGP applications be submitted?

Applying for an award under the IBSGP is a multi-step process:

Eligible applicants must submit their initial application through the grants.gov portal at <http://www.grants.gov>. Applicants in need of grants.gov support should contact the grants.gov customer support hotline at (800) 518-4726.

Eligible applicants will be notified by FEMA and asked to proceed with submitting their complete application package in the [Non Disaster \(ND\) Grants System](#). Applicants in need of technical support with the ND Grants System should contact ndgrants@fema.gov or (800) 865-4076.

If applicants have questions regarding the application process, they should contact the FEMA Grant Programs Directorate Call Center at (866) 927-5646.

Completed applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. EDT, April 25, 2016.

10. What other resources are available to address programmatic, technical and financial questions?

- For additional program-specific information, applicants may 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 5:00p.m. EST, Monday through Friday.
- For financial-related questions, including pre-and post-award administration and technical assistance, applicants may contact the FEMA Call Center at (866) 927-5646 or via e-mail to ASK-GMD@dhs.gov.

11. What is the FY 2016 IBSGP period of performance?

The period of performance is thirty-six (36) months.