



Pennsylvania  
**Commission on Crime  
and Delinquency**

## **School Safety and Security Committee**

### **Targeted School Safety Grants for Nonpublic Schools**

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### **Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Solicitation**

**Initial requests for the FY2024-25 Targeted School Safety Grants for Nonpublic Schools must be submitted via SurveyMonkey. If recommended for approval, entities will complete a final application within PCCD's Egrants system.**

### **SurveyMonkey Application Deadline:**

**Thursday, September 26, 2024**

### **Initial Request SurveyMonkey Link:**

**[2024-25 Targeted School Safety Grants for Nonpublic Schools Survey](#)**

If you have questions seeking clarification to this funding announcement, please send them via email to [RA-CD-NPSEC-GRANT@pa.gov](mailto:RA-CD-NPSEC-GRANT@pa.gov) with "Targeted School Safety grants for Nonpublic Schools" in the subject line. All questions regarding this funding announcement must be received by close of business on Monday, September 23, 2024. PCCD staff will post responses to questions, as they are received, on [PCCD's website](#). Select the appropriate funding announcement to view questions and answers.

School districts, intermediate units, area career and technical schools, charter schools, cyber charter schools, and regional charter schools are not eligible to apply under this solicitation. They are eligible to apply under the 2024-25 School Safety & Mental Health Grant noncompetitive solicitation located within PCCD's Egrants system.

**PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY**  
**School Safety and Security Committee**

**Submission Requirements for Applications:**

- **Scoring** – All submissions received will be competitively reviewed and scored based on the entities' adherence to the funding announcement guidelines and timely submission.
- **Due Date** – Submissions must be made electronically through the SurveyMonkey link no later than 11:45 PM on **September 26, 2024**.
- **Technical Assistance** – PCCD staff may only respond to questions to clarify the funding announcement. Questions must be sent via email to [RA-CD-NPSEC-GRANT@pa.gov](mailto:RA-CD-NPSEC-GRANT@pa.gov) with Targeted School Safety grants for Nonpublic Schools in the subject line. All questions regarding this funding announcement must be received by close of business on Monday, September 23, 2024. PCCD staff will post responses to questions, as they are received, on PCCD's website. Select the appropriate funding announcement to view questions and answers.
- **Administrative Rejection** – A submission that does not meet all the listed requirements in this funding announcement may be administratively rejected.
- **Non-supplantation** – Funding must not be used to supplant/replace state, federal, or local funds that would otherwise be available to provide for program-related services. PCCD funding is to be used in addition to other funds that are made available for services.

## PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY

### 1. Overview:

The School Safety and Security Committee (SSSC) within the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) is now accepting requests from nonpublic schools for safety and security funding under Article XIII-B (relating to school safety and security) of the PA Public School Code of 1949. Initial requests must be submitted via an online form using the SurveyMonkey link on the title page of this announcement. **Please refer to Appendix A for a step-by-step version of the SurveyMonkey application for reference prior to filling out your request.**

This competitive funding announcement is specifically for the following eligible entities:

- **Nonpublic schools**, which are defined by [Section 923.3-A of the PA Public School Code](#) as “any school, other than a public school within this Commonwealth, wherein a resident of this Commonwealth may legally fulfill the compulsory school attendance requirements of this act<sup>1</sup> and which meets the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-352, 78 Stat. 241),” which also include **Approved Private Schools** and **Private Residential Rehabilitative Institutions**, to support activities allowed under 24 P.S. §13-1306-B(j) or programs that address school violence by establishing or enhancing school security, including costs associated with the training and compensation of school security personnel; and
- **Municipalities, law enforcement agencies, and approved vendors** to support school security personnel services for public school entities and nonpublic schools.

The goal of this solicitation is to make school entities within this Commonwealth safer places. To support that goal, priority considerations under this competitive funding announcement include:

- Supporting nonpublic schools seeking to meet [Level 1 Baseline Criteria](#) (revised and adopted by the SSSC, May 2023), which are standards that assist school entities in guiding their decisions about their physical security and behavioral health needs.<sup>2</sup>
- Supporting expenses related to gaps identified within a professionally completed assessment (e.g. physical security assessment conducted by Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) RVAT or an individual on the [SSSC’s registry](#) and/or a behavioral health assessment by an individual on the SSSC’s registry).

