

STATE & LOCAL MANAGERS' GUIDE TO **Homeland Security** **GRANTS** 2007

Getting in Front of
Homeland Security Grants

Emerging Priorities, Goals
and Standards

What Every Jurisdiction
Should Know: The New
2007 NIMS Metrics

The Responder
Knowledge Base:
A Primer

The 2007 Homeland
Security Grant Programs

The interoperability
scorecard

PLUS...

Ten tips for successful
grant applications

Top 7 websites for
grant information

Changes for 2007

CEDAP: An Equipment
Program for the rest of us

Technology you can trust.



Count on MSA's full line of chemical warfare agent (CWA) detectors.



Solve your CWA detection needs with MSA's:

- ➔ Complete line of handheld, wireless & fixed instruments
- ➔ Agent-specific & proven false-alarm resistant Surface Acoustic Wave (SAW) Technology
- ➔ Advanced multi-threat detection system providing superior critical infrastructure protection

For more information, visit www.msapolice.com/hstoday.html

MSAPoliceLine.com | 1.888.MSA.0018

MSA
The Safety Company™

Getting in Front of Homeland Security Grants

IN A DEC. 14, 2006 SPEECH ON THE STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS), SECRETARY MICHAEL CHERTOFF OUTLINED FIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S FUTURE: Protecting Americans against dangerous people; protecting Americans against dangerous things; making sure that our critical infrastructure is sufficiently hardened so that even if dangerous people or dangerous things are used in an attack, we can resist that attack; building 21st century response capabilities; and unifying the department into a seamless whole, working together to build a visionary new 21st century government organization. (The speech is available online at http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/speeches/sp_1166137816540.shtm.)

These types of sweeping statements are what are known in the bureaucratic world as vision statements. They are inherently broad and ultimately contain little of actionable value, but they do function as a starting point for the top-down planning for which DHS has become known. Vision drives funding allocations and sets priorities. It determines who will fit at a DHS post and who will fall out. It will also emerge as an important feature of local agencies' grant requirements, as the grant administrators at DHS work to mediate between Chertoff's vision and the local incident management plans that depend on DHS funding for their effective deployment.

The plans and programs at DHS are becoming more robust and more sophisticated, and as they do, requirements of states and local governments interested in receiving DHS grants are becoming more complex, as well.

In 2002, the first year of homeland security funding, domestic preparedness grants to states required little more than an identified person within the state to take official responsibility for distributing

the available funds. In 2007, states and, by extension, local agencies will be required to certify their compliance with the National Incident Management System and demonstrate how their intended projects intersect and align with the National Response Plan, the National Infrastructure Protection Plan and the National Preparedness Goal (NPG). Purchases will be aligned with the Target Capabilities List and the Authorized Equipment List, coordinated and managed at the Responder Knowledge Base website.



Despite the many changes that homeland security grants have undergone in the past several years, one feature has remained constant: The local agencies that have taken a proactive approach to seeking funds have been the most successful at receiving them.

Additionally, agencies seeking funds from more than one source will be required to demonstrate how they will coordinate their funds to achieve maximum impact.

Despite the many changes that homeland security grants have undergone in the past several years, one feature has remained constant: The local agencies that have taken a proactive approach to seeking funds have been the most successful at receiving them. Conversely, those that have simply waited for their share of funding have been disappointed.

Strategies by which agencies can get ahead of a particular funding program depend, first of all, on how funds under the program are to be distributed. Indirect, pass-through funding like the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) requires a different type of preparation than a competitive, direct program like the Port Security Program.

HSGP AND OTHER PASS-THROUGH PROGRAMS

Across the federal government, the largest funding programs push dollars out to states and allow the states to manage distribution of the funding at the local level. This tradition helps maintain the balance of states' rights and federalism that defines our system of government and it also exempts the federal funding agencies from administering thousands of grants to local agencies with whom they're not really connected in any significant way. Once the

states receive these funds from the federal funding agency, they control many of the aspects of the funding: timing, matching levels and priorities, within the context of the requirements placed on them by the federal funder.

HSGP is made up of five component programs: the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP), the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI), the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP), the Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) and Citizens Corps Program (CCP).

Generally, the SHSP and LETPP are administered together across each state. UASI funds are administered by the same state administrative agencies that coordinate other DHS funds, but grants are open only to a list of 46 eligible high-threat, high-density urban areas. The MMRS and CCP programs have diminished in value over the years, and may be

merged into other programs at some point in the future.

GETTING THE GRANTS

The process for engaging these and other pass-through opportunities (including the Transit Security and Buffer Zone Protection Program grants) requires four steps:

1. Determine which program(s) apply to your project and from which you are eligible to obtain funds;
2. Contact the state administrative agency (SAA) to determine the process for submitting project proposals for the program;
3. Prepare a project proposal, solicited or unsolicited, keeping in mind the review process the final state application will undergo;
4. Submit the proposal to the agency responsible for advancing your application, whether the SAA, Council of Governments or regional planning committee and follow up to make sure it is included in the state's application.

Generally, unless the state already has a formal process for soliciting local applications, it will be incumbent on each applicant to provide a proposal that can easily be included in the state's application, if appropriate. Therefore, if the DHS guidance requires that each outcome for each of the state's proposed projects be linked to the NPG, make sure that each of the objectives for each proposed project is indeed linked. Similarly, make sure the project aligns with relevant state preparedness plans and funding sources.

Unlike direct programs, in which applicants have right up to the deadline to complete the project plan, it will be important to have project descriptions for pass-through grants completed at least six weeks prior to the federal deadline to allow the state sufficient time to compile the projects into a complete, cohesive state proposal.

AFGP AND OTHER DIRECT PROGRAMS

Direct funding programs like the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFGP) are typically much more straightforward than pass-through grants. They are national, so every eligible agency in the country must address the same application requirements. Each agency's application is evaluated on the same criteria by the same pool of reviewers. Finally, applicants all have the same time frame to prepare grant proposals.

Direct programs provide flexibility to allow agencies to dovetail their own local needs with state and federal plans. For example, a proposal for SHSP or LETPP pass-through funds may integrate with a statewide communications interoperability strategy, and a request to the direct Port Security Grants Program may enable an applicant to extend secure communications capability to the local port operator.

Custom technologies that apply to local vulnerabilities may also be more likely to be funded by direct grants. The HSGP allows for geographic information systems (GIS) applications to be purchased with its funds, but a community may require significant customization of a GIS application to provide access to the building-level detail needed, including elevation maps and entry points.

ANALYSIS

Getting ahead of direct grants involves planning around the formula grants and other sources of funding to ascertain which critical pieces of a local preparedness plan are going to be left unfunded. Once an applicant knows what the needs are, all that remains is to find the direct programs that are appro-

Ten tips for successful grant applications:

1. Learn as much as possible about each program to which you intend to apply.
2. Involve others in your project, but be judicious; have a purpose for their involvement.
3. Customize each proposal to the requirements of the funder.
4. Include only support letters that demonstrate a real commitment on the part of the sender.
5. Get reviewers' comments for rejected proposals and use their feedback in future proposals.
6. Make grantseeking part of your agency's strategy—don't put all your eggs in one basket and look for funding from only a single program.
7. Be specific in your budget—most funders have generous allowances for budget length.
8. Don't include materials other than those specifically requested by the funder.
9. Have an outsider edit your proposal before you submit it.
10. Follow the request for proposal's directions meticulously.

priate and apply for them.

Each program will have its own requirements, and it will be incumbent on the applicant to address them, with an eye toward the review process, to achieve the best chance of being funded. **HST**



MICHAEL PADDOCK, *HSToday's* grants columnist, has served since 2000 as the chief executive officer of Grants Office LLC, a national grants development company serving municipal and nonprofit clients and industry partners. Unless otherwise noted, he is the author of all the articles in this year's Grants Guide.

