

# Fiscal Year 2021 Port Security Grant Program

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## 1. What is the purpose of the FY 2021 PSGP?

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Port Security Grant Program (PSGP) is one of four grant programs that constitute the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) focus on transportation infrastructure security activities. These grant programs are part of a comprehensive set of measures authorized by Congress and implemented by DHS to help strengthen the Nation's critical infrastructure against potential terrorist attacks. PSGP provides funds to state, territorial, local, and private sector partners to support increased port-wide risk management and protect critical surface transportation infrastructure from acts of terrorism.

## 2. What legislation authorized funding for the FY 2021 PSGP?

Section 102 of the *Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002* (Pub. L. No. 107-295), codified as amended (46 U.S.C. § 70107). PSGP funding was appropriated by Congress in the *Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2021* (Pub. L. No. 116-260).

## 3. How much funding is available under the FY 2021 PSGP?

The total amount of funds distributed under the FY 2021 PSGP will be \$100 million.

## 4. What are the changes in funding levels between FY 2020 and FY 2021?

The FY 2021 funding level for the PSGP is the same as FY 2020.

## 5. Where is the FY 2021 PSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) located?

The FY 2021 PSGP NOFO is located online at [www.fema.gov/grants](http://www.fema.gov/grants) as well as [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

## 6. Who is eligible to apply for FY 2021 PSGP funds?

All entities subject to an Area Maritime Security Plan, as defined by 46 U.S.C. § 70103(b), may apply for PSGP funding. Eligible applicants include, but are not limited to, port authorities, facility operators, and state and local government agencies.

Any ferry system electing to participate and receive funds under the FY 2021 PSGP will not be eligible to participate in the FY 2021 Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP) and will not be considered for funding under the FY 2021 TSGP. Likewise, any ferry system that participates in the TSGP will not be eligible for funding under the PSGP.

## 7. What is meant by “facility operator” as an eligible entity?

A facility operator owns, leases, or operates any structure or facility of any kind located in, on, under, or adjacent to any waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. Examples of facility operators



include, but are not limited to, terminal operators, ferry systems, bar/harbor pilots, and merchant's exchanges.

## 8. What types of security-related activities are allowable under PSGP?

Allowable activities and costs will generally fall under one of the following categories:

- Planning
- Operational Activities, including Operational Packages
- Equipment and Capital Projects
- Training and Awareness Campaigns
- Exercises
- Maintenance and Sustainment

Please refer to the [Preparedness Grants Manual](#) for detailed information on these allowable cost categories.

## 9. What makes a strong Investment Justification (IJ)?

- Clearly identified risks, vulnerabilities, and consequences;
- Description of findings from a previously conducted vulnerability assessment;
- Details of any incident(s) including description, dates etc.;
- A brief description of any supporting documentation (such as police reports or photographs) that is submitted as part of the application, if applicable;
- Explanation of how the investments proposed will mitigate or address the vulnerabilities identified from a vulnerability assessment;
- Establish a clear linkage with investment(s) and core capabilities (See [National Preparedness Goal](#));
- Verify all proposed activities are allowable costs per the FY 2021 TSGP NOFO;
- Realistic milestones that consider the [Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation \(EHP\)](#) review process, if applicable; and
- Description of the project manager(s) level of experience.

## 10. How will the FY 2021 PSGP applications be submitted?

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

Eligible applicants must submit their initial application at least seven days prior to the final application submission through the grants.gov portal at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). Applicants needing 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 needing technical support



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with the ND Grants System should contact [ndgrants@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:ndgrants@fema.dhs.gov) or (800) 865-4076, Monday through 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.

#### **11. What are the key dates associated with the FY 2021 PSGP?**

- February 25, 2021: Release date for FY 2021 PSGP NOFO.
- May 14, 2021, 5 p.m. ET: Applications for the FY 2021 PSGP due to FEMA.

#### **12. How will the FY 2021 PSGP funds be allocated?**

PSGP recipients will be selected for funding through a competitive review process as outlined in the FY 2021 PSGP NOFO. Applicants will receive a 20% increase to their scores for addressing the Cybersecurity National Priority Area in their IJs.

#### **13. What is the FY 2021 PSGP period of performance?**

The period of performance is 36 months.

#### **14. What other resources are available to address programmatic, technical and financial questions?**

- 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](mailto: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 DHS/FEMA Award Administration Help Desk via e-mail at [ASK-GMD@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:ASK-GMD@fema.dhs.gov).



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