**If an entity’s initial request submitted via SurveyMonkey is recommended for funding by the SSSC, the entity will be contacted to finalize a formal application within PCCD’s Egrants system. Per Act 55 of 2024, nonpublic schools no longer need to formally apply through their Intermediate Unit (IU) if approved by PCCD for funding.**

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<sup>1</sup> Per [Section 1326 of the PA Public School Code](#), compulsory school age attendance begins no later than age six (6) in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Per [22 Pa. Code § 51.62. Admission of students](#), the minimum entry age for beginning students is grade 1. Since the definition of eligible nonpublic schools require the legal fulfillment of compulsory school attendance requirements, only those nonpublic schools providing grade 1 and above are eligible to apply. NOTE: Early education centers that support pre-K, kindergarten-only, or K-1 schools are not eligible to apply since they are not covered under Pennsylvania’s compulsory school attendance laws.

<sup>2</sup> Developed with input by school safety and behavioral health experts across Pennsylvania, the [Baseline Criteria](#) organize policies, programs, activities, equipment, and trainings into a multi-leveled chart from Level 1, which are the most basic physical and behavioral health-related security elements a school entity should have, to Level 3, which are the most advanced elements. A priority focus of the SSSC is to ensure that all school entities, at a minimum, meet a basic, Level 1 standard of safety for students and staff.

## 2. Funding Availability:

A total of \$19,665,000 in state school safety and security funds is being announced to support this initiative. Per Section 1306.1-B of the PA Public School Code, nonpublic schools are eligible for no less than \$14,551,000 in total awards. Applicants can request up to \$75,000 for a project period up-to-18 months.

PCCD is not liable for costs incurred prior to the official start date of the award.

## 3. Project Dates:

Requests approved at the November 13, 2024 SSSC meeting will be for up-to-18-month projects and have a start date of January 1, 2025, pending a final application within PCCD's Egrants system that meets all programmatic and fiscal requirements.

## 4. Eligible Entities:

- **Nonpublic schools**, which are defined by [Section 923.3-A of the PA Public School Code](#) as "any school, other than a public school within this Commonwealth, wherein a resident of this Commonwealth may legally fulfill the compulsory school attendance requirements of this act and which meets the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-352, 78 Stat. 241)." The term also includes approved private schools and private residential rehabilitative institutions; and
- **Municipalities, law enforcement agencies, and approved vendors**<sup>3</sup> to support school security personnel services for public school entities and nonpublic schools.

Note: It is incumbent upon the nonpublic school to determine if they are an eligible entity. PCCD will not make that determination. Classification of school entities is based on the PA Department of Education designation which can be found on the [Educational Names and Addresses](#) page. *If a nonpublic school has multiple school campuses with different AUNs, the entity may submit a separate request for each campus.*

**\*NEW\*** Nonpublic schools recommended for funding will be required to submit a final application within PCCD's Egrants system. Pursuant to Act 55 of 2024, IUs will no longer be applying on a nonpublic school's behalf.

Entities must be in good standing with PCCD to be eligible for these funds.<sup>4</sup> The organization's and recipient agencies' historical success in implementing PCCD-funded programs/initiatives that met their intended goals will be considered in the review process. Entities are not required to have a prior funding history with PCCD to be eligible.

## 5. Eligible Program Activities and Expenses:

Per the SSSC, priority consideration will be given to entities designated as, or serving, persistently dangerous schools as defined in 22 Pa. Code §403.2 (relating to definitions); supporting nonpublic schools seeking grant funding to meet Level 1 [Baseline Criteria](#) (revised and adopted by the SSSC, May 2023), which are standards that assist school entities in guiding their decisions about their physical security and behavioral health needs;

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<sup>3</sup> Eligible approved vendors are those that were previously approved by the PA Department of Education or PCCD's [School Security Guard Vendor List](#).

<sup>4</sup> This may include, but is not limited to, compliance with PCCD program and fiscal reporting requirements, State and Federal funding guidelines, and acceptable risk rating as determined by PCCD.

and supporting expenses related to gaps identified within a professionally completed assessment (e.g., physical security assessment conducted by Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) RVAT or an individual on the [SSSC's registry](#) and/or a behavioral health assessment by an individual on the SSSC's registry).

Entities that have received an award in a prior year may submit a request for funding, but prior awards may be taken into consideration during the competitive review process.