Prior to 2000, Paddock served on the US Interagency Electronic Grants Committee's State and Local Subcommittee and helped found the New York State E-Grants project, both initiatives dedicated to making grants information more accessible and streamlining the grants application process at the federal and state levels. He is a regular contributor on funding-related topics to numerous publications, and a featured speaker at seminars and conferences throughout the United States. He can be reached at mpaddock@grantsoffice.com.

PIVMAN



Handheld device
by DAP Technologies
www.daptech.com



Is he legit? Are you sure?

Your job: securing the perimeter. Individuals are streaming in to provide critical support, but you've never seen them before.

They look right, but are they legitimate? Are they trained? Should they be there?

CoreStreet's PIVMAN™ System allows you to check any government-issued FIPS 201 credential, confirm the bearer's identity, role, associated privileges or attributes, and log all activity. Anytime. Anywhere.

No network connections. No pre-enrollment. Just grab a handheld and go!

For more information, including
use case overviews and datasheets,
visit www.corestreet.com/PIVMAN
or send a request to info@PIVMAN.com



© 2006 CoreStreet, Ltd. All rights reserved. CoreStreet and the CoreStreet logo are registered trademarks of CoreStreet, Ltd. The PIVMAN System and the CoreStreet Enabled logo are trademarks of CoreStreet, Ltd. All other trademarks are property of their respective owners.



Emerging Priorities, Goals and Standards

IN ORDER TO ENSURE A UNIFIED AND COORDINATED NATIONAL APPROACH TO PLANNING AND INCIDENT MANAGEMENT, THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) REQUIRES THAT APPLICANTS FOR HOMELAND SECURITY GRANTS DESCRIBE THEIR COMPLIANCE WITH A LITANY OF EMERGING GOALS, STANDARDS AND PRIORITIES, MOST NOTABLY THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS), THE NATIONAL RESPONSE PLAN (NRP) AND THE NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS GOAL (NPG).

These documents are the manifestation of two related Homeland Security Presidential Directives (HSPDs), HSPD-5 and HSPD-8. HSPD-5 requires DHS to coordinate with other federal, state, local and tribal agencies to establish the NRP and the NIMS. HSPD-8 requires DHS to work with other agencies to develop the NPG. It may help to think of NIMS as the “what,” the NRP as the “how” and the NPG as the “how well” of preparedness and response.

First and foremost, NIMS functions as an incident command structure. It establishes the Incident Command System (ICS) as a standard incident management organization with five functional

areas—command, operations, planning, logistics and finance/administration—for management of all major incidents. To ensure further coordination, and during incidents involving multiple jurisdictions or agencies, the principle of uni-



The vision of one coherent plan may be a few years off, but...DHS continues to evolve and...continues to produce plans, strategies and goals for an ever widening group of hazards.

fied command has been universally incorporated into NIMS. This unified command not only coordinates the efforts of many jurisdictions but also provides for and assures joint decisions on objectives, strategies, plans, priorities and public communications.

The NRP knits the three plans together, providing an all-hazards plan for the management of domestic incidents. It provides the framework by which incident management and emergency support are coordinated across entities and organizations at all levels.

The NPG drills down further to include

the Target Capabilities List (TCL). The TCL identifies 36 capabilities that are considered essential to addressing a range of scenarios, from terrorist attacks to major disasters and other emergencies. Requirements that exceed an entity's capabilities

would be secured through mutual aid or formal requests for assistance from other levels of government.

In the category of “other plans and strategies,” DHS has produced the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP). Driven by HSPD-7 and signed by 15 federal agency heads, the NIPP outlines threats, responsibilities, assumptions and goals associated with securing the nation's critical infrastructure and key resources on a nationwide basis, including the impact of international actors on the US through such means as cyber attacks and international trade sabotage.

The NIPP represents the fruit of DHS efforts to date to identify, prioritize and coordinate the protection of critical infrastructure and key resources, with an emphasis on critical infrastructure and key resources that could be exploited to cause “catastrophic health effects or mass casualties comparable to those from the use of a weapon of mass destruction,” as HSPD-7 defines the threat.

Under the NIPP, critical infrastructure sectors include: information technology, telecommunications, chemical, transportation systems (including mass transit), aviation, maritime, ground/surface, rail and pipeline systems, emergency services, postal and shipping, dams,

CEDAP: An equipment program for the rest of us

The Homeland Security Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP) is funded by the Office of Grants and Training and administered by the Responder Knowledge Base. The purpose of the CEDAP program is to provide equipment to first responders in smaller communities that don't qualify for UASI funding.

Although it is a competitive program, CEDAP is considered a direct assistance program, not a grant. CEDAP functions somewhat like a catalog from which applicants can submit requests and justifications for the equipment they need. G&T then ships the approved equipment directly to the winners.

CEDAP's equipment offerings include: a) personal protective equipment; b) rescue tools; c) thermal imaging, night vision and video surveillance tools; d) chemical, biological and radiological detection tools; e) information technology and risk management tools; and f) interoperable communications gateways.

For more information, visit the Responder Knowledge Base at www.rkb.mipt.org.

government facilities and commercial facilities. Projects that address any of these sectors will be required to provide a description of how they support the NIPP.

FEEDBACK

A significant amount of reporting back is also required as these plans and strategies are unveiled, providing for increased accountability and oversight of the use of homeland security funding. Unlike past years, states are going to be increasingly required to report on their progress and to relate that progress to a set of standard metrics. As of Jan. 4, 2007, Congress required each state receiving DHS preparedness assistance to submit an annual State Preparedness Report to the department on the state's level of preparedness.

The report includes:

- an assessment of state compliance with NIMS, the NRP and other related plans and strategies;
- an assessment of current capability levels and a description of target capability levels, based on the NPG;
- an assessment of resource needs to meet the preparedness priorities, including an estimate of the amount of expenditures required to attain the preparedness priorities and the extent to which the use of federal assistance during the preceding fiscal year achieved the preparedness priorities.

The vision of one coherent plan may be a few years off, but as DHS continues to evolve and as it continues to produce plans, strategies and goals for an ever-widening group of hazards, response apparatuses and stakeholders, personnel at the state and local levels will find themselves increasingly aware of the need to stay apprised, even involved, in the ongoing definition of preparedness and response. **HSI**

Move Ahead with ASIS certification

Be recognized as a board certified security practitioner. ASIS certification symbolizes your competency, professionalism, and achievement as no other certification can.

Earn a respected designation that distinguishes you and demonstrates your qualifications. Accelerate your career with security's most in-demand credentials.



CERTIFIED PROTECTION PROFESSIONAL

Acknowledged as the security profession's highest recognition. The CPP identifies security management practitioners who have demonstrated advanced knowledge in eight major areas of security.



PROFESSIONAL CERTIFIED INVESTIGATOR

A specialty certification in security investigations. The PCI is evidence of proven investigative skills, including gathering intelligence, conducting undercover investigations, and managing cases.



PHYSICAL SECURITY PROFESSIONAL

A specialty certification in physical security. The PSP demonstrates expertise in operating physical protection systems, conducting threat assessments, and using security forces.

**Learn more! Go to www.asisonline.org
or call 703-519-6200.**



**ACCEPTED AS THE STANDARD.
WORLDWIDE.**



Medical Shelter/Hospital Surge Capacity

- Modular and scalable
- HVAC and power included
- Stores in custom designed cargo trailer
- Highly mobile

Major Incident RESPONSE SOLUTIONS

Isolations Systems

- Utilizes the most advanced filtration technologies
- Provides negative pressure for temporary shelters or fixed facilities
- Integral airlock for entry prep and egress



BASE-X

Emergency Response

A Business Unit of
HUNTER DEFENSE TECHNOLOGIES

AVAILABLE ON GSA
SCHEDULE GS-O7F-0173J
DLA CONTRACT # SPM100-05-D-6063

www.base-x.com • 800-969-8527

What Every Jurisdiction Should Know: The New 2007 NIMS Metrics

BY JAMES MULLIKIN

ARE YOU SEEKING FEDERAL FUNDING FOR YOUR HOMELAND SECURITY PROJECT THIS YEAR? Make sure that you're implementing the standards of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). As has been the case since fiscal year 2005, implementation is required to receive federal preparedness funding—but there are changes in implementation this year.

