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Indiana Secured School Safety Grant (SSSG) Program

Strategies to Strengthen Your Proposal

Today's Presenters



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TODAY'S AGENDA

01 | Understanding the Indiana Secured School Safety Grant Program (SSSG)

02 | Evaluating if SSSG is right for you

03 | Preparing a competitive SSSG proposal

04 | Engaging with Grants Office services

05 | Q&A



Understanding the Indiana Secured School Safety Grant (SSSG) Program

Indiana Secured School Safety Grant Program (SSSG)



Description

Established in 2013 as a state-funded initiative with over $187 million awarded to date.

Purpose - to help schools address safety threats and improve security through targeted investments.

Funds can be used for hiring School Resource Officers (SROs), purchasing safety technology, initiating active event warning systems, and implementing student safety management programs.

Funding Amount
Approximately $27.1 million in matching grants available in FY26-27.

Individual awards: Range from $35,000 - $100,000 with varied match percentages based on student enrollment.

Eligibility Notes
Indiana school corporations, accredited non-public (private) schools, charter schools, and consortia of school corporations.

Virtual schools and virtual charter schools are not eligible for SSSG funds.

Deadline
Anticipated Summer 2026

find this grant on GRANTS OFFICE COMMUNITIES

Primary Funding Categories

School Resources Officers / Law Enforcement Presence



Safety Equipment & Technology

Safety Training

Threat Assessment & Prevention Program

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Primary Funding Categories & Eligible Project Types

School Resources Officers / Law Enforcement Presence

SRO/LEO & Canine
Site Vulnerability Assessments & Critical Incident Digital Mapping