To ensure geographic distribution of awards as required by 24 P.S. §13-1306-B(c), the review shall consider allocating funding to IU regions based on the total percentage of the funding requests of the applicants for that region.

The full listing of eligible activities under Section 1306-B(J) as amended by Act 55 of 2024 is as follows:

(j) Specific purposes.--The committee shall provide grants to school entities for programs that address safety and security, including:

- (1) Safety and security assessments that meet the committee's criteria.<sup>5</sup>
- (2) Conflict resolution or dispute management, including restorative justice strategies.
- (3) School-wide positive behavior support<sup>6</sup> that includes primary or universal, secondary and tertiary supports and interventions in school entities.
- (4) School-based diversion programs as defined in section 1301-A<sup>7</sup>, including costs associated with the hiring of qualified professional staff members to provide assistance and services related to the programs.
- (5) Peer helper programs.
- (6) Risk assessment, safety-related, violence prevention curricula, including dating violence curricula, restorative justice strategies, mental health early intervention, self-care, and suicide awareness and prevention curricula.
- (7) Classroom management.
- (8) Student codes of conduct.
- (9) Training to undertake a districtwide assessment of risk factors that increase the likelihood of problem behaviors among students.
- (10) Development and implementation of research-based violence prevention programs that address risk factors to reduce incidents of problem behaviors among students, including, but not limited to, mental health early intervention, self-care, bullying, and suicide awareness and prevention.
- (11) Thorough, districtwide school safety, violence prevention, emergency preparedness and all-hazards plans, including revisions or updates to such plans and conducting emergency preparedness drills and related activities with local emergency responders.

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<sup>5</sup> School entities seeking funding to perform safety and security assessments must utilize the criteria adopted by the SSSC. Further, the SSSC has developed a registry of vendors recognized as performing safety and security assessments utilizing the SSSC's criteria. The criteria and registry can both be found online at PCCD's website at <https://www.pccd.pa.gov/schoolsafety/Pages/default.aspx>.

<sup>6</sup> Act 33 of 2023 revised the definition of "school-wide positive behavior support" to mean a school-wide, evidence-based tiered framework for supporting students' behavioral, academic, social, emotional and mental health.

<sup>7</sup> Act 33 of 2023 revised the definition of "school-based diversion programs" to mean programs and interventions designed to redirect youth who commit minor offenses in school from exclusionary disciplinary practices or formal processing in the juvenile justice system, while still holding the student accountable for the student's actions. These programs include, but are not limited to, youth aid panels, positive youth development programming, teen/youth courts, restorative justice interventions, truancy prevention and intervention programs, mentoring programs, and intervention programs and educational practices to assist students with persistent disruptive and serious problem behaviors.

- (12) Security planning and purchase of security-related technology, which may include metal detectors, protective lighting, specialty trained canines, surveillance equipment, special emergency communications equipment, automated external defibrillators, electronic locksets, deadbolts, trauma kits and theft control devices, and training in the use of security-related technology.<sup>8</sup>
- (13) Institution of student, staff, and visitor identification systems, including criminal background check software.
- (14) Provision of specialized staff and student training programs, including training for Student Assistance Program team members in the referral of students at risk of violent behavior to appropriate community-based services and behavioral health services and training related to prevention and early intervention.
- (15) Counseling services for students, including costs associated with the training and compensation of mental health staff or expanding contracts with mental health providers that provide support to students in a school setting.
- (16) A system for the management of student discipline, including misconduct and criminal offenses.
- (17) Staff training programs in the use of positive behavior supports, de-escalation techniques, appropriate responses to student behavior that may require immediate intervention, and trauma-informed treatment for mental health providers in schools.
- (18) Costs associated with the training and compensation of school security personnel.
- (19) Costs associated with the training and compensation of certified school counselors, licensed professional counselors, licensed social workers, licensed clinical social workers, and school psychologists.
- (20) Administration of evidence-based screenings for adverse childhood experiences that are proven to be determinants of physical, social, and behavioral health and provide trauma-informed counseling services as necessary to students based upon the screening results.
- (21) Trauma-informed approaches to education<sup>9</sup>, including:
- (i) Increasing student and school employee access to quality trauma support services and behavioral health care, including the following:
    - (A) Hiring or contracting with certified school counselors, licensed professional counselors, licensed social workers, licensed clinical social workers, school psychologists, and other professional health personnel to provide services to students and school employees.
    - (B) Developing collaborative efforts between the school entity and behavioral health professionals to identify students in need of trauma support and to provide prevention, screening, referral, and treatment services to students potentially in need of services.
    - (C) Partnering with community-based organizations for peer or family support.
    - (D) Training on youth-focused mental health first aid for school employees to help recognize signs of mental health distress in students.
    - (E) Providing activities to improve mental health in a school entity and after-school programming.