First released in 2004, NIMS is the comprehensive system standardizing response operations throughout the country. Since the beginning of FY 2005, the Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the NIMS Integration Center (NIC) have collaborated with the governors of all 56 states and territories to further NIMS implementation. That year, the nation's governors began receiving an annual letter from federal authorities describing the efforts they must undertake to successfully implement NIMS.

Before this fiscal year, states, territories, tribes and localities were able to "self-certify" their NIMS compliance by completing a form attached to the governors' letters. This asked for a good faith effort to implement each fiscal year's NIMS implementation requirements.

But this changes in FY 2007. Now, a new system of "performance-based metrics" replaces the self-certification process used in FY 2005 and 2006. For states and territories to demonstrate successful NIMS implementation this year, they will need to implement these new metrics.

MEASURING PROGRESS

The metrics are intended to measure a jurisdiction's level of progress toward NIMS implementation. They are questions that were formulated in a collaborative process with national stakeholders and they define jurisdictions' specific performance expectations. They're also intended to ensure continuity with existing implementation activities and they build on previous years' activities—for example, annual training (although some activities are one-time events, like formal NIMS adoption by executive order).

The 2007 metrics fall into two major categories. Tier 1 is intended to demonstrate successful FY 2007 implementation. To meet the Tier 1 metrics, a jurisdiction must be able to answer all the questions put to it about NIMS implementation affirmatively. Answers should accurately reflect the level of implementation at the time the answers are submitted, and

jurisdictions shouldn't give an affirmative answer unless it's truly warranted. However, where an affirmative response can't be provided, jurisdictions will be able to describe the obstacles to implementation that they face.

Tier 2 is intended to demonstrate ongoing NIMS implementation efforts and is not confined to FY 2007. Answers to these questions will help NIC understand the challenges a jurisdiction is facing.

NIC is committed to supporting jurisdictions with NIMS implementation and won't be deeming jurisdictions non-compliant before the end of FY 2007. If a jurisdiction can provide a plan of remedial measures, NIC can review its plan and assist it to solve its problems.

THE JURISDICTIONAL ROLE

States and territories play a dual role in effectively implementing NIMS. On the one hand, they can implement NIMS and submit their information to NIC. On the other, they coordinate implementation for tribal and local jurisdictions and collect and submit that information at the federal level.

Additionally, the states and territories are required to report the status of NIMS implementation and can use an application like the National Incident Management System Capability Assessment Support Tool (NIMCAST). This is a Web-based self-assessment tool designed to help determine capabilities and compliance against NIMS requirements.

Local and tribal jurisdictions are also responsible for NIMS implementation and are critical to it at the state and territorial level. The locals and tribals need to align their implementation with their states and territories while providing information on the status of implementation at the grass roots. They're also important for disseminating NIMS information to community-based groups.

In FY 2007, states and territories will be relying on locals and tribals to provide their implementation information. This information should include details on specific activities such as training, exercising, resource typing, mutual aid agreements and plan revisions.

To ensure accurate and timely submission of FY 2007 NIMS implementation information, NIC recommends that all jurisdictions:

1. Review the FY 2007 NIMS packet, including FY 2007 matrix, metrics and associated guidance documents;
2. Develop and implement a plan for collecting information on NIMS training, exercises, etc., and identifying appropriate stakeholders who will contribute information for FY 2007 NIMS implementation;
3. Collect information from appropriate stakeholders;
4. Complete the FY 2007 NIMS implementation metrics; and
5. Submit completed metrics to NIC **no later than midnight on Sept. 30, 2007.** HST

JAMES MULLIKIN is chief of Compliance and Technical Assistance at NIC. Prior to that post, he was a program manager and preparedness officer at the DHS Office for Domestic Preparedness, now the Office of Grants & Training. To learn more about how NIC can assist with implementation issues, please email: NIMS-Integration-Center@DHS.gov.



Emergency Operations Center

- Deploys easily and rapidly
- Unlimited configurations
- Integrated electrical wiring
- Easily accommodates communications and data cables

Major Incident RESPONSE SOLUTIONS

Decon Systems

- Set up and operational in minutes
- Modular shower lane configurations
- Wide, stable conveyer system for patient movement or triage



AVAILABLE ON GSA
SCHEDULE GS-07F-0173J
DLA CONTRACT # SPM100-05-D-6063

BASE-X
Emergency Response

A Business Unit of
HUNTER DEFENSE TECHNOLOGIES

www.base-x.com • 800-969-8527

The Responder Knowledge Base: A Primer

THE RESPONDER KNOWLEDGE BASE (RKB) HAS EMERGED OVER THE PAST YEAR AS THE GO-TO PLACE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT ALL THINGS RELATED TO HOMELAND SECURITY FUNDING. THE RKB IS HOSTED BY THE MEMORIAL INSTITUTE FOR THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM (MIPT) IN OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA., AND FUNDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY'S OFFICE OF GRANTS & TRAINING.

The RKB provides a bridge between funders of homeland security projects, state administrative agencies, local agencies working to roll out preparedness projects and vendors who provide the equipment and services that agencies need to make their projects work.

Registration on the site (<http://www.rkb.mipt.org>) is easy and free, and when users register for an account, they'll automatically be registered for the System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders (SAVER) site, as well, which provides access to high-quality, impartial, operationally relevant evaluations/validations of critical emergency responder equipment and systems.

Once registered and logged in, users see the official RKB mascot, Smee, and a "Site news" section with the latest information about the site (new products and registrants), new grants postings and other funding and product-related news.

They'll also find detailed information about the Commercial Equipment Direct

Assistance Program (CEDAP) and links to other popular places around the site. The RKB began coordinating CEDAP applications in 2006, and the fine work the RKB devoted to CEDAP administration has helped elevate both the RKB and the CEDAP programs out of relative obscurity.

Don Hewett, program manager for the RKB, has witnessed the impact of CEDAP firsthand. "We've seen steady growth that's been enhanced by our hosting of the CEDAP program and increased usage of the Authorized Equipment List (AEL) online, and in early '07, we'll break the 50,000 registered user mark," Hewett said. "We're particularly pleased to see the high usage rate among the critical decisionmaking institutions such as the state administrative agencies. This site is making it easier for them to make a determination on how they're going to use grant funds."

REFERENCE INFORMATION

From the RKB home page, the "Search the RKB" tab contains the lion's share of official resources on the site, including information about major homeland security funding programs. This section also leads to clickable versions of the Interagency Board's (IAB) Standardized Equipment List (SEL) and the Grants & Training AEL, both key features in aligning project elements with authorized categories of funding.

To take both the SEL and AEL a step further, the site provides a wizard that can help users find the appropriate SEL category, based on broad product categories, mission role and hazard environment. Further, the clickable AEL listing allows users to identify which AEL categories are authorized under any of 11 top DHS programs. Users simply click the box for the appropriate program, and the AEL categories appear or disappear from the listing.

The *only* DoD approved technology
for chemical warfare overgarments.

SARATOGA™

The **HAMMER**™ Suit.

The most tested and
trusted protection for
first responders.

202-973-2858
202-973-2850 fax
info@texshield.com

TEX-SHIELD, INC.

The most trusted name in chemical protective clothing.



The “Other Knowledge Areas” section is full of helpful information, including target capabilities, standards, certifications and links to additional grants information.

PRODUCT INFORMATION

One characteristic feature of the RKB is the product information that manufacturers have entered into the system. On an ongoing basis, manufacturers, either on their own or working with private firms, enter their homeland-security related products and services using a special manufacturer-specific login provided by RKB staff.

Once the product listings are submitted, RKB staff members review each entry for content and correct association with the appropriate product codes. Once the products are reviewed and approved for inclusion, they are available through one of a number of product search functions. Each product listing also includes images, SEL and AEL codes and even CEDAP lookups in cases where the product is also included in the CEDAP catalog.