Safety Training

Training
Site Vulnerability Assessments & Critical Incident Digital Mapping



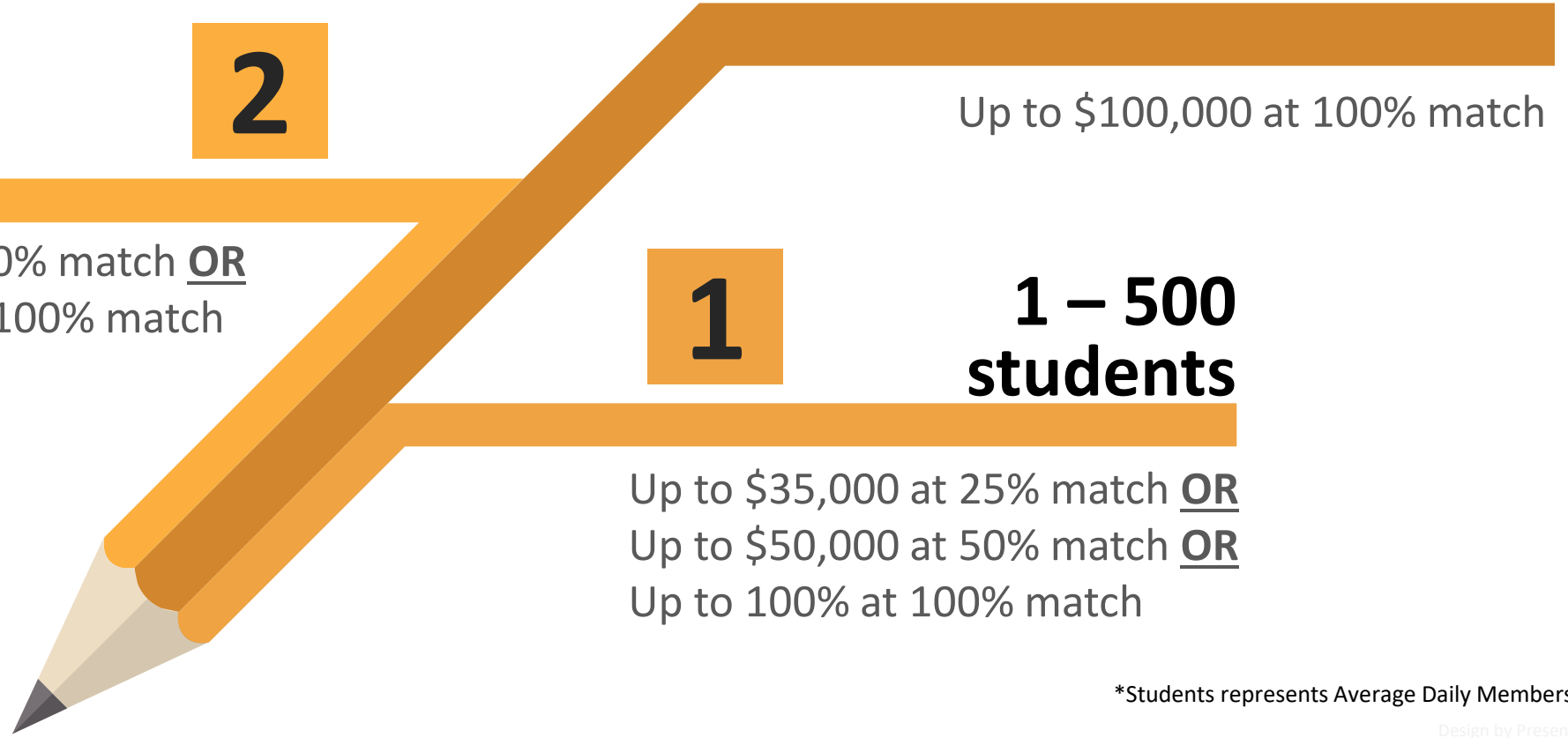
Safety Equipment & Technology

Equipment, Hardware, Materials, & Technology
Site Vulnerability Assessments & Critical Incident Digital Mapping
Active Event Warning System
Design & Construction
Bleeding Control Kits

Threat Assessment & Prevention Program

Student & Parent Support Services Plan (SPSSP)
Post-School Shooting Counseling Services
Bullying Prevention
Site Vulnerability Assessments & Critical Incident Digital Mapping

Award Information & Matching Funds



3 **> 1,000 students or coalition of schools**

Up to $100,000 at 100% match

2 **501 – 1,000 students**

Up to $50,000 at 50% match **OR**
Up to $100,000 at 100% match

1 **1 – 500 students**

Up to $35,000 at 25% match **OR**
Up to $50,000 at 50% match **OR**
Up to 100% at 100% match

*Students represents Average Daily Membership (ADM)

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Matching Funds Examples

01

Small Rural School

- ADM = 400 students
- Goal: Install new security cameras costing $35,000
- ADM under 500 -> 25% match
- Award: $26,250 / Match $8,750

01

Mid-Sized Suburban School

- ADM = 850 students
- Goal: Hire part-time SRO for $50,000
- ADM between 501-1,000 -> 50% match
- Award: $25,0000 / Match $25,000

01

Large Urban School District or Coalition

- ADM = 2,500 students (or coalition of 3 small schools)
- Goal: Maximum security overall costing $200,000
- ADM over 1,000 or coalition -> 100% match
- Award: $100,000 / Match $100,000

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Evaluating if SSSG is right for you

County School Safety Commission

Typically includes law enforcement, school leaders, and community members.

What do county school safety commissions do?

- Conduct/review school safety and threat assessments
- Develop/update emergency response plans
- Coordinate with local police/fire on school safety protocols
- Review incidents or trends and recommend improvements



County School Safety Commission

You may already have one if your county:

1. Holds regular school safety or threat assessment meetings with law enforcement
2. Has a formal committee focused on school safety planning
3. Shares coordinated safety plans or guidance across districts

If unsure, contact your local law enforcement agency or county officials to confirm your county's status.





Mental Health Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Schools must have a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with a **community mental health center** or **state-licensed provider** and must be certified by IDHS before applying.

Agreement must provide mental or behavioral health services directly to students.

