Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) - Information for Prospective Applicants

1.   What is the purpose of the SSD

The School Security Disbursement (SSD) Grant Program provides disbursements to local education providers and eligible nonprofit organizations to use for the purpose of improving security within public schools.

2.   What legislation authorized funding for SSD

The School Security Disbursement (SSD) Grant Program was enacted SB18-269 and the current legislation authorized funding by SB23-241

3.   How much funding is available under the SSD

The total amount available under the FY24 SSD is $16,000,000.00

4.   How do I apply

The application template and application handbook are located on our website. Completed applications for the School Security Disbursement Grant Program (SB 23-241) must be submitted via email to cdps_oss_ssd@state.co.us on or before Monday, January 29, 2024 by 5:00 PM MST.

5.   Am I an eligible entity to apply?

Local education providers, including school districts, charter schools, boards of cooperative services, or any combination of local education providers who wish to apply together as a single regional applicant are eligible to apply. Additionally, eligible nonprofit organizations who apply to work with specific local education providers or first responders are eligible to apply.

6. For what kinds of Security related activities can I apply

The program funds may only be used for the following purposes:

1. Capital construction that improves the security of a public school facility or public school vehicle, including any structure or installed hardware, device, or equipment that protects a public school facility or public school vehicle and the students, educators, and other individuals who attend, work in, or visit a public school facility or are transported in a public school vehicle from threats of physical harm including but not limited to any structure or installed hardware, device, or equipment that:
   a. Prevents the entry of unauthorized individuals into a public school facility or a protected space within a public school facility or onto a public school vehicle; or
   b. Can be used to expedite communication when a threat is present;
2. Training in student threat assessment for all school building staff who have contact with students, which must include best practices for conducting threat assessments, such as instruction on how to prevent bias when conducting a threat assessment;
3. In collaboration with local law enforcement agencies, providing the training for peace officers on interactions with students at school;
4. School emergency response training for all school building staff;
5. Programs to help student become more resilient in meeting the daily challenges they face without resorting to violence against themselves or others, including addressing the fundamental causes of violence and aggression and helping students become responsible members of their schools, neighborhoods, communities, and families;
6. Developing and providing training programs, curricula, and seminars related to school safety incident response;
7. Developing best practices and protocols related to school safety incident response;
8. Implementing a school resource officer program; and
9. Implementing a co-responder program.

7.   What is the application period and deadline?

The application period started when the FY24 SSD RFP was released on November 29, 2023. The application deadline is January 29, 2024, 5:00 PM MST.

8.   How will my application be reviewed or evaluated?

Applications will be reviewed by a committee utilizing a standardized scoring matrix.