According to Hewett, when RKB staff members review a product, they are screening for three things:

First, a basic check on the information provided is conducted, either by staff or, when necessary, by subject matter experts, to make a reasonable assessment concerning the validity and accuracy of the information provided.

Second, no claim of independent, third-party certification is retained unless the RKB receives certification details from the certifying body independently. In some cases, certification may be simply a self-certifying declaration of conformity, which is noted in the record.

Lastly, RKB staff members try to check against excessive marketing language. “This widget is the best widget in the world’ probably wouldn’t fly,” said Hewett. “We would ask them (the manufacturer) to tone it down a little.”

‘ASK AN EXPERT’

Another feature of the RKB is the “Ask an Expert” form, which allows any user to

The Top 7 websites for grant information

- 1 www.rkb.mipt.org**
The Responder Knowledge Base provides links to DHS program guidance and direct access to the CEDAP program for a broad range of first responders. It also provides a database of eligible equipment and a current version of the IAB Standardized Equipment List and G&T Authorized Equipment List.
- 2 www.ojp.usdoj.gov/fundopps.htm**
The Funding Opportunities page hosted by the Office of Justice Programs provides a functional list of current and archived opportunities from DHS, OJP, NIJ and other public safety funding sources.
- 3 www.grants.gov**
As the Federal Electronic Grants Clearinghouse at grants.gov continues to gain traction, users are placing increasing pressure on the site to simplify its time-consuming registration process. In the meantime, if you’re planning to use the site to apply for a grant for the first time, allow yourself two weeks to get registered as an Authorized Organization Representative.
- 4 www.grantsoffice.com**
This subscriber-service database created by the grants services firm Grants Office, LLC, captures federal, state and foundation grant programs and provides tools to manage and report on grantseeking across the organization. The www.homelandsecurityfunding.info site contains information on a wide array of preparedness and response grant programs and offers a free weekly newsletter on developments in the field and in funding news.
- 5 www.firegrantsupport.com**
This site links to the US Fire Administration’s portal for Assistance to Firefighters, Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response, and Fire Prevention and Safety Grants. It contains current information for grant applicants and awardees around the country.
- 6 www.fdncenter.org**
The Foundation Center’s subscriber-service database contains information on foundation giving across the country. If you don’t have a subscription, you can often find these resources at your local library.
- 7 www.dhs.gov**
The DHS website now contains a link to Homeland Security Grants from the home page of the site. Although the grants information isn’t updated frequently, the site contains an up-to-date archive of essential reference materials like the NPP, NIPP and NPG.

submit questions on equipment, certifications, standards or other related topics that are not answered by the content of the website. The question form is user-friendly, and questions are usually answered in a week or less.

According to Hewett, RKB staff check the “Ask an Expert” cue every day. If staff members can answer the question, they do. If not, they look for a subject matter expert at DHS or IAB.

“The one question that we can’t answer is, ‘Is this product allowable?’ because the authority to decide exactly what is allowable rests with the [state administrative agency] and the pre-

paredness officer at DHS. They have the ultimate decision on that,” Hewlett said. “Otherwise, they get an answer—the best answer we can provide.”

The RKB receives about 20 to 30 “Ask an Expert” queries per week, with increases during active times. RKB also has a feedback feature to answer site-related questions, like why certain products or links may or may not be on the site.

The RKB provides a key bridge between homeland security stakeholders. As it continues to grow in prominence and content, it will also expand its relevance to public and private sector interests across the country. **HST**

The 2007 Homeland Security Grant Programs

State Homeland Security Program (SHSP)

Funding Agency: DHS

Deadline: 4/5/07

Total Funding Available in FY 2007:
\$509,250,000

Purpose: This core assistance program provides funds to build capabilities at the state and local levels through planning, equipment, training, and exercise activities. SHSP also supports the implementation of state homeland security strategies and key elements of the national preparedness architecture, including the National Preparedness Goal, the National Incident Management System and the National Response Plan.

Eligible Applicants: Eligible entities for SHSP are all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands. Available funds are distributed to each state based upon the risk and effectiveness scores associated with each application and also on a minimum allocation consistent with the statutory formula set by the USA Patriot Act. Each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico will receive 0.75 percent of total available SHSP funds as a minimum allocation and the four territories will each receive 0.25 percent. Effectiveness scores are determined through a peer review of proposed state investments.

All quotations are from the 2007 *Homeland Security Program Guidance*. Though the deadlines for some programs have passed, next year's deadlines for the same programs should fall in the same time frame.

Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI)

Funding Agency: DHS

Deadline: 4/5/07

Total Funding Available in FY 2007:
\$746,900,000

Purpose: The UASI Program focuses on the unique planning, equipment, training and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density urban areas. It assists them in building sustainable capacity to prevent, protect, respond, and recover from acts of terrorism.

Eligible Applicants: Forty-five urban areas are eligible for funding under the FY07 program. Six of these areas are designated as highest risk UASI jurisdictions and will be eligible to compete for \$410 million or 55 percent of available funds. The remaining UASI areas will compete for the remaining \$336 million or 45 percent of available funds. Funds will be allocated based on analysis of risk and the effectiveness of proposed investments by the applicants. Risk for UASI jurisdictions is evaluated using a consistent methodology of threat, vulnerability, and consequences.

Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (LETPP)

Funding Agency: DHS

Deadline: 4/5/07

Total Funding Available in FY 2007:
\$363,750,000

Purpose: LETPP provides resources to law enforcement and public safety communities to support critical terrorism

prevention activities, including establishing and enhancing fusion centers and collaborating with non-law enforcement partners, other government agencies and the private sector.

Eligible Applicants: LETPP eligibility mirrors that of the SHSP program: all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands. Available funds are distributed to each state based upon the risk and effectiveness scores associated with each application and also on a minimum allocation consistent with the statutory formula set by the USA PATRIOT Act.

Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) Program

Funding Agency: DHS

Deadline: 4/5/07

Total Funding Available in FY 2007:
\$32,010,000

Purpose: MMRS funds support local preparedness efforts to respond to all-hazards mass casualty incidents, including CBRNE terrorism, epidemic disease outbreaks, natural disasters and large-scale hazardous materials incidents.

Eligible Applicants: As in past years, 124 cities are eligible for MMRS funding. See page 8, below, for a complete list of all eligible jurisdictions. Each of the 124 MMRS jurisdictions will receive \$258,145 to establish and sustain local capabilities.

Continued on page G14

Where are your grant funds?



SPARS can tell you.

The State Preparedness Assessment and Reporting Service (SPARS) from K2Share enables you to manage your Homeland Security Grants from application to close-out. This encrypted, web-based software provides your team with the tools necessary to administer grant funds, approve expenditures, and run real-time reporting on all funding. Now, scrambling to meet report requests and maintaining numerous Excel® spreadsheets will be a thing of the past. Since SPARS' reporting functionality provides a highly-visible fund trail, it's easy to see where monies are being dispersed at a glance. It's no wonder SPARS already handles over \$775 million in DHS grant funds.

www.K2Share.com/SPARS

† As of January 2007, SPARS was used by SAA offices in Texas, South Carolina, Nebraska, and the National Capital Region (NCR). SPARS is a web-based service operated by K2Share, LLC, a trusted services provider to the US Department of Homeland Security.

Citizen Corps Program (CCP)

Funding Agency: DHS

Deadline: 4/5/07

Total Funding Available in FY 2007:
\$14,550,000

Purpose: The Citizen Corps mission is to bring community and government leaders together to coordinate community involvement in emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response and recovery.

Eligible Applicants: Like SHSP and LETPP, the Citizen Corps Program is open to 56 states and Territories using the USA Patriot Act formula. All 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico will receive a minimum of 0.75 percent of the total available CCP grant funding. Four territories (American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands) will receive a minimum amount of 0.25 percent of the total available grant funding. The balance of the CCP funds is distributed on a population-share basis.

Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program

Funding Agency: DHS

Deadline: 12/29/06

Total Funding Available in FY 2007:
\$194,000,000

Purpose: Emergency management is a vital part of DHS' preparedness mission and EMPG directly supports the nation's emergency management community.