For further questions, contact

IDHS Grants Team:

grants@dhs.in.gov (317) 232-3980



Examples of Eligible Mental or Behavioral Health Services

- Contract with local mental health agency
- School-based therapist partnership
- Tele-mental health services agreement
- Behavioral health provider for Tier 2 or Tier 3 MTSS supports
- Mobile crisis response partnerships
- Substance use or trauma-focused counseling services

Site Vulnerability Assessment

A formal **Site Vulnerability Assessment** is required for every school building in use and results of assessment must be officially certified by IDHS.

For further questions, contact IDHS Grants Team:

grants@dhs.in.gov (317) 232-3980



Requirements of Site Vulnerability Assessment

- Physical security review of entire campus
- Interior safety & emergency preparedness
- Surveillance & communication systems
- Access control & movement patterns
- Emergency response capacity
- Threat identification & behavioral risk considerations
- Documentation & corrective action plan



Preparing a competitive SSSG application

Mandatory Registrations

IntelliGrants Registration

Ensure your organization is registered in the IntelliGrants, the state's grants management system (GMS).

Tip: Do this *first!*

State Bidder/Supplier Status

Ensure your organization is an active bidder and supplier within the state:

Tip: Visit the link above to check as soon as possible.

Pre-Application Eligibility Certifications

Site Vulnerability Assessment

Mental Health MOU

County School Safety Commission

Tip: Acquire documentation early!

Building a Competitive SSSG Application

1 Tie Need to Site Vulnerability Assessment

Link all requests directly to IDHS-certified assessment findings and cite specific security gaps (not general safety concerns).

2 SMART, Outcome-Focused Objectives

Establish SMART goals aligned with IDHS-approved categories (e.g., SRO funding, student support services, technology) to measurable improved safety and response capacity.

3 Phased Implementation Plan

Execute phased project schedule from IDHS-approved procurement to final deployment to ensure all installation, training, and evaluations are completed within the SSSG performance period.

4 Detailed, Line-Item Budget

Align unit costs and project categories directly with IntelliGrants budget fields; utilize current vendor proposals to demonstrate cost-reasonableness and immediate project readiness for the performance period.

Maximizing Competitive Edge

Stakeholder Support

Include additional letters of support from local law enforcement, school board, or community partners to demonstrate a full collaborative commitment

