



COLORADO

# *Enhance School Safety Incident Response (ESSIR) Grant Program*

Potential Applicants Webinar

September 4, 2025



**COLORADO**  
Department of Public Safety



# Agenda

- Welcome
  - Please ensure that your mic is muted
  - Please put your name and agency in the chat
  - The chat will be monitored for questions
- Intro to Office of School Safety (OSS) Grants Unit
- ESSIR Grant Program Overview
- Commitments to the grant
- Application
- Questions
- Closing



# *Intro to Office of School Safety*

## Vision

The Office of School Safety provides Colorado schools and communities with the tools and resources to create safe and positive school environments for all Colorado students, pre-kindergarten through higher education.

## Mission

The three units of the Office of School Safety support Colorado schools with the School Safety Resource Center providing resources, consultation, training, and technical assistance, the Crisis Response Unit training school personnel in responding to critical incidents and assisting when called upon and the Grants Unit researching and managing grant opportunities for schools.

- Created through SB23-241 and approved by Governor April 27- 2023.
- 1st Fiscal year began July 2024
- The SAFER grant program was transferred from Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHSEM) to OSS.

# *The OSS Grants unit*

The Grants Unit is established in the Office of School Safety to manage available school safety grant funding from state and federal authorities and provide grant training and consultation to schools across Colorado.

**Charli North**

Grant Manager

**Chamone Jones**

Grant Analyst

The OSS is the sole point of contact concerning these funds and all communications must be made through the Office of School Safety.

# About the Grant

Thank you for your interest in the ESSIR Grant program.

- The Enhance School Safety Incident Response Grant Program (ESSIR) originally enacted by [SB23-241](#) provides funding to eligible local nonprofit organizations to use for the purpose of or research, program development, and training to improve law enforcement school safety incident response.
- \$235,000 of funding is available to eligible applicants.

# *Allowable Expenses*

- Deliver training programs to teach law enforcement basic procedures for effective school safety incident response.

# *Eligible Participants*

## Non-profit organizations

- Eligible nonprofits are defined by the legislation as a organization that is exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the federal “Internal Revenue Code or 1986, as amended,” that applies to work with specific local education providers or first responders, and that:

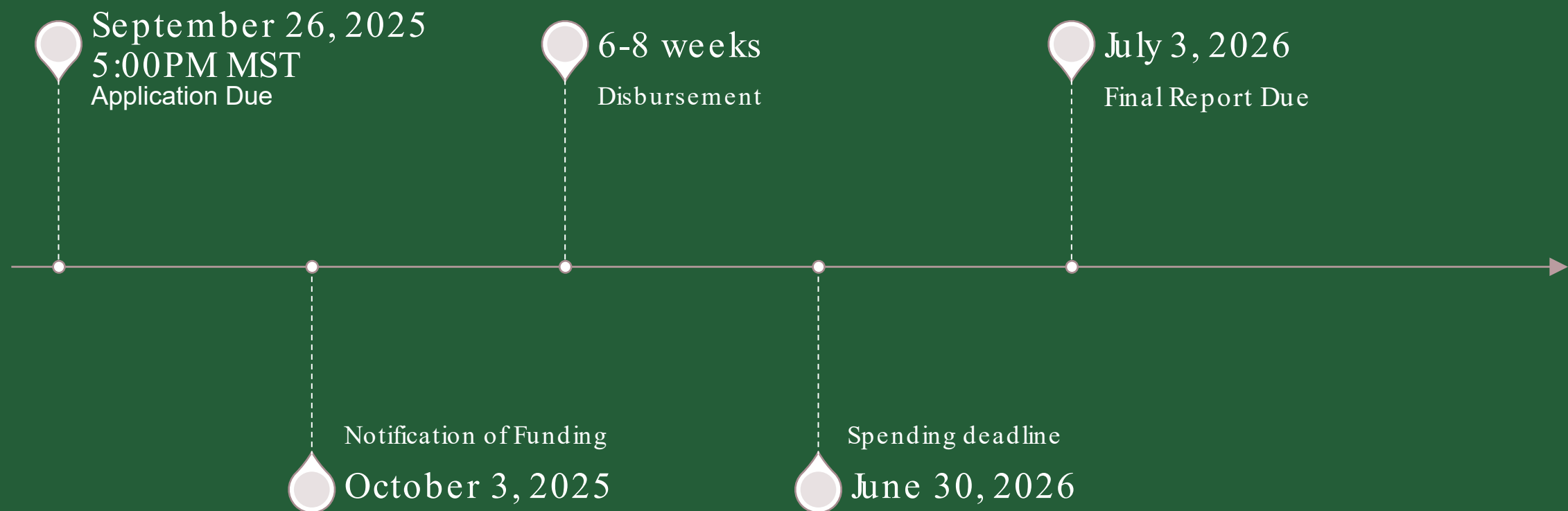
# *Eligible Participants Continued*

- Has experience providing training for school safety incident response;
- Has experience working with law enforcement agencies and other first Responders;
- Has experience working with school districts, school personnel, and students on issues related to school safety incident response; and
- Identifies in its application local law enforcement that will participate in school safety incident response training or programs.