Grants Acronyms

AFG	Assistance to Firefighters Grants	M&A	Management and administration
AEL	Authorized Equipment List	MMRS	Metropolitan Medical Response System Program
BAA	Broad agency announcement	NBHP	National Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program
BTCDP	Bioterrorism Training and Curriculum Development Program	NIEM 0.1	National Information Exchange Model
BZPP	Buffer Zone Protection Program	NIC	NIMS Implementation Center
CBP	Customs and Border Protection	NIJ	National Institute of Justice
CBRNE	Chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive	NIMS	National Incident Management System
CCP	Citizen Corps program	NIPP	National Infrastructure Protection Plan
CCR	Central Contractor Registration	NOFA	Notice of funds availability
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	NPG	National Preparedness Goal
CFP	Call for proposals	NPP	National Priorities Project
COOP	Cooperative Training Outreach Program	NRP	National Response Plan
DHS	Department of Homeland Security	ODP	Office of Domestic Preparedness
EMPG	Emergency Management Performance Grants	OGO	Office of Grants Operations
F&A	Facilities and administration	OJP	Office of Justice Programs
G&T	Office of Grants and Training	OMB	Office of Management and Budget
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services	PSGP	Port Security Grant Program
HMEP	Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant Program	RFP	Request for proposals
HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration	RKB	Responder Knowledge Base
HSGP	Homeland Security Grant Program	SAA	State administrative agency
HSPD	Homeland Security Presidential Directive	SAVER	System Assessment and Validation for Emergency Responders
IAB	Interagency Board	SEL	Standardized Equipment List
IBSGP	Intercity Bus Security Grant Program	SHSP	State Homeland Security Program
ICS	Incident Command System	SLGCP	State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness
IED	Improvised explosive device	TCL	Target Capabilities List
JAG	Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	TSGP	Transit Security Grant Program
LETPP	Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program	UASI	Urban Areas Security Initiative

A longtime favorite of Congress for its "all-hazards" orientation, the program provides assistance to sustain and enhance state and local emergency management capabilities.

Eligible Applicants: Each state administrative agency is the only agency eligible to apply for FY 2007 EMPG funds and is responsible for passing through those funds to the State EMA within prescribed timelines.

Buffer Zone Protection Program (BZPP)

Funding Agency: DHS

Deadline: 2/1/07

Total Funding Available in FY 2007:
\$48,000,000

Purpose: The Buffer Zone Protection Program provides grant funding to build security and risk-management capabilities at the state and local level to secure critical infrastructure including chemical facilities, nuclear and electric power plants, dams, stadiums, arenas and other high-risk areas.

Eligible Applicants: The SAA is the only agency eligible to apply for BZPP funds and is responsible for obligating BZPP funds to the appropriate local units of government or other designated recipients.

Port Security Grant Program (PSGP)

Funding Agency: DHS

Deadline: 8/4/07 (forecast)

Total Funding Available in FY 2007:
\$168,000,000

Purpose: Port security grants to create sustainable, risk-based efforts for the protection of critical port infrastructure from terrorism.

Eligible Applicants: The nation's most

critical seaports, representing 95 percent of the foreign waterborne commerce of the United States are eligible to participate in the port grant program.

Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP)

Funding Agency: DHS

Deadline: 8/4/07 (forecast)

Total Funding Available in FY 2007:
\$136,000,000

Purpose: As a component of the Infrastructure Protection Program (IPP), the TSGP assists the nation's transit systems through a risk-based approach focused on regional planning, infrastructure protection, improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and other non-conventional methods of attack, as well as training, exercises and citizen preparedness. In addition, the TSGP also supports strengthening emergency operations planning and citizen protection capabilities, and assists in addressing security priorities specific to the transit sector.

Eligible Applicants: Identified transit systems, including rail, intracity bus, and ferry systems are eligible to receive funding through their states' SAA.

Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG)

Funding Agency: DHS

Deadline: 4/7/07 (forecast)

Total Funding Available in FY 2007:
\$550,000,000

Purpose: The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) is to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical services organizations. Since 2001, AFG has helped firefighters and other first responders to obtain critically needed

equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training, and other resources needed to protect the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards. The Office of Grants & Training in DHS administers the grants in cooperation with the US Fire Administration. For fiscal year 2005, Congress reauthorized the Assistance to Firefighters Grants for an additional five years through 2010.

Eligible Applicants: Eligible Applicants for the AFG program are limited to fire departments and nonaffiliated EMS organizations. Fire departments or nonaffiliated EMS organizations that are operating in any of the 50 states plus the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, or Puerto Rico are eligible for funding.

National Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program (NBHPP)

Funding Agency: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), (HHS)

Deadline: 7/1/07 (forecast)

Total Funding Available in FY 2007:
\$498,000,000

Purpose: The National Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program (NBHPP) enhances the ability of hospitals and health care systems to prepare for and respond to bioterrorism and other public health emergencies. Program priority areas include improving bed and personnel surge capacity, decontamination capabilities, isolation capacity, pharmaceutical supplies, and supporting training, education, and drills and exercises.

Eligible Applicants: Health departments of all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the nation's three largest municipalities (New York City, Los Angeles and Chicago), the common-

wealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands, the territories of American Samoa, Guam and the US Virgin Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republics of Palau and the Marshall Islands are eligible to apply and receive funding from this cooperative agreement.

Pre-disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grants

Funding Agency: DHS

Deadline: 2/5/07

Total Funding Available in FY 2007:
 \$100,000,000

Purpose: The PDM program provides funds to states, territories, Indian tribal governments, communities, and universities for hazard mitigation planning and the implementation of mitigation projects prior to a disaster event. Funding these plans and projects reduces overall risks to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on funding from actual disaster declarations.

Eligible Applicants: Each State Administrative Agency is the only agency eligible to apply for FY 2007 EMPG funds and is responsible for passing through those funds to the State EMA within prescribed timelines.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness Cooperative Agreement

Funding Agency: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), HHS

Deadline: 7/15/2007 (forecast)

Total Funding Available in FY 2007:
 \$761,000,000

Purpose: The purpose of this program is to develop emergency-ready public health departments by upgrading, integrating and evaluating state and local public health jurisdictions' preparedness for and response to terrorism, pandemic influenza, and other public health emergencies with federal, state, local, and tribal governments, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Eligible Applicants: Eligibility is limited to those recipients currently funded through a cooperative agreement under the program. This includes the 50 states, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Pacific Island Jurisdictions (American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Republic of Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia), and the localities of Chicago, Los Angeles County, New York City, and Washington, DC.

ZUMRO, Inc.
 Leading Manufacturer of Advanced Air Shelters

ZUMRO AIR SHELTERS are used worldwide by first-responders, hospitals, military government, law enforcement, & industry.

Known for versatility & effortless deployment, ZUMRO SHELTERS are used for Basic Shelter, Decon, Rehab, Triage, Command Post, Marquees, Crime Scenes, Disaster Staging, Field Hospitals, Infection Control Surge Capacity, & much more!

NEW! STAGE ONE SINGLE DECON SHELTER FOR GROSS DECON

Rapid-deployed pre-plumbed single decon shelter designed for Gross Decon.

Features:

- "Link-up" option to connect multiple ZUMROs together
- full integration with existing ZUMRO shelter systems
- integral containment pool with elevated shower platform
- built-in carrying case

Quad Interface Shelter for Field Hospitals

Medical Surge Shelter for Surge Capacity

Infection Control Shelter for Patient Isolation

Model 216 customized for isolation

- Shows with High Air Flow Island Monitor

ZUMRO's largest shelter the ZUMRO Model 860 features space for up to 16 private rooms

Model 860 22'w x 42'l

Easy & Fast! In just 1-3 minutes

THE ZUMRO FACTOR.....

- Ideal for Mass-Casualty Decon
- Versatile for Multiple Uses
- Push-Button Deployment
- Lightweight and Compact
- Proven Reliable and Durable
- Many options and designs
- Available in 6 colors and 7 sizes!