1

Match Awareness

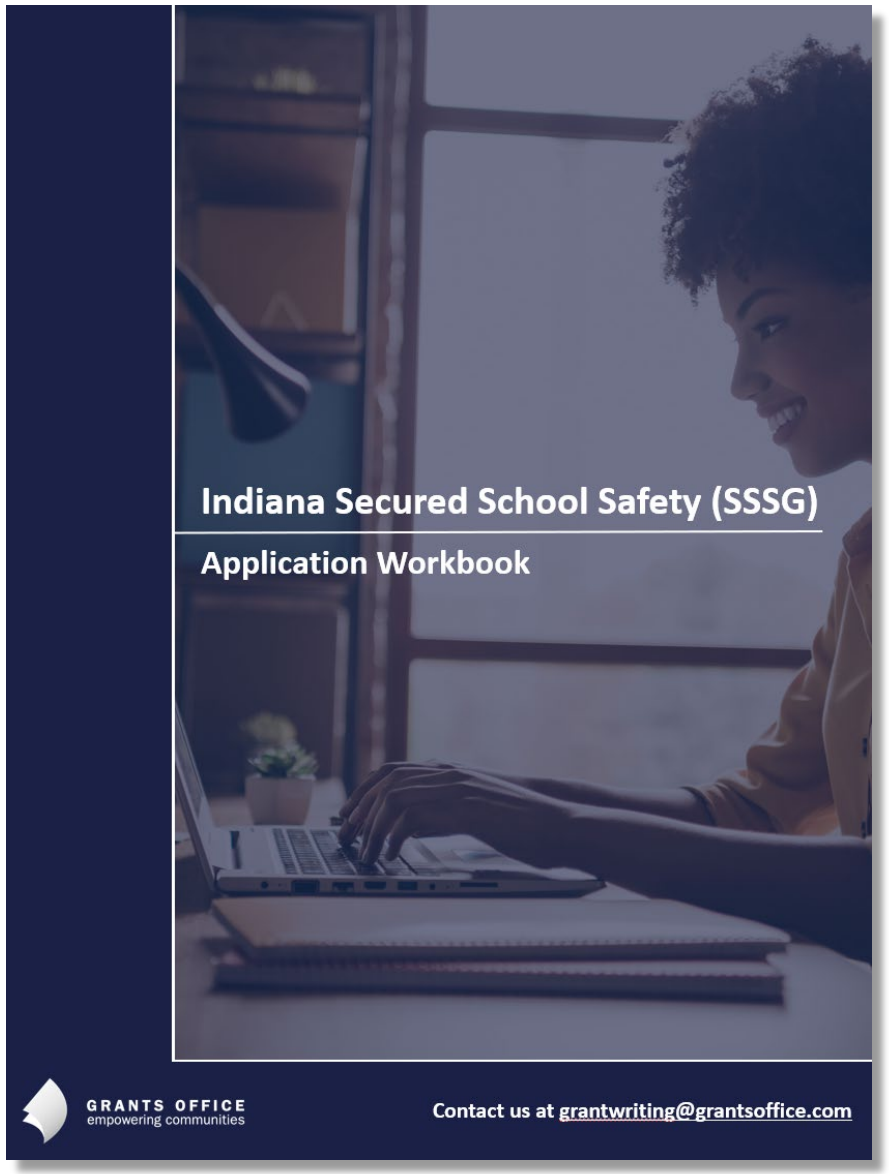
Ensure local match amount (25%, 50%, or 100%) aligns with correctly with school's Average Daily Membership (ADM)

2

Professional Review

Have independent reviewer check application for compliance with IDHS formatting requirements, page/character limits, and overall clarity before submitting

