

The Domestic Violent Extremism National Priority Area Explained

In fiscal year (FY) 2021, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is requiring that Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) recipients spend a minimum of 7.5% of their total State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) allocations to address Domestic Violent Extremism (DVE).

Overview

Combatting terrorism continues to be a priority for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). As noted in the [Homeland Threat Assessment](#) (October 2020), foreign terrorist organizations (FTOs) still intend to attack the Homeland within and from beyond our borders. However, the primary terrorist threat inside the United States stems from lone offenders and small cells of individuals, including Domestic Violent Extremists and foreign terrorist-inspired Homegrown Violent Extremists (HVEs).

Some U.S.-based violent extremists have capitalized on increased social and political tensions in 2020 that are driving an elevated threat environment. Ideologically motivated violent extremists with objections to the exercise of governmental authority and the presidential transition, as well as other perceived grievances, could continue to mobilize to incite or commit violence. These violent extremists will continue to target individuals or institutions that represent symbols of their grievances, as well as grievances based on political affiliation or perceived policy positions.

The HSGP DVE National Priority Area

Given the evolving threat landscape, it is incumbent upon DHS/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to continuously evaluate the national risk profile and set priorities that ensure appropriate allocation of security dollars. In FY 2020, DHS identified four National Priority Areas (Enhancing Cybersecurity, Enhancing the Protection of Soft Targets/Crowded Places, Enhancing Information Sharing and Analysis, and Addressing Emerging Threats). In FY 2021, DHS added DVE as a fifth priority area to combat the rise, influence, and spread of domestic violent extremism.

The objective of the [FY 2021 HSGP](#) is to fund state, local, tribal, and territorial efforts to prevent terrorism and prepare the Nation for threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk to the security of the United States. Within that objective, the DVE National Priority Area seeks to fund projects that focus on:



FEMA

- Open source analysis of misinformation campaigns, targeted violence and threats to life, including tips/leads, and online/social media-based threats;
- Sharing and leveraging intelligence and information, including open source analysis;
- Execution and management of threat assessment programs and training on threat management techniques to identify, evaluate, and analyze indicators and behaviors indicative of domestic violent extremists; and
- Training and awareness programs that help prevent radicalization to violence, educate the public on misinformation campaigns, and share resources to help identify, assess, and report potential threats.

The HSGP DVE National Priority Area Compared to the TVTP Grant Program

DHS supports efforts to implement local prevention frameworks and explore innovative approaches to preventing targeted violence and terrorism through the [Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention \(TVTP\) Grant Program](#). The [TVTP Grant Program](#) and the [HSGP](#) DVE National Priority Area share the goal of reducing the prevalence of terrorism and targeted violence.

The TVTP Grant Program funds a broad set of eligible applicants to develop innovative proposals, frameworks, and programs that prevent acts of violence and are replicable in other jurisdictions.

The HSGP, which has broader applicability and funding for all states, territories, and eligible urban areas, supports recipients' capabilities to combat DVE while also leveraging lessons learned from the TVTP Grant Program. This approach allows for knowledge gained through the TVTP Grant Program to inform other jurisdictions and grant recipients, enabling the replication and funding of promising practices.

The table below further clarifies the difference between these two programs:

	TVTP	HSGP
Funding Available in FY 2021	\$20 million	\$1.12 billion
Funding Allocation	Competitive	Formula
Eligible Applicants	Nonprofits, universities, state, local, tribal, and territorial governments	State Administrative Agencies (SAAs) for each state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
General Information	TVTP provides seed funding to develop local prevention frameworks and innovative approaches to prevention. Through robust monitoring and evaluation, DHS identifies promising practices for replication.	HSGP is focused on enhancing the ability of state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as nonprofits, to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks.

	TVTP	HSGP
Example Project Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and Awareness Raising • Civic Engagement • Youth Resilience • Media Literacy/Online Critical Thinking • Threat Assessment and Management Teams • Bystander Training • Hotlines • Recidivism Reduction and Reintegration • Innovative Approaches (evaluated under a separate application Track) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open source analysis of misinformation campaigns, targeted violence, and threats to life, including tips/leads, and online/social media-based threats • Sharing and leveraging intelligence and information, including open source analysis • Execution and management of threat assessment programs to identify, evaluate, and analyze indicators and behaviors indicative of domestic violent extremists • Training and awareness programs (e.g., through social media) to help prevent radicalization • Training and awareness programs (e.g., through social media) to educate the public on misinformation campaigns and resources to help them identify and report potential instances of domestic violent extremism
For More Information	www.dhs.gov/tvtpgrants	https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/homeland-security