CONTACT ZUMRO for a FREE DEMO!

**CALL TOLL-FREE:
 800-932-6003**

WWW.ZUMRO.COM INFO@ZUMRO.COM

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG)

Funding Agency:
Department of Justice (DOJ)

Deadline: 2/20/2007

Total Funding Available in FY 2007:
\$480,000,000

Purpose: The JAG Program allows states, tribes, and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own local needs and conditions. JAG blends the previous Byrne Formula and Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) Programs to provide agencies with added flexibility in prioritizing and placing justice funds.

Eligible Applicants: The JAG formula includes a state allocation consisting of a minimum base allocation with the remaining amount determined on population and Part 1 violent crime statistics, and a direct allocation to units of local government. Once the state allocation is calculated, 60 percent of the funding is awarded to the state and 40 percent to eligible units of local government. State allocations also have a required variable pass through to units of local government, calculated by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) from each state's crime expenditures.

Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Grant Program (HMEP)

Funding Agency: Department of
Transportation (DOT)

Deadline: Ongoing

Total Funding Available in FY 2007:
\$12,000,000

Purpose: The Hazardous Materials
Emergency Preparedness (HMEP)

grant program is intended to provide financial and technical assistance as well as national direction and guidance to enhance state, Territorial, Tribal, and local hazardous materials emergency planning and training.

Eligible Applicants: The HMEP Grant

Program distributes fees collected from shippers and carriers of hazardous materials to emergency responders through designated state agencies for HAZMAT training and to Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) for HAZMAT planning. **HST**



When there are no second chances... there's *FirstDefender*.™

**Battle-tested, handheld, immediate
chemical and explosives identification**

Engineered with warfighters in mind, *FirstDefender* is self-contained, lightweight and easy to use. It requires no calibration or consumables and can identify unknown solids and liquids on the front lines, within 30 seconds.

- Extensive library of TICs, WMDs, CWAs, and explosives
- Accurate, reliable and instantaneous
- Does not touch or consume sample
- Point-and-shoot through glass and plastic
- Mixture software analyzes billions of combinations in seconds.



Ahura Scientific, Inc.

sales@ahurascientific.com • 978.657.5555

www.ahurascientific.com

The Interoperability Scorecard

BY MICKEY McCARTER, SENIOR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT

THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) RELEASED SCORECARDS JUDGING THE INTEROPERABILITY OF THE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OF 75 US URBAN AREAS IN THE FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY, PROVIDING THOSE AREAS WITH FEEDBACK ON WHERE THEY COULD IMPROVE THEIR OPERATING PROCEDURES, USAGE AND GOVERNANCE OF THEIR INTEROPERABILITY SOLUTIONS.

In a Jan. 3 press conference, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff made it clear that the urban areas rated in the scorecards would do well to pay attention to the proffered criticism when applying for homeland security grants this year.

"Obviously, requests for grants that are tailored to filling gaps and that are supported by a sensible plan are going to get a positive response," Chertoff stated. "Because the way the process should work is: We evaluate, we figure out what needs to be done to improve, and then we put the money very specifically to build the capabilities to achieve that improvement."

Interoperable communications is a challenge that has been on the forefront of homeland security discussions in the more than five years since the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, Chertoff emphasized. As such, local, state and federal agencies have a clear view of what they have accomplished and what remains to be done to meet that challenge.

The interoperable communications scorecards appeared in a report titled "Tactical Interoperable Communications Scorecards Summary Report and Findings" (<http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/grants-scorecard-report-010207.pdf>). DHS devised the scorecards, in part, to provide more transparency to the grant-



Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff delivers the scorecard on interoperability to states, localities and tribes.

making process for urban areas, Undersecretary for Preparedness George Foresman told *HSToday*. The department cut funding for New York City and Washington, DC, under the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) last year without providing adequate explanations for doing so, resulting in a storm of criticism.

"I think it reflects the natural evolution of what we're doing in the department," Foresman declared. "You will see good transparency in everything that we do."

FISCAL 2007 GRANTS

Soon after the release of the interoperability scorecards, DHS released grants guidance and applications to state and local governments for funding that totals

about \$1.7 billion across five homeland security grant programs. For the UASI program, the highest risk urban areas will receive about 55 percent of total available funds, Chertoff announced in a Jan. 5 press conference, providing them about \$410 million to share.

Those urban areas include Chicago, Houston, the Los Angeles-Long Beach region, the National Capital Region, the New York and New Jersey metropolitan areas, and the San Francisco Bay area.

"Putting together this top-tier list, we relied upon data that was provided by states and cities, by the intelligence community, by the Department of Defense, by the Department of Commerce and the Census Bureau, and then we reviewed this data with all of the relevant players to make sure we had kind of a validation for the judgments that we made," Chertoff explained. "Our goal here was to get high quality data, not simply a lot of data. It's quality, rather than quantity, that counts in making this judgment. And as a consequence, we had better data to work from in doing our analysis."

For the first time this year, DHS also permitted the top tier urban areas to spend up to 25 percent of their UASI funds on the regular activities of law enforcement personnel as long as those activities are dedicated to counterterrorism operations.

An additional 39 cities were set to receive the remainder of the UASI funds, sharing about \$336 million among them. UASI funding in fiscal 2007 totals \$746 million, up \$36 million from fiscal 2006.

The five separate grant programs outlined in the overview of the fiscal 2007 Homeland Security Grant Program include UASI, the State Homeland Security Program, the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program, the Metro-

politan Medical Response System, and the Citizen Corps Program (<http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/grants-2007-program-overview-010507.pdf>). DHS augmented those grants with funds from the Infrastructure Protection Program, which provides targeted money for securing ports, buses, rail and other infrastructure.

In addition to those grants, the Department of Commerce is expected to implement a \$1 billion public safety interoperable communications program, using funds from the auction of radio spectrum. Commerce must disburse those funds, authorized by the Senate in the Call Home Act of 2006, by Sept. 30, 2007.

"We have ongoing discussions with Commerce right now on the billion dollars that is going to become available," Foresman told reporters at the interoperability press conference. "That billion is going to be dedicated exclusively to the issue of interoperability. We want to work with the Hill to find the right strategy for delivering those dollars to states and communities in a way that gets the dollars out the door, but not so quickly that we spend a billion dollars and we wake up five years from now that we find from a technological standpoint or a governance standpoint, we are no more interoperable today than we were five years ago."

ANALYSIS

In the case of interoperable communications, the federal government has spent an estimated \$3 billion on grants to help first responders communicate across communities and disciplines since 9/11, according to DHS. Those funds have come from UASI, the Infrastructure Protection Program, port security programs, and others.

DHS has made it clear that it continues to take interoperability seriously, and department officials have stressed that cities responding to gaps identified in interoperability scorecards with solid plans of action will reap benefits. For

example, DHS has determined that the urban area of Chicago, Ill., which encompasses all of nearby Cook County, has significant room for improvement in establishing advanced interoperable communications across the region.

The urban area, not to be confused with the city itself, received one of the lowest sets of scores across the board in the report cards. Cook County includes 129 public safety jurisdictions that are not working together well enough to achieve effective interoperability.

"Leaders within the City of Chicago and Cook County have been independently very supportive of the communications interoperability issue... but could still continue efforts to come together at the leadership level to actively pursue regionwide communications interoperability," the DHS Tactical Interoperable Communications Scorecard for Chicago noted as it imposed its lowest rating for the area's interoperability governance.

In response, the city of Chicago released a statement defending its own

interoperability efforts, accusing the department of shortchanging its accomplishments to date. The Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications expressed surprise that "technology capabilities were not included in the Department of Homeland Security evaluation of interoperability."

"Had the Department of Homeland Security included a technology assessment, it would have found the City of Chicago is fully capable of communicating with radios from Cook County and any of our 128 other municipal jurisdictions in the County," according to the statement.

