

Federal Cybersecurity Grant Programs

Recognizing the escalating threat of cyberattacks, the federal government has made cybersecurity grant funding a top priority. State and local governments, which manage much of the nation’s critical infrastructure, are particularly at risk due to their limited resources. These grants are designed to enhance the cybersecurity capabilities of local communities, protecting vital sectors such as transportation, healthcare, and water systems. This funding is part of a comprehensive national strategy that includes defending critical infrastructure, disrupting cyber threats, and investing in future resilience.

The following information serves as a resource for organizations in Maine, outlining various federal grant programs and providing a high-level overview of the application process and eligibility information, making it easier for communities to secure the funding they need to enhance their cybersecurity infrastructure.

Program	Overview	Funding Eligibility	Application Timing	Additional Info
<u>State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP)</u>	The SLCGP, administered by FEMA and CISA, provides funding to state, local, and territorial (SLT) governments to manage and reduce systemic cyber risk	Eligible entities include state, local, territorial, and Tribal (SLTT) governments. In Maine, eligible entities include local governments and school districts.	The Maine Emergency Management Agency applies for this grant on the state's behalf. Eligible entities are contacted directly with opportunities to participate in services funded through this grant program	The program aims to address cybersecurity risks and threats to information systems owned or operated by, or on behalf of, SLTT governments
<u>Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP)</u>	The HSGP supports state, local, tribal, and territorial governments in enhancing their ability to prevent, prepare for, protect against, and respond to potential terrorist attacks	State, local, tribal, and territorial (SLTT) governments, as well as nonprofit organizations	Varies yearly. FEMA awards grant funds to the State. Maine allocates this grant to the sixteen County Emergency Management Agencies, who determine the homeland security funding priorities and application process within their jurisdiction.	The HSGP includes three interconnected grant programs: State Homeland Security Program (SHSP), Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI), and Operation Stonegarden (OPSG)
<u>Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP)</u>	The NSGP provides funding support for target hardening and other physical security enhancements to nonprofit organizations at high risk of terrorist attack	Nonprofit organizations described under section 501©(3) of the Internal Revenue Code	The application process requires a Vulnerability/Risk Assessment and is a competitive program.	The program integrates nonprofit preparedness activities with broader state and local preparedness efforts

Additional programs on next page.



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<u>CyberCorps®: Scholarship for Service (SFS)</u>	The program provides scholarships to students in cybersecurity-related fields in exchange for service in a government agency after graduation	U.S. citizens or permanent residents pursuing a degree in cybersecurity or a related field. Students must agree to work for a government agency in a cybersecurity role for a period equivalent to the length of the scholarship	Continuing Grant. Anticipated funding amount is \$20,000,000 with 12-16 recipients	Program goal is to increase the number of qualified cybersecurity professionals, improve national capacity for cybersecurity education, and strengthen partnerships between educational institutions and government agencies
<u>Cybersecurity Education and Training Assistance Program (CETAP)</u>	Equips K-12 teachers across the country with cybersecurity curricula, professional development, and education tools that focus on growing and educating the next generation of the cyber-literate workforce	CISA awarded a total of \$6.8 million in funding through CETAP to the non-profit, CYBER.ORG	Opt-in for this free resource is ongoing with no hard deadlines	The program embraces a focus on underserved schools in low socioeconomic regions, as the majority of all new teachers and attendees come from low-income, Title I schools
<u>Tribal Cybersecurity Grant Program (TCGP)</u>	Enables DHS to provide targeted cybersecurity resources that will improve the security of critical infrastructure and resilience for Tribal governments	\$18.2 million available to 32 Tribal governments – all 574 federally recognized tribal governments were eligible to apply	All federally recognized Tribal governments are eligible to apply	The framework of the program was made because of nation-to-nation consultations with tribal representatives across the country and is intended to support tribal cybersecurity resiliency
<u>Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)</u>	The BRIC program supports states, local governments, tribes, and territories in reducing hazard risk and building resilience	Local Governments, Federally recognized Tribal Governments, and State Agencies who have a FEMA-approved Local Hazard Mitigation (LHMP).	FEMA can fund projects that include a cybersecurity subcomponent. Please refer to the Notices of Funding Opportunities on FEMA's website for specific language regarding eligibility	BRIC cost share is 75% federal cost share funding/ 25% non-federal cost share funding.
<u>EPA Cybersecurity Funding</u>	The EPA provides grants to small, underserved, and disadvantaged public water systems to improve resilience against natural hazards and cybersecurity threats	Small, underserved, and disadvantaged public water systems	Funding is awarded on a competitive basis	New programs specifically aimed at medium and large water systems will be available in fall 2024

If you're viewing this online, please click on each program name above to find out more information.

