

Fiscal Year 2021 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP)

In fiscal year (FY) 2021, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is providing \$1.12 billion to enhance the ability of states, local governments, tribes and territories to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from potential terrorist acts and other hazards.

Overview

The FY 2021 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) is one of three grant programs that constitute the DHS/Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA’s) focus on enhancing the ability of state, local, tribal and territorial governments, as well as nonprofits, to prevent, protect against, respond to and recover from terrorist attacks. These grant programs are part of a comprehensive set of measures authorized by Congress and implemented by DHS to help strengthen the nation’s communities against potential terrorist attacks. HSGP is composed of three grant programs:

- State Homeland Security Program (SHSP);
- Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI); and
- Operation Stonegarden (OPSG).

Funding

In FY 2021, the total amount of funds under the HSGP is \$1.12 billion. Below is the funding distribution across the three grant programs:

HSGP Programs	FY 2021 Allocation
State Homeland Security Program	\$415,000,000
Urban Area Security Initiative	\$615,000,000
Operation Stonegarden	\$90,000,000
Total	\$1,120,000,000



Eligibility

The State Administrative Agency (SAA) is the only entity eligible to submit HSGP applications to FEMA, including those applications submitted on behalf of UASI and OPSG applicants. All 56 states and territories, which includes any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, are eligible to apply for SHSP funds. A list of eligible urban areas can be found in the FY 2021 HSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). Tribal governments may not apply directly for HSGP funding. However, funding may be available to tribes under SHSP and OPSG through the SAA.

Eligible high-risk urban areas for the FY 2021 UASI program have been determined through an analysis of relative risk of terrorism faced by the 100 most populous metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) in the United States. Subawards will be made by the SAA to the designated urban areas identified in the FY 2021 HSGP NOFO. In the Joint Explanatory Statement accompanying the FY 2021 DHS appropriations act, Congress again expressed its intent that the DHS Secretary fund up to 85 percent of nationwide risk in the UASI program. In accordance with that intent, the Secretary designated 31 urban areas eligible for funding under the UASI program.

Under the FY 2021 OPSG, subrecipients eligible to apply for and receive a sub-award directly from the SAA are divided into three tiers.

- Tier 1 entities are local units of government at the county level or equivalent and federally recognized tribal governments that are on a physical border in states bordering Canada, states bordering Mexico, and states and territories with international water borders.
- Tier 2 eligible subrecipients are those not located on the physical border or international water border but are contiguous to a Tier 1 county.
- Tier 3 eligible subrecipients are those not located on the physical border or international water border but are contiguous to a Tier 2 eligible subrecipient. The tier structure is only applicable with regard to eligibility. OPSG funding allocations are based on the assessed border security risks as determined by the U.S. Border Patrol.

Funding Guidelines

The FY 2021 allocation process for SHSP, UASI and OPSG will be as follows:

SHSP Allocations

For FY 2021, FEMA will award SHSP funds based on risk as determined by FEMA's relative risk methodology pursuant to the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, as amended. Final allocations are published in the FY 2021 HSGP NOFO.

UASI Allocations

For FY 2021, FEMA will award UASI funds based on risk as determined by FEMA's relative risk methodology pursuant to the *Homeland Security Act of 2002*, as amended. Final allocations are published in the FY 2021 HSGP NOFO.

OPSG Allocations

For FY 2021, FEMA will award OPSG funds based on risk and the anticipated effectiveness of the proposed use of grant funds. The FY 2021 OPSG risk assessment is designed to identify the risk to border security and to assist with the distribution of funds for the grant program. Entities eligible for funding are the state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies that are located along the border of the United States. Final award amounts will be based on FEMA's evaluation of the effectiveness of proposed investments and projects.

National Priority Areas for SHSP and UASI

SHSP and UASI applicants are required to submit an Investment Justification (IJ) for each of the following five National Priority Areas and their associated minimum spend requirements:

1. Enhancing cybersecurity – 7.5 percent;
2. Enhancing the protection of soft targets/crowded places – 5 percent;
3. Enhancing information and intelligence sharing and cooperation with federal agencies, including DHS – 5 percent;
4. Combating domestic violent extremism – 7.5 percent; and
5. Addressing emerging threats (e.g., transnational criminal organizations, unmanned aircraft systems [UASs], weapons of mass destruction [WMDs], etc.) – 5 percent.

All projects related to the National Priority Areas **must** be included in the IJ. Further, each SHSP and UASI applicant must dedicate the minimum spend (identified above) as a percentage of the total SHSP and UASI allocation per National Priority Area, for a total of 30% per SHSP and UASI award. For complete details on the FY 2021 HSGP allocation process, see the FY 2021 HSGP NOFO.

Application Process

Applying for an award under the HSGP is a multi-step process. Applicants are encouraged to register early as the registration process can take four weeks or more to complete. Registration should be done in sufficient time to ensure it does not impact your ability to meet required submission deadlines. Please refer to Section D in the FY 2021 HSGP NOFO for detailed information and instructions.

Eligible applicants must submit their initial application through the grants.gov portal at www.grants.gov. Applicants needing grants.gov support should contact the grants.gov customer support hotline at (800) 518-4726 24 hours per day, 7 days per week except federal holidays.

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 needing technical support with the ND Grants System should contact ndgrants@fema.dhs.gov or (800) 865-4076, Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET.

Completed applications must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. ET on May 14, 2021.

HSGP Resources

There are a variety of resources available to address programmatic, technical, and financial questions, which can assist with HSGP:

- The FY 2021 HSGP NOFO is located online at www.fema.gov/grants as well as www.grants.gov.
- The FEMA [Preparedness Grants Manual](#) is located online at www.fema.gov/grants.
- For additional program-specific information, please contact the Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID) help line at (800) 368-6498 or AskCSID@fema.dhs.gov. CSID hours of operation are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday.
- For support regarding financial grants management and budgetary technical assistance, applicants may contact the FEMA Award Administration Help Desk via e-mail at ASK-GMD@fema.dhs.gov.