

Ohio School Safety Center

Newsletter
Winter 2020-2021

School Safety Training Grant Now Open

January 2021. The Ohio Attorney General's Office has notified schools about the opportunity to apply for their share of \$10 million in school safety grants for the 2020-2021 school year. Funding for the grants comes from House Bill 166, the main operating budget, and are administered by the Ohio Attorney General's Office. These grants provide school leaders with the flexibility to decide how the grant funds can benefit school safety and security efforts. The Ohio Attorney General's Office sent notifications to superintendents and eligible entities in late December.

Who is eligible?

Public schools, chartered nonpublic schools and schools operated by county boards of developmental disabilities are eligible to receive either \$2,500 or \$5.15 per student, whichever is greater.

What can schools do with the money?

Funding can be used for school safety and security efforts including, but not limited to:

1. The support of school resource officer certification training;
2. Any type of active shooter and school safety training or equipment;
3. All grade level type educational resources;
4. Training to identify and assist students with mental health issues;
5. School supplies or equipment related to school safety or for implementing the school's safety plan;
6. Any other training related to school safety.

When can schools receive funds?

The Attorney General's Office notified superintendents about eligibility and provided instructions for accessing the funds. **All applications are due by January 29, 2021.**

Whom do I call if I have questions?

Please contact the Attorney General's office at (614) 466-6963 or email SchoolSafetyGrants@OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov

Don't forget to get your school's free security and vulnerability assessment completed by local first responders to assist with future grant applications!

In addition to these school safety-training grants, the Ohio Attorney General's Office has two additional initiatives funded by the last main operating budget.

- They have trained over 1,600 School Resource Officers (SROs) to encourage the creation of multidisciplinary teams ([threat assessment teams](#)) that evaluate threats or any concerning behaviors and determine whether they pose a risk. These teams focus on helping the student (or other individual) whose behavior is concerning,

ideally well before the person thinks about causing harm. Check with your SRO to see if they have taken this training or still wish to do so, and how it can be put to use in your school.

- They have also trained officers on how to conduct security and vulnerability assessments for school buildings. These provide invaluable feedback when determining how to make best use of safety grant funds for your school district. Again, check with your SRO to learn if these have been or will soon be completed for your school.

The Ohio School Safety Center will continue to share new grant opportunities with schools as they become available. Access these opportunities by visiting the [OSSC website](#).