

# **NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (NOFO)**

## **FY 2027 Maine Nonprofit Security Grant Program (ME-NSGP)**

Issued By: Maine Emergency Management Agency

Funding Opportunity Title: Maine Nonprofit Security Grant Program

Funding Instrument Type: Grant

Application Release Date: July 1, 2026

Application Deadline: August 9, 2026 at 11:59 PM ET

Period of Performance: 10/01/2026 – 04/30/2028

### **1. Program Description**

The FY 2027 Maine Nonprofit Security Grant Program (ME-NSGP) is a competitive state grant program established to provide funding support for target hardening and other physical security enhancements to nonprofit organizations that are at high risk of terrorist attacks, extremist attacks, hate crimes, or other targeted violence. The program aligns with the intent of Maine’s LD 2107, “An Act to Establish the Maine Nonprofit Security Grant Program.”

The purpose of the program is to integrate nonprofit preparedness activities with broader state and local preparedness efforts and to strengthen the safety and resilience of nonprofit organizations throughout the State of Maine.

The program supports nonprofit organizations in:

- Preventing targeted violence and terrorist attacks;
- Protecting personnel, visitors, and facilities;
- Enhancing emergency preparedness and resilience;
- Improving coordination with state and local public safety agencies; and
- Implementing physical security and cybersecurity enhancements.

### **2. Program Priorities**

The FY 2027 ME-NSGP prioritizes projects that:

- Address identified security vulnerabilities;
- Improve protection against extremist threats and targeted violence;
- Enhance emergency preparedness;

The State encourages applicants to coordinate with local law enforcement, emergency management agencies, and homeland security partners when developing projects.

### 3. Funding Information

#### Available Funding

The FY 2027 ME-NSGP is authorized pursuant to Maine LD 2107, “An Act to Establish the Maine Nonprofit Security Grant Program. This grant program will utilize State of Maine funds authorized by LD 2107 and appropriated to the Maine Emergency Management Agency within the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management.

**The release of this NOFO does not obligate MEMA to make an award.**

#### Funding Amount

The total amount of funding available through this NOFO is \$190,000.00. Applicants with one site may apply for up to \$25,000 for that site. Applicants with multiple sites may apply for up to \$25,000 per site, for up to three sites, for a maximum of \$75,000 per organization. If an applicant applies for projects at multiple sites, regardless of whether the projects are similar in nature, **each site must have its own application and include an assessment of the vulnerability and risk unique to each site.** Failure to do so may be cause for rejection of the application.

The grant will not be extended and will not be eligible for continuation unless additional state funds are made available in subsequent years.

#### Cost Share / Match

No cost share or match is required.

### 4. Period of Performance

The period of performance: 10/01/2026 – 03/31/2028

The anticipated start date: 10/01/2026

The liquidation period: 04/01/2028 – 05/15/2028

### 5. Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are nonprofit organizations located within the State of Maine that are:

- Described under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and exempt under Section 501(a); or
- Otherwise recognized by the State as nonprofit organizations serving the public interest.

Applicants must demonstrate that they are at high risk of a terrorist attack, extremist attack, hate crime, or targeted violence.

Organizations may include, but are not limited to:

- Religious institutions;
- Community centers;
- Educational nonprofits;
- Cultural organizations;
- Advocacy organizations; and
- Human services organizations.

## **6. Eligible Activities**

Funding may be used for projects that enhance physical security and preparedness capabilities. Allowable investments may include:

### **Planning**

Includes those activities that are related to protecting a facility, the people within the facility and those with access to the facility and providing for their functional needs; and includes developing and enhancing a nonprofit organization's security plans and protocols, emergency contingency plans and evacuation or shelter-in-place plans and the materials that are required to conduct planning activities.

### **Equipment**

Includes target hardening, physical and information technology security enhancements, acquisition and installation of security equipment on real property including buildings that are owned or leased by the nonprofit organization. Examples: reinforced doors and gates, perimeter lighting, exterior and interior door locking, alarm systems, camera-based security systems, access control systems, blast resistant film for windows or shatter resistant glass, lock-down systems, public address systems, high-intensity lighting and alarms, inspection and screening systems, and access control.

### **Physical Security Enhancements**

- Access control systems
- Video surveillance systems
- Intrusion detection systems
- Exterior lighting
- Bollards and barriers
- Blast-resistant film
- Door and lock upgrades
- Fencing and gates

### **Contract Security**

Costs of contract security are allowed. This funding may not be used to supplant expenses for the organization's current security but may be used to supplement additional security personnel needs based on identified risk. ME-NGSP grant funds may not be used to purchase equipment for contract security.

### **Unallowable Costs**

Funds may not be used for:

- Weapons or ammunition;
- General operating expenses;
- Routine maintenance unrelated to security;
- Construction not directly related to security enhancements;
- Personnel salaries for ongoing operations;
- Entertainment expenses;
- Lobbying activities; or
- Projects unrelated to security or preparedness.

## **7. Modifications**

### **Changes to Scope of Work**

Recipients are selected through a competitive process. Projects are rated and ranked based on the application as submitted. Therefore, changes to the scope of work after an application is submitted are not allowed. The expectation is for each Applicant to thoroughly plan out the entire process of each proposed project from project conception to completion.

### **Financial Modifications**

Funds can be moved from one already approved project to another. Any modification must be approved by the MEMA Grant Manager through the modification documentation process.

### **Extensions**

There are no extensions. Recipients are expected to complete all grant-funded activities by the end of the period of performance. Any costs incurred outside of the period of performance will be unallowable under the grant award. Unused funds remaining at the end of the period of performance will not be reimbursed.

