



FY 2008 Homeland Security Grant Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Q:	What is the Governor’s goal of achieving 85% interoperability within the State in 2 years?
A:	<i>As part of the 5th National Priority, “Strengthen Communication’s Capabilities”, Arizona is developing the governance and partnerships to jointly fund, develop, and share remote communication sites along with critical microwave interconnections to link existing regional systems. The Governor has set a goal of 85% of the state's population being interoperable by 2010. It is also working on interoperability with Mexico and other states in the southwest.</i>
Q:	What personnel can be funded with SHSGP funds?
A:	<p><i>Personnel hiring, overtime, and backfill expenses are permitted under this grant in order to perform allowable FY 2008 HSGP planning, training, exercise, and equipment activities.</i></p> <p><i>Positions that are being funded 100% by HS dollars should be FTEs that must work 100% on Homeland Security planning, exercise, training, and equipment activities. Please know organizations will be held accountable to produce time sheets, copies of job descriptions, responsibilities, and deliverables when submitting quarterly reports.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>For SHSGP and UASI, a personnel cap limits the amount of funds from each to 15 percent of the total program funds.</i> • <i>For MMRS or CCP, the 15 percent personnel cap does not apply.</i> • <i>The category of personnel costs does not apply to contractors.</i> <p><i>FY 2008 HSGP funds may not be used to support the hiring of any personnel for the purpose of fulfilling traditional public safety duties or to supplant traditional public safety positions and responsibilities.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supplanting – <i>Replacing a current State and/or local position with one or more full-time or contracted employees supported, in whole or in part, with Federal funds.</i>
Q:	What kinds of vehicles are allowable?
A:	<i>General use vehicles are not allowed. Vehicles should be purchased for purposes such as CBRNE Incident Response. Vehicle purchases will be heavily scrutinized. Maintenance</i>

	<i>and/or wear and tear costs of general use vehicles (e.g., construction vehicles) and emergency response apparatus (fire trucks, ambulances, etc.) are unauthorized costs and will not be reimbursed.</i>
Q:	Who is the point of contact for the Terrorism Liaison Officer (TLO) programs?
A:	<i>The TLO program is offered through Arizona Counter Terrorism Information Center (ACTIC). For more information on the TLO program contact Captain Rick Salyers at (602) 725-4974 (rsalyers@AZDPS.gov) or Bob Gilbert at (602) 644-5847 (rgilbert@azdps.gov).</i>
Q:	What is a Regional Advisory Council (RAC)?
A:	<p><i>Five homeland security regions were identified to ensure the state - through the Regional Advisory Councils - strengthen its ability to work together at all levels to address common threat and vulnerability issues and encourage the sharing of resources across town, city, county, and Tribal lines.</i></p> <p><i>Arizona's five homeland security regions include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastern Region: Pinal, Gila, Graham and Greenlee counties • Southern Region: Yuma, Pima, Santa Cruz and Cochise counties • Northern Region: Coconino, Navajo and Apache counties • Western Region: Mohave, Yavapai and La Paz counties • Central Region: Maricopa County <p><i>Each region is represented by a Regional Advisory Council (RAC). Each RAC is comprised of first responders and local elected officials that live or work in the region, including: two members from fire service (one rural, one urban); one police chief; one sheriff; one member for Tribal government; one emergency manager; one mayor; one county supervisor; two at-large members nominated by the legislative members of the Homeland Security Coordinating Council; and members from the Arizona Department of Public Safety and county public health. It is through these RACs that homeland security projects are initially prioritized and approved.</i></p>
Q:	Are you funding only 700/800 MHz radios?
A:	<i>Priority funding will be granted to those interoperability projects that align with the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP), which can be found at the following website: http://www.azdps.gov/pscc/standards.asp</i>
Q:	If an agency is requesting funding for more than one project, does that agency have to submit multiple grant workbooks?
A:	<i>Yes. A workbook should be submitted for each individual project.</i>
Q:	Are you funding training and exercise?
A:	<i>Yes. Funding for training and exercise is allowable. Please see Appendix B of Homeland Security Grant Guidance for FY 2008 Allowable Cost Matrix.</i>
Q:	How do we know what our time frame is to expend funds?

A:	<i>If the project has been granted, the applicant will be notified by an award letter and the term of the contract will be provided.</i>
Q:	Will SHSGP funding support overtime in support of drills and training?
A:	<p><i>Overtime and training are allowable expenses.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overtime – <i>These expenses are limited to the additional costs which result from personnel working over and above 40 hours of weekly work time as a direct result of their performance of FEMA-approved activities specified in the guidance. Overtime associated with any other activity is not eligible.</i> • Backfill-related Overtime – <i>Also called “Overtime as Backfill,” these expenses are limited to overtime costs which result from personnel who are working overtime (as identified above) to perform the duties of other personnel who are temporarily assigned to FEMA-approved activities outside their core responsibilities. Backfill-related overtime only includes the difference between the overtime rate paid and what would have otherwise been paid to the backfilling employee for regular time. Under no circumstances should the entire amount of backfill overtime expense be charged to an award.</i> <p><i>Neither overtime nor backfill expenses are the result of an increase of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) employees.</i></p>
Q:	Will equipment purchases such as generators be allowable?
A:	<i>For all allowable equipment purchases check the Authorized Equipment List that can be found at the Responder Knowledge Base website: http://www.rkb.us</i>
Q:	Will the reimbursement process be online or will we mail reimbursement requests to you?
A:	<i>The reimbursement process and forms are available online at www.azdohs.gov. Sub-grantees are still required to mail all reimbursement requests and supporting documents to AZDOHS, 1700 W. Washington, Suite 210, Phoenix, AZ 85007</i>