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<sup>8</sup> Act 33 of 2023 eliminated a provision within Activity 12 that required applicants to provide a letter of support from the school entity's board of school directors to support security planning and purchase of security-related technology. This letter of support, board minutes, or other documentation are no longer needed to justify these purchases under this Activity section.

<sup>9</sup> The PA Public School Code requires that any school entity applying for a grant under 24 P.S. §13-1306-B(j)(21) (i.e., trauma-informed approaches to education) utilize a trauma-informed approach plan that meets the criteria established in statute and through a [Model Trauma-Informed Approach Plan](#) adopted by the SSSC on August 28, 2019. Applicants may utilize their own existing plan, provided that it meets the SSSC's Model Plan criteria, or may seek funding to support the development of their own plan.

- (ii) Programs providing:
  - (A) Trauma-informed approaches to education in the curriculum, including training of school employees, school directors, and behavioral health professionals to develop safe, stable, and nurturing learning environments that prevent and mitigate the effects of trauma.
  - (B) Services for children and their families, as appropriate, who have experienced or are at risk of experiencing trauma, including those who are low-income, homeless, involved in the child welfare system, or involved in the juvenile justice system.
- (22) Programs designed to reduce community violence, including:
  - (i) Increasing access to quality trauma-informed support services and behavioral health care by linking the community with local trauma support and behavioral health systems.
  - (ii) Providing health services and intervention strategies by coordinating the services provided by eligible applicants and coordinated care organizations, public health entities, nonprofit youth service providers, and community-based organizations.
  - (iii) Providing mentoring and other intervention models to children and their families who have experienced trauma or are at risk of experiencing trauma, including those who are low-income, homeless, in foster care, involved in the criminal justice system, unemployed, experiencing a mental illness or substance abuse disorder, or not enrolled in or at risk of dropping out of an educational institution.
  - (iv) Fostering and promoting communication between the school entity, community, and law enforcement.
  - (v) Any other program or model designed to reduce community violence and approved by the committee.
- (23) The implementation of [Article XIII-E \(relating to threat assessment\)](#).<sup>10</sup>
- (24) Expanding telemedicine delivery of school-based mental health services, including equipment.
- (25) Providing technical assistance for a school entity related to billing insurance providers in order to better provide mental health services in a school setting.
- (26) Creating or expanding Statewide programs and intervention frameworks, such as school assistance programs, positive behavioral intervention and supports, and multitiered systems of support.
- (27) Training and related materials for school employees or students that are evidence based and focus on identifying the signs and signals of anxiety, depression, suicide, or self-harm in students and best practices for seeking appropriate mental health assistance.
- (28) Providing, increasing, or enhancing partnerships between a school entity and a community-based nonprofit organization, a Statewide youth-serving nonprofit, or a library for out-of-school programming for at-risk school-age students.
- (29) Coordinating and integrating local and county mental health services and programs for school employees or students.
- (30) Providing online programs, educational materials, and applications to provide supplemental mental health services to students that may include peer support, self-guided evidenced-based therapeutic tools, and clinical interactions.

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<sup>10</sup> For more information about Threat Assessment Teams, please see PCCD's [Threat Assessment \(pa.gov\)](#) webpage for resources and training opportunities.

(31) Purchase of cell phone lockable bags. A school entity that applies for funding under this paragraph must adopt a policy relating to prohibiting the use of cell phones during the school day.<sup>11 12</sup>

**Municipalities, law enforcement and approved vendors** are limited to requests to provide school security personnel services within schools (see activity 18 listed above). School security personnel services include school police officers, school resource officers, and school security guard services. Applicants should be aware that all provisions of [Article XIII-C](#) (relating to school security), including training requirements, are applicable to projects supported under this solicitation.

## 6. Budget Guidance

Entities are not required to have specific quotes, nor bids, during the initial SurveyMonkey application process. However, entities should ensure that reviewers have a CLEAR understanding of how much funding is being requested for each item, activity, or service.

