2024 Homeland Security Grant Program Priorities

Each year federal Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) application guidance requires the state to identify priorities toward which we intend to direct funding. The federal guidance outlines required areas where grant dollars must be invested; encourages focus on the priorities identified in the National Preparedness Report; and directs the state to support projects that will close critical capability gaps in West Virginia. All HSGP projects must have a nexus to terrorism. The National Priority Areas, State Priorities, and other allowable uses for FY 24 are listed below.

National Priority Areas

Program Priority	Example Projects
Cybersecurity: Projects that will build resilience in government and private networks and systems; improve the ability of the whole community to share and receive timely and effective cybersecurity and cyber defense information; synchronize cyber activities for prevention and response; and coordinate internal and external cyber response activities.	• Network assessments • Plan/procedure development • Firewalls; Network equipment • Specialized software • Cybersecurity training
Combating Domestic Violent Extremism: Projects that allow for analysis of misinformation campaigns, targeted violence and threats to life, and social media threats; sharing and leveraging of intelligence and information; implementation of threat assessment programs to identify, evaluate, and analyze indicators and behaviors indicative of domestic violent extremists.	• Societal Awareness programs • Threat Assessments • Recidivism, Reduction, & Reintegration • Training Programs
Protecting Soft Targets & Crowded Spaces: Projects that will enhance security, reduce risk, limit incident impacts, and build resilience at public spaces that are accessible to large numbers of people, including sports venues, commercial locations, schools, and transportation systems.	• Physical Security Enhancements • Security Cameras • Lighting • Access Controls • Fencing, Gates, Barriers
Intelligence & Information Sharing: Projects that provide timely, accurate and actionable information resulting from planning, direction, collection, processing, analysis, dissemination, and feedback of available information concerning threats to the state and nation. This would include the ability to exchange intelligence, data, or knowledge among the government and private sector.	• Intelligence Fusion Center • Coordination among analytical and investigative entities • License Plate Readers • Suspicious Activity Reporting Threat Recognition and Analysis
Enhancing Community Preparedness & Resilience: Projects that improve a community's ability limit the impact of disasters, and to respond and recover when incidents occur.	• Volunteer training • Commodity Distribution • Household Financial Preparedness • Emergency Notification
Election Security: Projects that allow for a safe and reliable election including planning, training, and equipment to secure voting machines and other apparatus, and to enable safe voting precincts.	• Cameras where election equipment is stored • Electronic poll books • Security training • Security measures at voting locations and election offices/counting centers

State Priorities

To maintain and improve our homeland security protection and readiness, the state has identified specific gaps in these areas and will also prioritize funding for these types of projects.

- Law Enforcement Specialized Teams equipment and training
- Forensic Analysis and Attribution
- State Interoperable Radio Network (SIRN) network access and equipment
- Unmanned Aerial Systems
- Point of Dispensing/Distribution Management resources
- Stop the Bleed resources
- Regional Response Team training and equipment
- Community/Public notification and warning
- Maintenance and sustainment of equipment purchased in previous grant cycles

Other Allowable Uses

Homeland Security funding can be used to help build, sustain, and validate the range of core capabilities in the five mission areas of the National Preparedness System. Additional information is available at: https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/national-preparedness/goal

Some examples of allowable uses include:

- Inspection and screening systems
- Hazardous Materials response
- Emergency power for critical facilities
- Specialized vehicles (general use vehicle are not allowable)
- Pedestrian and vehicular traffic control
- Information Technology – hardware, software, network security, broadband access, audio/video conferencing capability
- Emergency Operations Center and other incident management equipment and procedures
- Swiftwater rescue equipment
- Fatality Management resources
- Animal Management resources
- Critical emergency supplies
- Training and exercises expenses in a broad array of areas (ICS position specific courses, National Qualification System, HSEEP, resource management/mobilization, debris management, and so forth)

Any question on the allowability of a particular project, can be sent to HSSAA@wv.gov or call (304) 558-5380.

Unallowable Uses

The following equipment and activities are not allowable with Homeland Security Grant Program funding.
- Acquisition or rental of general use vehicles
- Weapons and weapons accessories, including ammunition, grenade launchers, or bayonets
- Weaponized aircraft, vessels, or vehicles of any kind with weapons installed.