

GRANTS MANAGEMENT



FY22 Requirements for Secured School Safety Grant applicants

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security soon will open the application period for the FY22 Secured School Safety Grant (SSSG), which has important legal requirements that become effective for all applicants this year.

The application period for eligible expenses under the SSSG will begin early Summer 2021. To be eligible to apply for the grant, schools will have to certify two critical elements new in the application for this cycle:

1. *Has your school or corporation conducted a threat assessment to comply with [Ind. Code 10-21-1-5\(c\)](#)?*
2. *Has your school or corporation completed a memorandum of understanding in place with a community mental health or behavior health center or does your school/corporation employ a certified or licensed provider pursuant to [Ind. Code 10-21-1-5\(d\)](#)?*

Indiana law requires the two above requirements must be met by July 1, 2021, to make an applicant eligible to apply for SSSG funding. Failure to meet these requirements will prevent a school from proceeding through the application process in IntelliGrants. *The exact language that will appear in the IntelliGrants application for the SSSG is featured below in this message.*

In addition, Ind. Code 10-21-1-4(f) requires the county in which an applicant exists to have a county school safety commission. This commission requirement is not new and has been part of the program since SSSG first began awarding grants to Indiana schools in 2014. [See Indiana Code explaining the requirements of a county school safety commission.](#)

Paying close attention to these and other existing eligibility requirements will help expedite the SSSG application and subsequent review processes.

Resources

Guidance documents and other necessary instructions to help apply to the Secured School Safety Grant Program can be found on the [IDHS website](#). This includes the six (6) project-scope categories of eligible expenditures under the program guidelines.

In 2020, the [Indiana Department of Education](#) and the [Family and Social Services Administration](#) issued guidance to schools to help explain the eligibility requirements and provide tools to help schools ensure their eligibility. This includes a [sample MOU](#) with a mental health provider.

New questions coming for the FY22 application

Question 1:

[Ind. Code 10-21-1-5\(c\)](#) requires that before July 1, 2021, each school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school shall certify to the department of homeland security that the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school has conducted a threat assessment for each school building used by the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school before applying for a grant under this chapter.

Does the applicant (school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school) certify to the department of homeland security that it has conducted a threat assessment for each school building it uses, pursuant to [Ind. Code 10-21-1-5\(c\)](#)?

If [YES], move on with application.

If [NO], applicant may not move forward.

Question 2:

[Ind. Code 10-21-1-5\(d\)](#) requires that before July 1, 2021, each school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school shall certify to the department of homeland security that the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school has a memorandum of understanding in place with a community mental health center established under IC 12-29-2 or provider certified or licensed by the state to provide mental or behavioral health services to students before applying for a grant under this chapter. A provider described in this subsection may be employed by the school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school.

Does the applicant (school corporation, charter school, or accredited nonpublic school) certify to the department of homeland security that it has a memorandum of understanding in place or employs a certified or licensed provider pursuant to [Ind. Code 10-21-1-5\(d\)](#)?

If [YES], move on with application.

If [NO], applicant may not move forward.

Background on SSSG

The Secured School Safety Grant is a matching, reimbursement grant for Indiana school corporations, accredited non-public schools, charter schools or a coalition of school corporations/charter schools applying jointly to address potential safety threats. Since awards were first issued in 2014, more than \$91 million in state-funded grants have been dedicated to enhancing school safety in Indiana.

IDHS Grants Management has compiled a frequently asked questions page to assist organizations regarding the Secured School Safety Grant. More information is [available online](#).

Visit the [Indiana School Safety Hub](#) for more information.

To submit a support ticket for IDHS grants or IntelliGrants, visit dhs.in.gov/grants.htm.