If recommended for funding, entities will be required to adhere the Administrative Requirements noted in Section 10 of this document.

Per the PA Public School Code, grant funds shall be used to supplement and not supplant existing spending on school safety and security. Requested funds should be used to enhance and add to security. The following provides examples to assist in determining whether the requested activities are considered supplantation.

### **Supplantation is NOT:**

- Requesting school safety funding in a subsequent year for the same purpose and amount awarded in a previous PCCD school safety grant.
- Requesting items/personnel that are currently funded but not currently included/reoccurring in the school entities budget (e.g., other grant funds, temporary funds, etc.).
- Requesting additional funding to increase the hours of personnel currently part-time or increase program/activity capacity (e.g., adding additional cameras above and beyond what is currently budgeted).

### **Supplantation is:**

- Requesting funding for activities/personnel/items currently included in the school entity's yearly budget.
- Utilizing grant funds to retroactively support expenses already procured (e.g., using grant funds to pay ongoing expenses as part of a previously executed contract or purchase order).

The SSSC, in its discretion, may award in whole or in part a request made by a school entity in its grant application based upon the merit of a specific item requested. PCCD has approval of all final budgets and may require budget reductions or modifications.

PCCD may also randomly audit and monitor grant recipients to ensure the appropriate use of grant funds and compliance with provisions of the grant program, which includes confirming grant funds were used to satisfy Level 1 Baseline Criteria (if applicable).

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<sup>11</sup> This is a new mental health activity added by Act 55 of 2024.

<sup>12</sup> NOTE: In the PCCD Egrants system and in SurveyMonkey, certain items/activities on this list may be summarized and will appear truncated.



Sustainability planning is not a necessary component of an application under this solicitation.

Due to the competitive nature of this funding announcement, PCCD is unable to answer questions about specific proposals. (Note: Questions seeking clarification on funding announcement or application requirements may be emailed to PCCD staff at [RA-CD-NPSEC-GRANT@pa.gov](mailto:RA-CD-NPSEC-GRANT@pa.gov). Answers to submitted questions will be posted to PCCD's [Active Funding Announcements](#) page.)

## 7. Ineligible Program Activities and Expenses:

As noted previously, municipalities, law enforcement, and approved vendors may only apply to provide school security personnel services within public school entities or nonpublic schools. Items or activities outside the scope of school security personnel services may be deemed ineligible.

For nonpublic schools, any item or activity not included in [24 P.S. §13-1306-B\(j\)\(1-31\)](#) may be deemed ineligible.

The SSSC has also previously determined that retractable safety batons for classroom staff, "Framework for Understanding Poverty" book and workbooks, tactical handcuffs and nylon restraints, and school safety hotlines are ineligible expenses.

## 8. Request Procedures:

Initial requests must be submitted via SurveyMonkey. There will be a separate set of questions for nonpublic schools and municipalities, law enforcement, and approved vendors.

Click [HERE](#) for the SurveyMonkey link.

See APPENDIX A of this document for the SurveyMonkey questions.

It is strongly recommended that you review the PDF version of the SurveyMonkey initial request form (or Appendix A) prior to filling out the actual form.

**SurveyMonkey Tip:** The SurveyMonkey initial request form is formatted to only accept one survey per IP, or per computer/device. If seeking to submit multiple applications, applicants can try to utilize different web browsers (e.g., Google Chrome, Mozilla Fox, Opera, Safari, Microsoft Edge, etc.) or deleting the browsers' cookies. If those options do not work, you may need to utilize another computer/device to create and submit another application.

PCCD recommends that entities have the following information prepared in advance of starting their SurveyMonkey application:

- The organization's general contact information, including contacts for two individuals that will be the main points of contact for the entity. Nonpublic schools will also be asked to provide their AUN number and verify that they are a nonpublic school by referring to their EdNA classification through the PA Department of Education (PDE).

