



Stimulus Funds to Purchase ShotSpotter Gunshot Location System (GLS): State Homeland Security Grant Program

Program Description and Funding Level

The State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHGP) provides funding to states to assist with activities designed to protect the country from man-made attacks. The program provides awards for training, equipment, exercises and planning. For FY 2009, there was \$950 million for this program.

Eligible Use of Funds

Funds may be used for equipment purchases, training, planning, and exercises related to Homeland Security defense needs. Gunshot location systems provide for situational awareness during attacks and are, therefore, an eligible use of funds. ShotSpotter has been certified by DHS and placed on the Authorized Equipment List (AEL). That list is a roster of pre-approved items and products that DHS pre-determines is eligible for acquisition. Because of this, SHGP grant recipients will not have to justify a request for a ShotSpotter gunshot location system.

How Funds Are Allocated and Distributed

Funds are distributed based on population and are available to all 50 states and the territories. Each state receives a base award of .25% of the year's appropriation. Award amounts on top of that are based on the risk of terrorist attack, amount of critical infrastructure, and top-secret intelligence regarding threat of attack. States must pass through a minimum of 80% of their award to local governments, including cities and counties.

Match

States must make a 25% non-federal match to their annual award. States are at liberty to pass this requirement along to any local government receiving funds.

How to Access These Funds for Your Community

1. Contact the state administering agency (usually the State Homeland Security Office or State Emergency Management Agency).
2. Determine the process by which the state meets its local pass through requirement (some states pass through money based on a formula; others use a statewide competition, while still others dole funds out regions within the state).
3. If allocations are made on a regional basis, determine who the coordinating authority is for your particular region and find out the specific application process.
4. Get in the funding cycle. Most communities have a local process for requesting funds through SHSGP and their decision-making process can start as early as a year before awards are actually made.