3



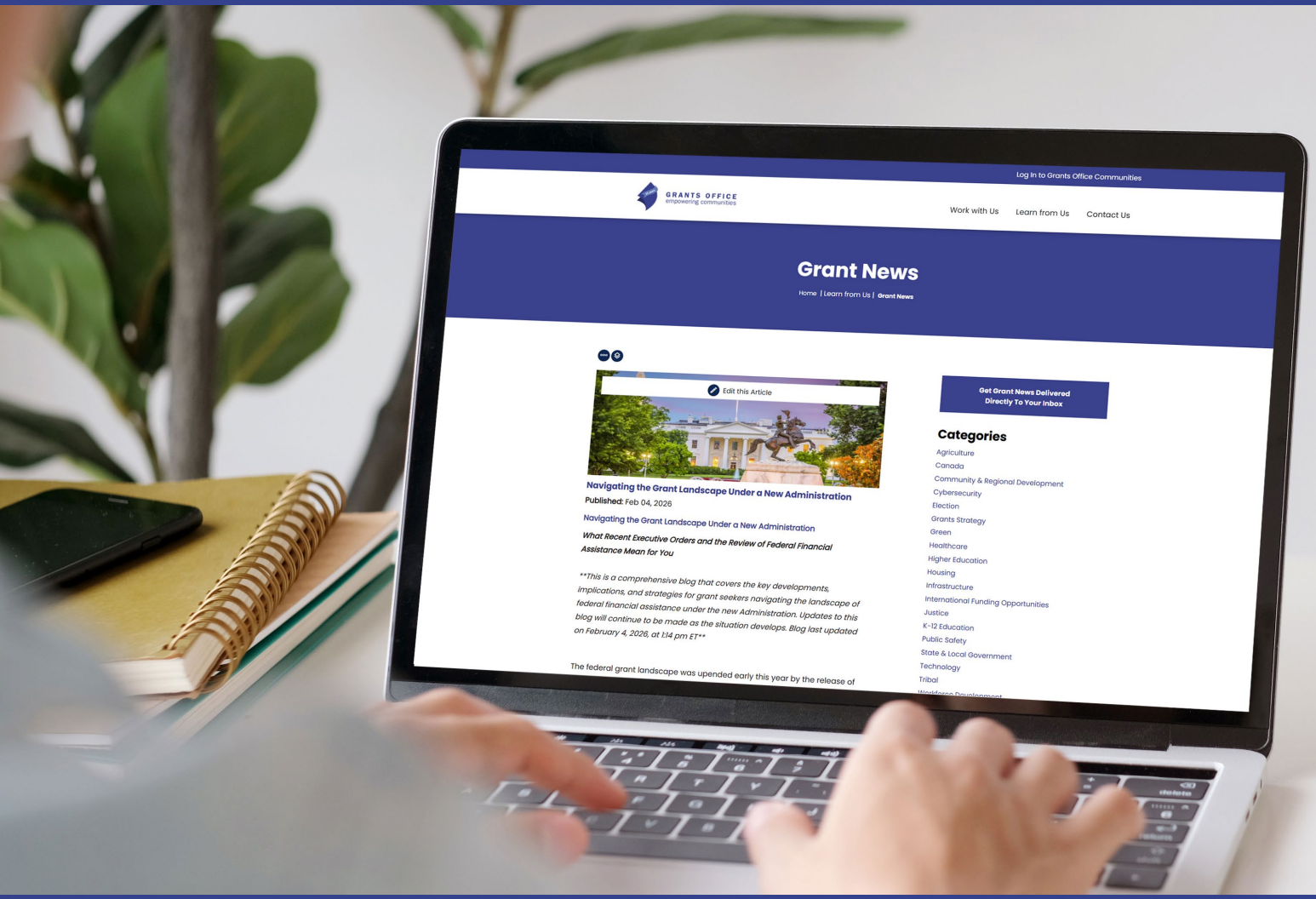
FREE Eligibility and Proposal Workbook

- Collect Important Account Details for Submission
- Build your Goals, Objectives, & Project Activities
- Outline Key Project Personnel & Duties
- Plan your Major Budget Items
- Start Brainstorming Your Narrative Content

Download our **FREE** workbook and get started preparing for SSSG today!

Grants Office is Here to Help

Questions about FY26? We have the answers.





Scan for our
***FREE* Guidance**
for Grantseekers
resources!

Grants Office is here to help!

Proposal Development & Writing

Grants are assigned a cost tier based on the complexity of the application's requirements and the time until the grant's deadline.

For example, the Indiana Secured School Safety Grant (SSSG) Program tends to fall in Tier 2.

Example service costs
Pricing valid through December 2025

Tier	Cost for Proposal Development
1	$3900
2	$4900
3	$5900
4	$6900
5	$7900
6+	$8900+

Writing the proposal yourself?

Grants Office provides review services at 25% of the grant tier cost.



Engage with Grants Office to Write Your Proposal

Step 1

Contact Us

Email your completed SSSG Application Workbook to Sam, our SSSG expert: grantwriting@grantsoffice.com

Step 2

Initial Meeting

Sam will set up a time to discuss your project goals and development needs.

Step 3

Grant Writing will Begin

Your Grants Office Grant Writer will utilize the materials you provide to write your SSSG Proposal.

Step 4

Proposal Review

Meet with Sam to finalize your proposal and ensure all requirements have been met.

Step 5

Submit Application

Once completed, you will submit your grant application and let us know when you win!

Other Grants Office Services

SCAN HERE

Research & Consultation

Grants Office will identify what grants best fit your upcoming projects and develop next steps.

Project Building

Grants Office will advise on project development and material gathering with a particular grant in mind.

Grant Proposal Writing

Grants Office will write a competitive and engaging proposal.

Grant Proposal Review

Grants Office will provide feedback on application materials, ensuring compliance with submission requirements.

Grants Office Communities

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Questions?

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