- Information on any prior security program grants or awards the organization may have received through PCCD, PA Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), PDE, or other sources.
- Identification and selection of the appropriate item(s) or activity/activities from the eligible items listed in [24 P.S. §13-1306-B\(j\)](#) that funds will be used to support.
- Nonpublic schools will be asked questions as required in law, including the purpose for which the targeted grant will be utilized; information indicating the need for the targeted grant, including, but not limited to, school violence statistics;<sup>13</sup> methods for measuring outcomes; and information related to financial need. They will also be asked about Level 1 Baseline Criteria gaps; to provide a summary of the eligible items requested; and provide a best estimate of the proposed project costs.
- Municipalities, law enforcement, and approved vendors will also be asked about Level 1 Baseline Criteria gaps in school security personnel; to provide a short narrative on their project request; and to provide a best estimate of proposed project costs. Other questions, as required by law, will also be asked, including:
  - Whether they utilize school security personnel who have completed the training and qualifications required under Article XIII-C.
  - If applying for a school police officer, do they satisfy all the following:
    - (a) are retired federal agents or retired state, municipal, or military police officers.
    - (b) are independent contractors of the school entity or nonpublic school.
    - (c) are compensated on an hourly basis and receive no other compensation or fringe benefits from the school entity or nonpublic school.
    - (d) have completed annual training as required by the municipal police officers' education and training commission under 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 21 Subchapter D (relating to municipal police education and training).
    - (e) the requirements of Section 111 of the PA Public School Code.
    - (f) in the case of a school entity, have been indemnified by the school entity under 42 Pa.C.S. § 8548 (relating to indemnity).
    - (g) are utilized by a school entity or nonpublic school that has not employed a school police officer within the three years immediately preceding the effective date of this section.
- Entities will be able to provide supporting documentation as part of their application (e.g., include a partially scanned copy of any physical security or behavioral health assessment, etc.).

Once an applicant clicks the submit button on the last page, the initial request will be submitted to PCCD. Applicants will not be able to make any other edits to that application once it is submitted. PLEASE NOTE that SurveyMonkey will not provide you with an

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<sup>13</sup> Per [Section 1306.1-B\(l\)\(1\)\(ii\) of the PA Public School Code](#), the request for a targeted grant shall include 'information indicating the need for the targeted grant, including, but not limited to, school violence statistics.' Possible examples of these school violence statistics include any pre-existing school safety and security assessment that was completed within the last three years (i.e., 2020 to present); school statistics from the school entity's [School Safety Report](#) reported to the PA Department of Education; a [School Climate Survey](#); the [Pennsylvania Youth Survey](#); disciplinary records; community crime rates reported to the [PA State Police's Uniform Crime Report \(UCR\)](#) or the [Federal Bureau of Investigation \(FBI\)](#); School Safety and Security Committee survey findings; or any other relevant data source.

acknowledgement that your initial request was received. Please be assured that once you hit "Submit Your Application," PCCD has received it. Do not contact us for a copy of your initial request.

In the event you accidentally submit an incomplete request, or if you want to add more information to a request, you can resubmit a replacement application in SurveyMonkey at any time during the open request period. SurveyMonkey will not allow you to modify an existing application if already submitted. If you chose to submit an updated or amended request (or requests), the last submitted request from an entity will be considered in the review process; earlier submittals will not be considered.

Please note that information submitted by an entity as part of the grant request or application, the disclosure of which would be reasonably likely to result in a substantial and demonstrable risk of physical harm or the personal security of students or staff, shall remain confidential and shall not be accessible for inspection and duplication under the Right-to-Know Law.

## **9. Timeline:**

The FY24-25 Targeted School Grants for Nonpublic Schools initial request period will be open for a 7-week period and will close September 26, 2024, at 11:45 PM. Recommended projects will be taken before the SSSC for consideration on November 13, 2024. Applicants receiving awards will be notified soon after the SSSC meeting on the next steps within the process, which will include a requirement that they submit a final application within PCCD's Egrants system.

## **10. Administrative Requirements:**

### **If your request is recommended for approval by the SSSC, the following will be required:**

#### a. Procurement:

All procurement transactions shall be conducted in a manner that provides open and free competition. Grant recipients must follow all applicable Commonwealth of Pennsylvania procurement guidelines applicable to school entities or the entity's own procurement guidelines if those are more restrictive. School entities must maintain documentation to support all procurement transactions and adherence to all applicable guidelines. Supporting documentation must be provided when requested.

Current thresholds are:

- Less than \$12,600 is considered a micro-purchase and there are no requirements.
- \$12,600-\$23,200: price/rate quotes must be obtained from at least three qualified sources.
- \$23,200 or more, public solicitation of bids. Firm fixed price contract awarded to the responsible bidder lowest in price.