Still, DHS has made it clear what it expects from urban areas seeking a bigger cut of the homeland security grant funding, especially for interoperable communications. How these urban areas respond should reveal the degree to which they are willing to take direction and criticism from the department after their demand for more transparency in fiscal 2006. **HST**

Changes for 2007

In the 2006 funding cycle, DHS announced that it would follow a "quasi-competitive" selection process based on a combination of risk and need. It was quasi-competitive, because smaller, less populous states were still guaranteed a minimal amount of funding regardless of how they scored on the competitive part of the application.

The competitive element of the process dramatically changed the administration of the program at the state level, encouraging more proactive planning and forethought before the funds became available. It also restricted the use of the funds to 15 well-defined "investments."

Those who ignored the implications of the new process did so at their peril. Weak applications from some of the most risk-plagued areas of the country were to blame for large scale reductions in some areas, compared with 2005 funding.

The 2007 program may be as groundbreaking as last year, in that it provides an opportunity for states and urban areas to obtain feedback from program staff and subject matter experts prior to finalizing their applications.

The rationale for this approach lies in the desire of DHS to further level the playing field by ensuring that its decisions are based on the best articulated justifications each state can provide.

In an effort to enhance the transparency of the process, the risk-based assessments that will provide a basis for future allocations have been simplified and refined.

Finally, the period during which grant funds must be spent has been increased from 24 months to 36 months, to allow for longer-term planning.

Grants Glossary

Abstract: A brief summary of the proposed project, frequently limited to one page. Abstracts should give a brief description of the applicant, should clearly state the goal or purpose to be supported by the grant and provide a statement of need. Also known as a Project Summary or Executive Summary.

Audit: A formal review of a grantee's use of grant funds. Audits can be financial or programmatic. Financial audits detail expenditures, while programmatic audits focus on projects' successes, failures, benchmarks, milestones, etc. Audits are generally conducted by an outside reviewer or consultant. In many cases, auditing fees can be built into grant budgets. Many grant programs do not require grantees to perform audits, but almost all grant programs require some form of reporting.

Authorizing agency: The agency administering the grant program.

Block grants: Funds distributed on a formula basis to states, localities and municipalities, generally to address a specific issue or need. State and local governments are then able to determine the unique needs of their constituencies and distribute the funds accordingly.

Bricks and mortar: Funding needed for construction or renovation of a building or other structure: i.e. wiring, concrete, plumbing, lumber, etc, exceeding \$25,000. Bricks and mortar (or construction) funding is often used to change the footprint of an existing structure.

Bridge awards: Grants awarded once the initial grant has expired to help

grantees achieve a project-related goal or to continue the project until other funding can be secured.

Broad Agency Announcement (BAA): See *Call for proposals* (CFP)

Call for proposals (CFP): The announcement made by the authorizing agency requesting applications from potential grant recipients. CFPs generally contain program objectives, guidelines, eligibility, budget, award limitations and specific instructions for proposal submission. CFPs should always be carefully read and precisely followed. Also known as a request for proposal (RFP), notice of funds availability (NOFA), or broad agency announcement (BAA).

Central Contractor Registration (CCR): The Department of Defense created the CCR in an effort to consolidate the paperwork generated through its work with contractors. Through CCR, businesses and grant applicants are able to enter information about their organization directly into the database. CCR registration is required to register with www.grants.gov.

Challenge grant: A grant that requires the grantee to raise a pre-determined amount of dollars from other sources in order to receive the grant. Challenge grants generally come with specific terms setting deadlines for raising additional dollars and limitations on purposes for which the money can be used.

Competitive grants: Grants that are open to any applicant who meets the eligibility requirements. Competitive grants are generally announced through RFPs or CFPs. They are fre-

quently reviewed by committees comprising volunteers who specialize in the subject area. The competitiveness of a grant program can frequently be determined by comparing the dollars available for expenditure through the program in that fiscal year to the award limit or ceiling, as stated in the RFP.

Consortium: A cooperative arrangement entered into by like-minded organizations intent on pursuing a common goal. Many grant programs favor consortiums due to the likelihood that resource-sharing will lead to a broader impact and better "bang for the buck." Even if the grant is to be awarded to the consortium, one organization within the group must serve as the lead agency and assume responsibility for administrative oversight of the grant.

Cost-sharing: While "cost-sharing" and "matching" are often used interchangeably, many agencies and institutions make the following distinction: "Cost-sharing" means that some of the project costs must be assumed by the institution requesting funding, while "matching requirements" means that a certain ratio of funds will be acquired, spent or reserved in proportion to the award.

Direct costs: All costs that are directly and solely applicable to the proposed project. These can include salaries, travel expenses, equipment purchases or bricks and mortar.

Drawdown: The request for dollars submitted by a grant recipient to the authorizing agency once a grant has been awarded and, according to the terms of the grant, periodically until the close of the award. Drawdowns are gen-

erally administered by an organization's financial or business office.

DUNS number: The Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System number, or "DUNS," is a nine-digit figure given by Dun and Bradstreet to applicant organizations and serves as a means of identifying those organizations and businesses. DUNS numbers are frequently required on federal grant forms. Dun and Bradstreet is a self-described "leading provider of global business information, tools, and insight."

Eligibility: The criteria an applicant must meet in order to apply for the program. Eligibility is generally determined by organization type (e.g. health-care organization, K-12 schools, law enforcement agency). Regional location, population or previous awards may also affect one's eligibility.

Form 990: The IRS form private foundations are required to submit to document their annual finances, including charitable giving. 990s can be an invaluable tool in identifying a foundation's giving preferences and history.

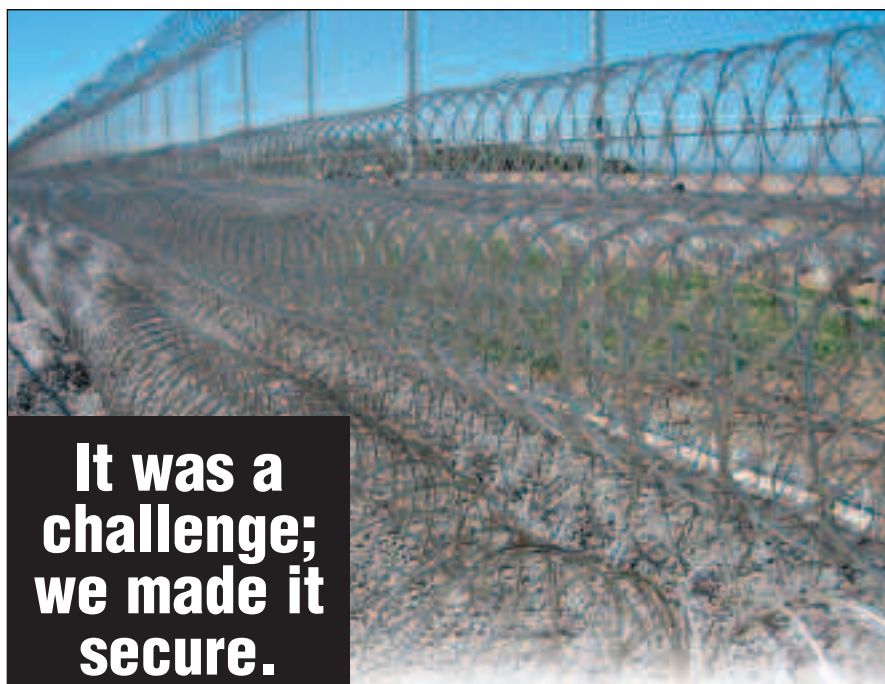
Formula grants: Grants distributed based on a calculation to address a specific issue or need. The calculations, or formulas, are frequently based at least in part on population. Other factors, depending upon the purpose of the grant, may include crime statistics or poverty indexes.

Grant: An award made by a foundation, organization, corporation, governmental or non-governmental agency. Grants normally fund specific projects, initiatives or needs. They generally have a pre-specified time cycle (i.e. funding

will be provided on an annual basis for one, two, three or four years).

