

Program Purpose

School resource officers (SROs) play a critical role in recognizing and preventing threats on and off campus and actively work with first responders to prepare for potential critical incidents on campus. Although SROs are law enforcement officers who are assigned to work within the school setting and have the jurisdiction to make arrests and conduct investigations, they also exercise a great deal of professional discretion and recognize the differences between school policy and state law. Additionally, SROs may be in a position to refer students to a mental health resource if given the proper training.

This year, the General Assembly worked with the State Superintendent to launch a new School Safety Grants Program. This program includes additional funding to North Carolina Public Elementary and Middle Schools for the training and/or employment of school resource officers. A local match is required under this grant program. All grants must be matched on the basis of two dollars (\$2.00) in State grant funds for every one dollar (\$1.00) in non-State funds.

Funds will be awarded by the Superintendent of Public Instruction through a competitive grant process. Grants shall be used to supplement, not supplant, State or non-State funds already provided for school resource officers. Grants will be awarded for the 2018-2019 SY, and grants for the 2019-2020 SY will be contingent upon submission of required reporting in April 2019 and availability of funds. Grantees that do submit the required reporting will have their grants automatically extended into the 2019-2020 school year. Grantees that do not submit the required reporting will have to reapply for the 2019-2020 school year. All reporting requirements will be used to inform future efforts to improve school safety.

Timeline

Activity	Date
Grant Application Released for FY 2018-19	June 29, 2018
Grant Application Deadline	July 13, 2018
Grant Recipients Selected	August 1, 2018
Grant Program Recipient Reporting	April 2019

Permissible Uses of Program Funds

Grant funds and the associated non-State matching funds shall be used to employ School Resource Officers (SROs) in elementary and middle schools, to train them, or both. A maximum of \$33,333 per school per year will be awarded, for a total of \$50,000 including the non-State match. SRO training may be funded if provided, in partnership with the public school unit, by a community college, a local law enforcement agency, or the North Carolina Justice Academy. Any training shall include instruction on research into the social and cognitive development of elementary school and middle school children. The North Carolina Center for Safer Schools can assist applicants in identifying available training programs.

Eligible Recipients

All local school administrative units, regional schools, innovative schools, laboratory schools or charter schools ("public school unit") are eligible to apply for a Grant for School Resource Officers. All public school units must be prepared to explain how they intend to meet the local match requirements at the time of application.

Required Reporting

Grant recipients are required to submit a report that includes the information listed below:

- 1. Cover Page
- 2. Assessment of Needs
- 3. Program Narrative & Impact
- 4. Proposed Budget & the **use of grant funds to include** the total number of SROs receiving any type of professional development or training, as well as the partner and nature of the training provided.
- 5. Assurance Page

Program Criteria and Guidelines

Applications will be scored on a 100-point scale based on the below listed required information as narrative or figures to be submitted as part of the application. The application, (one file) shall include a cover sheet, needs and narratives (include the title of the identified information), proposed budget, and assurance page as PDF documents, including minimum of 12-point font size, one-inch margins (all sides), and narratives double spaced. The application file naming nomenclature is SRO Matching School System or School Name.

	Max Points Awarded	Max Page Length
1. Eligibility for Low-Wealth Funding (will be calculated by DPI)	20	n/a
2. Disadvantaged Student Supplemental Funding Rate (compared to state average) (will be calculated by DPI)	20	n/a
3. County Juvenile Delinquency Complaint Rate (compared to state average) (will be calculated by DPI)	20	n/a
4. Needs Assessment	15	1
Identify current and ongoing needs and estimated costs associated with those needs in improving school safety within your public school unit. If you have a recently completed a school safety assessment in conjunction with local law enforcement agencies, include those findings in your statement of need. Please identify whether your public school unit has received other grants of funding for school safety. Please also identify and justify the choice of school(s) for SRO placement.		

5. Program Narrative & Impact	15	1
Describe how the SRO will maintain, improve, or enhance the safety, security, and/or climate of the public school unit. Explicitly describe the training SROs will complete, when they will complete this training, and what types of follow up throughout the year they will have regarding training. Identify all training partners. Describe how the public school unit, law-enforcement, or municipality will work together to utilize and communicate with SROs.		
6. Proposed Budget	10	1
The proposed budget shall include a detailed document of how proposed grant funding will be distributed. The budget must show the number of full-time SROs and hours of part-time SROs the project is expected to fund, the amount of local funds that will be matching the grant, and the costs of proposed training.		

Required Application Materials

Completed applications must include the below listed materials and be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on deadline via email to **schoolsafetygrants@dpi.nc.gov.**

Ар	plication Materials	
	Cover Sheet	
	Needs Assessment	
	Program Narrative & Impact	Training plan is included. Relationship with LEO and municipality is detailed. Narrative is aligned to budget.
	Proposed Budget	
	Assurance Page	

Frequently Asked Questions

Please submit questions to schoolsafetygrants@dpi.nc.gov.

Q: Can systems collaborate on this grant?

A: LEAs, regional schools, and charter schools are encouraged to collaborate with law enforcement agencies to identify qualified SRO candidates.

Q: What if our school district or charter school applied for SRO grants in February 2018?

A: Districts/charter schools are required to submit an application under the new School Safety Grants Program.

Q: How many SROs can a public school unit apply for using this grant money?

A: Applicants should not expect grant dollars to support more than one full-time equivalent SRO per school.

Cover Sheet

Date of Application:	
Primary Contact Person Name:	Primary Contact Person Title:
School District(s) Name:	Charter School or School(s) Name(s):
Charter School, Primary School, or School System Address:	Area Code and Telephone Number of Primary Contact Person:
Email Address of Primary Contact Person:	State Board Region:
Charter School or School District Superintendent Name:	Charter School or School District Superintendent Email Address:

Proposed Budget Template

Description	State Funds	Local Funds	Total Cost
Salary			
Benefits			
Trainings			
Other (List)			
TOTAL			

Assurance Page

The partners agree to the below listed activities.

- Provide administrative supervision and support to foster success of the program.
- Work cooperatively with North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and grant partners in monitoring and evaluating the program to meet reporting requirements.
- Ascertain that members of the partnership follow applicable federal and state laws to promote equal opportunity for all participants without regard to race, color, religion, gender, age, disability, political affiliation, or national origin.
- Attest that all funds will be used to develop and implement the program described in the application as approved.
- Establish fiscal controls and accounting procedures for proper disbursement of and accounting for program funds.

Primary Contact Signature	Date
Charter School Leader or	 Date
School District Superintendent Signature	