Procurements by noncompetitive proposal are strongly discouraged and must demonstrate an economic benefit or lack of alternate resources to be justified. If a request is made, the prospective applicant must identify the request as a procurement by noncompetitive proposal and provide a substantial justification for the request within their funding request (See PCCD's [Applicant's Manual](#) for Procurement by Noncompetitive Proposal Approval Procedure).

#### b. Fiscal Accountability:

See the [Fiscal Accountability](#) page on PCCD's website for further information.

c. Time and Effort Reporting:

See the [Time and Effort Reports](#) page on PCCD's website for further information.

d. Grant Payments:

- Payments will not be released until all applicable special conditions on the grant award have been satisfied.
- All grantees are required, at a minimum, to submit quarterly fiscal reports. PCCD will only make payments to reimburse actual expenditures reported on the fiscal reports. An agency experiencing cash flow problems may submit fiscal reports monthly and PCCD will reimburse reported expenditures. Non-submission or late submission of the required reports will result in payment delays.
- ACH Payments:
  - All payments to grant recipients will be made through ACH.
  - Either before or at the time an application is submitted to PCCD, the applicant agency must [register as a Non-Procurement Vendor](#) with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

e. Federal Transparency Act Certification:

This section is required for both state and federal funding streams. See the [Federal Application Requirements](#) page on PCCD's website for further information.

f. Reporting Requirements:

- Programmatic reports are due quarterly.
- Fiscal reports are due quarterly.
- Late submission of programmatic and fiscal reports may delay payments.
- All reports must be submitted through the Egrants system.

g. \*For Law Enforcement Agencies\* - Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Data Reporting:

Law enforcement agencies failing to submit required UCR data to the PA State Police may be ineligible for grant funding until such time as they submit their UCR data.

h. \*For Law Enforcement Agencies and Certain School Entities\* - School Incident Reporting and Memorandum of Understanding:

If an approved private school, PRRI, or law enforcement agency fails to comply with the provisions of [24 P.S. §13-1319-B](#) (relating to reporting and memorandum of understanding), the APS, PRRI, or law enforcement agency may not be awarded any grant administered by the SSSC until such time as the APS, PRRI, or law enforcement agency has complied with this section. Please note that this section only applies to specific nonpublic schools as defined in [24 P.S. §13-1301-B](#).

## **11. PCCD Contact Information and Resources:**

a. Staff Contacts:

PCCD staff may only respond to questions to clarify the funding announcement. Questions must be sent via email to [RA-CD-NPSEC-GRANT@pa.gov](mailto:RA-CD-NPSEC-GRANT@pa.gov) with Targeted School Safety grants for Nonpublic Schools in the subject line. All questions regarding this funding announcement must be received by close of business on Monday, September 23, 2024. PCCD staff will post responses to questions, as they are received, on [PCCD's website](#). Select the appropriate funding announcement to view questions and answers.

b. PCCD Guidelines and Documents:

Applicants should be familiar with the [Applicant's Manual](#), Standard Subgrant Conditions, and other documents common to PCCD's grant application process, all of which are available on the [Grant Information](#) page of the PCCD website. Additionally, grant application and administrative guides can be accessed on [PCCD's website](#) under the Funding link.

c. Reporting Potential Fraud, Waste and Abuse:

Information about waste, fraud, abuse, conflict of interest, bribery, gratuity, or other similar misconduct, or whistleblower reprisal relating to a PCCD employee, program, contract or grant, may be reported to the PCCD Fraud Hotline at (717) 525-5031. For more information, visit the [Reporting Fraud, Waste and Abuse](#) page on PCCD's website.



## 2024-25 Targeted School Safety Grants for Nonpublic Schools

The School Safety and Security Committee (SSSC) within the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) is now accepting applications for safety and security funding under Article XIII-B (relating to school safety and security) of the PA Public School Code of 1949.

**Please refer to the [FY24-25 Targeted School Safety Grant Funding Announcement on PCCD's Targeted School Safety Grants webpage](#) for more detailed information about this application process and additional instructions BEFORE filling out this initial request form.**

This application is specifically for nonpublic schools and municipalities, law enforcement agencies, and approved vendors to support school security personnel services for public school entities and nonpublic schools. School districts, charter schools, cyber charter schools, regional charter schools, area career and technical schools, and IUs should refer to the FY24-25 School Safety & Mental Health Grant solicitation within PCCD's Egrants system for their own school safety funding opportunities.