## 8. Application

### Application Requirements

A UEI number is not required at the time of the application; it is only required prior to issuance of the grant award. If the Applicant does not have a UEI number currently, the Applicant should apply for the UEI number immediately to avoid a delay in issuance of the grant award, visit SAM.gov for more information.

Applicants must submit:

1. Completed application form
2. Vulnerability/risk assessment
3. IRS determination letter or proof of nonprofit status
4. Mission statement and organizational overview

Applications are submitted via email to the grants inbox. **The subject line MUST be: “FY26-27 ME NSGP, (organization name).**

Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

### Conflict of Interest Disclosure Requirement

Organizations selected for funding will be required to submit signed Conflict of Interest Disclosure forms for members of their governing board as part of the application and award documentation process. The purpose of this requirement is to promote transparency, accountability, and sound fiscal management practices.

### Investment Justification Requirements

Applicants must describe:

- The identified threats and vulnerabilities;
- Symbolic or strategic significance of the organization;
- Existing security gaps;
- Proposed security enhancements;
- How the project will reduce risk;
- If they coordinate with local emergency management and law enforcement partners.

Applications should demonstrate a clear connection between identified risks and proposed investments.

### Application Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on:

- Demonstrated risk and vulnerability;

- Proposed project effectiveness;
- Feasibility and sustainability;
- Alignment with program priorities; and
- Cost effectiveness.

Priority may be given to organizations that:

- Have experienced threats or incidents;
- Serve vulnerable populations;
- Have limited financial resources; or
- Demonstrate strong coordination with public safety partners.
- Have not participated in the Federal Nonprofit Security Grant Program

### Review and Selection Process

This is a competitive grant program. MEMA reserves the right to deny any grant application or to provide reduced funding to any grantee.

Application packages are reviewed based on the following criteria:

1. MEMA review of Applicant eligibility, this may include a request for proof of 501(c)3 status.
  - a. Receipt of a **complete** application package. A complete application package includes:
    - i. An application
    - ii. A vulnerability assessment
    - iii. Mission Statement
2. All applications will be assessed as follows:
  - a. Completeness of Application – The information required for each of the following Sections I through VI.

SECTION	POSSIBLE POINTS
Applicant Information	Not Scored
Background	5
Risk	15
Facility Hardening	10
Milestones	10
Impact	15
*Not a previous Federal NSGP recipient will automatically receive 10 points.	10

<b>Total Possible Points</b>	<b>65</b>
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### **Application Submission Information**

Applications must be submitted electronically through the State's grant application system link found on MEMA's [NSGP](#) page.

Applications are due no later than: August 9, 2026 at 11:59pm

Late applications will not be accepted.

MEMA is not responsible for any technical difficulties at the sub-applicant level.

### **Application Scoring Results**

- State Award Notices: The Notice of State Award (NOSA) will specify the funding terms and specific conditions resulting from the pre-award risk assessments and the merit review process. NOSA is not an authorization to begin performance or incur costs.
- Unsuccessful applicants will be notified via email.
- All notices will be sent to the point of contact indicated in the application.

MEMA shall execute a grant agreement with each applicant to whom a grant is awarded. The agreement will be 2CFR200 compliant and will specify the parties to the grant, the grant performance period, the amount of the grant, and that unspent grant funds will remain with the State. The State of Maine may audit records required to be maintained to

verify that grant funds were used for permissible uses under the grant, and any other standard provisions required to be included in grant agreements entered into by the State.

After an introductory call (award call) regarding awards and next steps, MEMA will send the grant agreement for signature to the point of contact indicated in the application or other contact specified in the award call. The grant agreement must be signed by both the grantee and MEMA prior to funding being disbursed.

Successful applicants will receive:

- An official award notification
- Grant agreement documents
- Reporting requirements
- Compliance guidance

Subrecipients must comply with all applicable:

- Federal and State laws and regulations regarding grant awards
- Procurement requirements
- Financial management standards
- Monitoring and reporting obligations

#### **Denials:**

Upon request, a debriefing conference will be scheduled with an unsuccessful Applicant. The request for a debriefing conference must be received by the Grant Manager within three (3) business days after the Notification of Unsuccessful Applicant notice is emailed to the Applicant. The debriefing must be scheduled within three (3) business days of the request.

Discussion at the debriefing conference is strictly limited to the following:

- Evaluation and scoring of that organization's Application;
- Any written comments from evaluators related to that Applicant;
- Review of their final score in comparison with the other final scores without identifying the other participants or reviewing their applications.

Comparisons between proposals or evaluations of the other proposals are not allowed. Debriefing conferences may be conducted on the telephone or by other electronic means and will be scheduled for a maximum of thirty (30) minutes. MEMA reserves the right to end a debriefing for any reason.

## **9. Grant Management**

### **Reimbursement**

- **Budget:** Following execution of the grant agreement, a grantee shall submit a copy of documents that verify expenditures or anticipated expenditures to MEMA for review in accordance with the approved Project budget.
- **Payments:** MEMA will disburse funding to grantees via the reimbursement method.

### **Reporting Requirements**

Award recipients will be required to submit:

- Quarterly financial reports
- Quarterly Progress reports
- Final performance reports

Site visits and monitoring activities may occur throughout the award period.

### **Technical Assistance**

The State will provide:

- Online trainings
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
- Technical assistance sessions

Information regarding trainings and assistance sessions will be posted on the [MEMA NSGP](#) page.

### **Environmental and Historical Reviews**

The MEMA grant program team will work with recipients on which projects are required to have a review by the State's Historic Preservation Commission. The team will assist recipients through this process. If the project is not approved by the Commission, the grant funds cannot be used to fund the project.

## **10. Questions**

Questions regarding this funding opportunity should be directed to the ME-NSGP Program Team at [HSGrants.Maine@Maine.Gov](mailto:HSGrants.Maine@Maine.Gov).