Grantee: The recipient of a grant. The

grantee will be listed on the award letter or notice and may be an institution or an individual, depending upon the cri-



**It was a
challenge;
we made it
secure.**

***It was a fence.
It presented a
challenge.
Now it's a physical
security solution.***

It started with our fence posts; was integrated with a fabric product; and then we topped it with our **Razor Ribbon®** barbed tape obstacle. Using Razor Ribbon® in conjunction with a fencing barrier dramatically increases deterrence and delays breaching of physical barriers.

Our framework and Razor Ribbon® products integrate smoothly with other security applications as part of a total perimeter security solution.

And, we offer the technical expertise to provide the right product for your specific need.

For physical security solutions that maximize the three elements of safety - *deter, delay, detect* - contact Allied Tube & Conduit and ask about our entire line of framework and Razor Ribbon® barbed tape obstacles.

Allied Tube & Conduit
16100 S. Lathrop Avenue, Harvey, IL 60426 877.285.4066
www.razorribbon.com



teria and purpose of the grant program.

Indirect costs: The costs incurred through a project that are not directly related to it, such as costs related to administrative support or the use and subsequent deterioration of an institution's physical plant. Indirect costs can sometimes be recovered through a grant budget, often using a percentage of the direct costs. Some federal agencies refer to indirect costs as facilities and administration or F&A. Indirect costs are also known as overhead.

Indirect cost rate: A negotiated percentage of project costs that grant recipients are allowed to allocate from grant funds to cover indirect costs.

In-kind match: Sometimes referred to as a "soft" match, in-kind matches are goods, services or other things of value that will directly support the requested project and are being provided through sources outside of the funder. If the RFP specifies that applicants must match a

percentage of the grant and that they can do so through in-kind matches, the value of the in-kind services should be determined based on fair market prices and represented in the proposal budget.

Lead agency: The agency or organization responsible for grant administrative oversight and proposal submission in a consortium.

Letter of intent: A letter submitted prior to a proposal stating an organization's intent to apply to a grant program. Requirements for letters of intent vary, but many federal agencies require only a statement of intent. Letters of intent help authorizing agencies to fine-tune their review process prior to the proposal deadline.

Matching costs: See *Cost-sharing*.

Minor renovations: Modifications to an existing facility that are required to effectively implement a funded project. Funds for minor renovations are usually capped

at \$25,000 (See *Bricks and Mortar*).

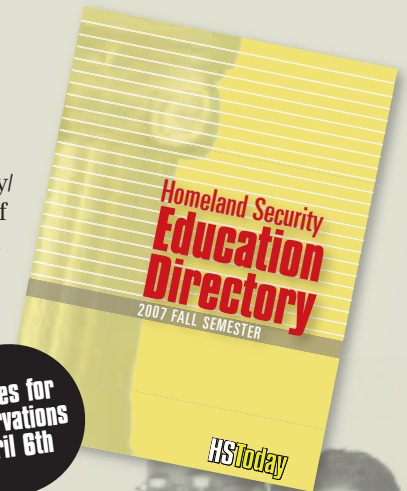
Notice of funds availability (NOFA): See *Call for proposals (CFP)*

OMB Circulars: Office of Management and Budget documents that detail instructions to federal agencies on the fiscal administration of grant programs, among other items. OMBs help grant applicants by outlining fiscal expectations and requirements inherent in any federal grant program. Of particular interest are OMB Circular A-102 (Grants and Cooperative Agreements With State and Local Governments), OMB Circular A-133 (Audits of States, Local Governments and Non-Profit Organizations), OMB Circular A-87 (Cost Principles for State, Local and Indian Tribal Governments), OMB Circular A-21 (Cost Principles for Educational Institutions), OMB Circular A-110 (Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Other Agreements with Institutions of Higher Edu-

The resource for finding education, training and certification for the next generation of homeland security professionals

HSToday joins Northcom, the Naval Postgraduate School, and the Homeland Security/Defense Education Consortium to provide the first and most comprehensive guide of higher education institutions offering homeland security training courses and accreditation. Published in May for the Fall 2007 semester and in November for the Spring 2008 semester.

- Bound into all 30,000+ copies of the May and November 2007 issues.
- Distributed at all the major homeland security shows.
- 250 copies for each advertiser's use.
- Downloadable PDF on HSToday.us all year long.



Closes for
reservations
April 6th



For special advertising rates and opportunities contact your sales rep at sales@hstoday.us or call 1-800-503-6506
To include your organization's listing in the directory, email dyoung@hstoday.us

cation, Hospitals and Other Nonprofit Organizations) and OMB Circular A-122 (Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations).

Operating support: Support for the basic needs of a project or organization to maintain its activities. Also known as general support.

Pass-through grants: Grants awarded to a grantee, such as a state administrative agency, with the requirement that the majority, if not all, the funds then be distributed to other, generally smaller organizations or agencies.

Program/project director: The individual responsible for oversight of the grant-funded initiative. In some cases, grants are awarded directly to the individual directing the project, but they are frequently awarded to the individual's agency or organization. Program directors are generally charged with reporting responsibilities. Research

grant programs generally refer to the program director as the principal investigator or PI.

Program officer: The individual at the authorizing agency responsible for administrative oversight of the grant program. Program officers are often extremely helpful throughout the grant application process, if applicants have thoroughly read the RFP and all other available materials yet still have additional questions.

Proposal: The document(s) submitted by a grant applicant, generally in response to an RFP. While proposals vary in length and content depending upon the requirements of the grant program, they generally include a proposal narrative, explaining the needs, goals, implementation plan and evaluation plan for the proposed initiative, a budget and a budget narrative, which provides a clear and concise description of every line item on the budget.

Request for proposals: See *Call for proposals* (CFP).

Reports: Most grant programs require recipients to submit annual and final reports throughout the life of the grant. Annual reports generally include a narrative explaining successes, benchmarks achieved, the progress of the grant-funded initiative and a financial report outlining expenditures to date. Final reports generally include evaluative information from all years of the grant's life, as well as plans for continuation and dissemination and a final budget outlining all expenses year-by-year.

Seed money: The money required to launch a new project or initiative. Also known as "start-up funds."

State administrative agency (SAA): In pass-through grants, the agency responsible for accepting federal dollars and distributing them to localities and municipalities. **HSI**

Annual University Network Summit on Research and Education
 March 15-16, 2007
 Sponsored by the Science and Technology Directorate Office of University Programs
 U.S. Department of Homeland Security

DHS University Programs of the Science and Technology (S&T) Directorate announces the first Annual University Network Summit on Research and Education.

The Summit will be held March 15-16, 2007, at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel in Washington, D.C.

DHS officials will be on hand to discuss research and education needs in the key Divisions of the S&T Directorate. Attendees will also have the opportunity to hear first-hand from leaders of the Centers of Excellence and other DHS-sponsored university initiatives on critical research areas for homeland security, including:

- Risk and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events
- Security of Agriculture and the Food System
- Studies of Terrorism and Response to Terrorism
- Preparedness and Catastrophic Event Response
- Information Analysis and Visualization
- Advances in Microbial Risk Assessment

To RSVP for the University Network Summit, please register at: http://www.oms.gov/DHS_RE_Summit07

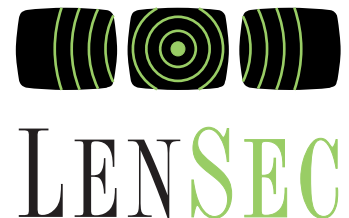


CITY-WIDE VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

Any camera  Any building  Any user  Any computer  Any location  Any time  Any where

LenSec provides City-Wide Video Surveillance solutions to Local clients that allow more effective remote management of facilities and enable instant, real-time collaboration with third-party agencies during an incident.

LenSec's Video Surveillance solutions allow any authorized user to access any camera at any facility from any computer over the LAN/WAN using only a standard browser. A single enterprise logon provides secure access to the live view of any camera within two mouse clicks and camera locations are easily identified on a graphical floor plan of the facility. LenSec's Video Surveillance solution is able to integrate with most other enterprise security and facilities systems.



www.lensec.com • 1800 Bering Drive, Suite 751, Houston, Texas 77057 • 800.348.4234