# Grant Life Cycle

The ESSIR Grant Program has a one year grant life Cycle



# COMMITMENT TO THE GRANT

## REPORTING

Progress reporting is a requirement of the grant. Progress reports are due quarterly, 30 days after the end of the calendar reporting period, as shown in the table below.

Quarterly Reporting	Spending begins	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q4	Spending deadline	Final Report
Due dates	July 1, 2025	April 30	July 30	October 30	January 30	June 30, 2026	July 3, 2026
Reporting Period		Jan- March	April- June	July- Sept	Oct- Dec		

From inception of your Small Dollar Grant Agreement (SDGA), Progress Reporting begins, no matter where it falls in the table below. For example, if you have your SDGA effective **October 1st** - your first progress report is due **January 30th**.

# COMMITMENT TO THE GRANT

## REPORTING

The progress reports consists of two (2) sections, the narrative information and the financial updates. These reports keeps the Office of School Safety (OSS) informed with current information on your grant. The report requires original or dated electronic signatures from your organization's authorized representative.

### Narrative Information:

- Captures significant activity completed during the quarter.
- Identifies challenges/issues within the project
- Identifies any technical assistance needed from the OSS (note in the progress report if there were no expenses and why).

### Financial Updates:

- Identifies expenditures to date.
- Reported expenditures are broken down by project and solution area.



# *Applications*

# *Applications & Resources*

## *Applications:*

- [ESSIR Grant Program Application](#)

## *Resources*

- [Application Guide Book](#)
- [SB23-241](#)

# General Instructions

Read your Guidebook before you complete the application

- Ensure that all requested information is accurate, clearly written, and directly related to the grant's objectives.
- Double check all budget calculations to ensure consistency across all budget related sections.
- Any incomplete or incorrect applications may be subject to rejection.
- Please follow the instructions listed in the sections and questions.
- Late (applications and application documents received after September 26, 2025, 5:00PM) or incomplete submissions will not be eligible for consideration

[ESSIR Grant Program Application](#)



# Risk Assessment

The Self-Risk Assessment Tool is a critical component of the SAFER Grant Program, helping to ensure responsible financial stewardship of grant funds. Applicants should complete this assessment thoroughly to demonstrate their capability to manage grant funding efficiently.

There are two sections:

1. Applicant Information (Section A)
2. Assessment Tool (Section B)
  - a. For each question, select Yes, No, or N/A from the drop-down menu
  - b. Each “Yes” response earns one point, while “ No” or “N/A” responses receive 0 points
  - c. Use the comments column to provide explanation or additional context where needed Scoring and Risk Level

Score less than 4 Risk =Level High risk (Red)

Score 4-11 = Medium risk (Yellow)

Score 11+ = Low risk (Green)

# Application Requirements

- Completed and correct application submitted by **September 26, 2025** by **5:00 MST**
  - **Excel version** of application must be submitted solely or in addition to a PDF version
  - Signature Page- Must contain physical signature or certified signature with time stamps included
  - [W-9](#)
  - UEI- [SAMS.GOV](#)



# ***APPLICATION SUBMISSION***

All applications must be submitted to the following email address.

[CDPS\\_OSS\\_ESSIR@state.co.us](mailto:CDPS_OSS_ESSIR@state.co.us)

Application Deadline

[September 26, 2025, 5:00 PM MST](#)

Applications received after the deadline will not be reviewed or considered for funding.

The application and application handbook are located online

[FY2026 ESSIR Request for Proposals](#)



# *Grant Pre-Award Timeline*

- Announcement Released: August 28, 2025
- Potential Applicant Webinar Session 1 September 4 ,2025  
12:00 PM
- Potential Applicant Q&A Drop-In: September 11,2025
- Application Deadline: September 26, 2025, 5:00PM
- Notice of Funding Recommendations: October 3, 2025,  
5:00PM

# *Thank you!*

ESSIR Email: [cdps\\_oss\\_ESSIR@state.co.us](mailto:cdps_oss_ESSIR@state.co.us)

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# Questions?