



Fact Sheet

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2026 COPS Office School Violence Prevention Program

The **COPS Office School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP)** is a competitive award program designed to provide funding directly to states, units of local government, Indian tribes, and their public agencies (school districts, including public charter schools and school districts with a single school, school boards, and law enforcement agencies) to improve security at schools and on school grounds in the recipient's jurisdiction through evidence-based school safety programs. In FY 2025, the COPS Office awarded more than \$73 million in SVPP funds to 211 agencies benefiting more than 44,405 schools and more than 2,054,311 students.

WHEN: Deadline for first part of application in Grants.gov is **August 4, 2026**, at 4:59 p.m. ET. Deadline for completed application in JustGrants is **August 11, 2026**, at 4:59 p.m. ET.
Start EARLY. Each of these is more than a one-day process.

WHERE: **1.** Register at www.grants.gov.
2. Complete the application in the [JustGrants Justice Grants System](#).

HOW: Online only. No hard copies sent by U.S. Mail or electronic copies sent via email.

PROGRAM WEBSITE:
<https://cops.usdoj.gov/svpp>

Funding provisions

- Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 10551(b)(5)–(9), SVPP funding is authorized and available under the following purpose areas:
 - “Coordination with local law enforcement”
 - “Training for local law enforcement officers to prevent school violence against others and self”
 - “Placement and use of metal detectors, locks, lighting, and other deterrent measures”
 - “Acquisition and installation of technology for expedited notification of local law enforcement during an emergency”
 - “Any other measure that, in the determination of the director of the COPS Office, may provide a significant improvement in security”
- Up to \$73,000,000 is available for the FY 2026 SVPP.
- Each award is three years (36 months) in duration.
- Each award recipient may receive a maximum federal share of \$500,000.
- Approximately \$1 million of the available funding will be reserved for microgrants of up to \$100,000 for school districts, including rural, tribal, and low-resourced schools.

- Agencies are required to contribute a cost share (matching funds) of at least 25 percent toward the total cost of the approved project during the award period, which must be in the form of cash unless a local cost share (matching funds) waiver is approved. Note: The COPS Office will waive the 25 percent local cost share (matching funds) requirement for microgrant applicants that are selected for funding.

Note: Applicants seeking to address school violence through other measures may wish to review the Notices of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Students, Teachers, and Officers Preventing (STOP) School Violence programs.

- A state, unit of local government, or Indian tribe may use the COPS Office SVPP award to contract with or make one or more subawards to
 - “local educational agencies”;
 - “nonprofit organizations (excluding schools)”;
 - “units of local government”;
 - “tribal organizations”.

Note: Individual schools not operating as school districts and independent schools and private schools, including private charter schools, are NOT eligible to apply as primary applicants.

Additional Applicant Eligibility Factors

- Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. §§ 10552(a)(1)–(2), each application shall be accompanied by an assurance that the application was prepared after consultation with individuals not limited to law enforcement officers (including licensed mental health professionals, social workers, students, parents, school violence researchers/academics (if practical), teachers, principals, and other school personnel) to ensure that the improvements to be funded under the grant are
 - consistent with a comprehensive approach to preventing school violence including being protective of student privacy and ensuring that students are not discriminated against on the basis of race, national origin, disability, religion, or sex, and
 - individualized to the needs of each school at which those improvements are to be made.

- State and local governmental entities must comply with 8 U.S.C. §1373, which provides that State and local government entities may not prohibit, or in any way restrict, any government entity or official from sending to, receiving from, maintaining, or exchanging information regarding citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual with components of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or any other federal, state or local government entity. This includes any prohibitions or restrictions imposed or established by a State or local government entity or official.

Priority Consideration

Additional consideration will be provided to

- Applicants that did not receive funding under SVPP in FY23–FY25;
- Applicants that faced an unanticipated catastrophic event;
- Agencies that coordinate and participate with the Homeland Security Task Force (HSTF) (<https://hstf.gov/>) or, if awarded, plan to coordinate and participate with the HSTF (law enforcement applicants only);
- State and local agencies that cooperate with federal law enforcement to address illegal immigration;
- State, local, and tribal agencies that submit accurate race and ethnicity information in the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) for each offender, victim, and arrestee involved in each incident;
- Agencies where each primary and secondary school impacted by the proposed SVPP program have comprehensive school safety plans that promote the use of mental health professionals and resources.

How to apply

Before you begin: SAM. Confirm your entity’s System of Award Management (SAM) registration. Register with SAM or confirm that your existing SAM registration is active and accurate.

Confirm that the contact information (name and email address) of your entity’s electronic business point of contact (E-Biz POC) in SAM is accurate.

Step 1: Grants.gov. Register with Grants.gov or confirm your existing registration.

Submit the first part of your application in Grants.gov.

Deadline to complete this step is August 4, 2026 at 4:59 p.m. ET.

Step 2: JustGrants. Onboard your agency to the JustGrants Justice Grants system.

Complete and submit the second part of your application in JustGrants (<https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov>).

Further instructions and explanations of the application process can be found on the COPS Office website at <https://cops.usdoj.gov>. Also see the DOJ Grant Application Submission Checklist (<https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/training/checklist-application-submission>).

Complete application packages for the FY 2026 COPS Office SVPP solicitation are due by **August 11, 2026 at 4:59 p.m. ET**. Applications in hard or electronic format sent via email or U.S. Mail will not be accepted.

Contact the COPS Office

For more information about COPS Office programs and resources, please contact the COPS Office Response Center by phone at 800-421-6770 or by email at askCOPSRC@usdoj.gov.