**This survey is the first step in the application process, and applicants should fill this initial request out prior to the September 26, 2024 (11:45 PM) deadline. You are not required to complete the survey form in one sitting. However, to continue working on your request, you must utilize the same computer/system the initial request was started. Applicants are strongly urged to develop their responses outside of SurveyMonkey first to prevent loss of work.**

Questions regarding this initial request can be sent to [RA-CD-NPSEC-GRANT@pa.gov](mailto:RA-CD-NPSEC-GRANT@pa.gov). Due to the competitive nature of the 2024-25 Targeted School Safety Grants for Nonpublic Schools, PCCD staff are unable to answer questions about specific proposals.



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\* 1. Please select the category that applies to your organization:

- Nonpublic School, including Approved Private Schools and Private Residential Rehabilitative Institutions
- Municipality, Law Enforcement, or Approved Vendor



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2. Per Section 923.3-A of the PA Public School Code, a “nonpublic school” means any school, other than a public school within this Commonwealth, wherein a resident of this Commonwealth may legally fulfill the compulsory school attendance requirements of this act and which meets the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-352, 78 Stat. 241).

Please visit the [PA Department of Education Educational Names and Addresses \(EDNA\)](#) and search for your school entity. Please select the classification of your school as listed within EDNA. Please note, if your school does not fit into one or more of these categories, you may not be eligible for funding under this solicitation.

Please select your nonpublic school type:

- Approved Private School
- Diocese
- Licensed, Private Academic school
- Nonpublic, Non-Licensed School
- Private Residential Rehabilitation Institution
- Other (please specify)

3. Please provide your nonpublic school’s name.

4. Please provide your nonpublic school’s AUN.

5. Please provide your nonpublic schools address.

**Street address**

**Street address line 2**

**City**

**State**

**Zip code**

6. Nonpublic School’s Phone Number.

7. Nonpublic School’s County

PCCD will use the contact information below to reach your nonpublic school if you are approved to start the final application process. Please make sure that all information provided is typed accurately.

8. Primary Contact Person's Name

9. Primary Contact Person's Email Address

10. Primary Contact Person's Preferred Phone Number

11. Primary Contact Role/Title

12. Secondary Contact Person's Name

13. Secondary Contact Person's Email Address

14. Secondary Contact Person's Preferred Phone Number

15. Secondary Contact Role/Title



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16. Please provide a short description about your nonpublic school, including the location of the school, total number of student-occupied buildings, and total student enrollment figures.

17. Please describe your nonpublic school's experience and efforts related to improving school safety, including any current or recent security investments or initiatives you have taken over the past three years.



18. Has your nonpublic school been awarded a security-related grant (e.g., PCCD Nonprofit Security Grant; PEMA Nonprofit Security Grant; PDE Targeted School Safety Grant) within the last three years?

- Yes
- No



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19. Since you indicated that you had previously received a security grant, please provide the amount you received and a general list of items or services purchased, or will be purchased, with the grant(s).



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20. Please describe your nonpublic school’s actual need for this targeted security grant, including any statistics related to school violence (see examples in the written funding announcement). This response should include an explanation as to your overall financial situation and why funding is needed and how these funds will help fill a gap.



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Physical Security

21. A priority focus of the SSSC is to ensure that all school entities, at a minimum, meet a basic standard of safety for students and staff. A full listing of these basic standards, called Level 1 Baseline Criteria, for both physical security and behavioral health can be found on [PCCD’s School Safety webpage](#).

PCCD recognizes that the Baseline Criteria were developed with public schools in mind, so it is possible that certain standards are not relevant for some nonpublic schools. Further, many of these criteria are NOT REQUIRED of nonpublic schools. However, as these are a basic standard for student and staff safety as recommended by experts in the field, priority consideration will be given to entities requesting level 1 items and/or items identified as a gap within an assessment conducted by someone on PCCD's School Assessor Registry.

Please note, PCCD may randomly audit and monitor grant recipients to ensure the appropriate use of grant funds and compliance with provisions of the grant program, which includes confirming the schools Level 1 Baseline Criteria status.

Please select any and all level 1 physical security criteria that your school does not currently meet. You are not required to select any gaps in criteria that do not pertain to nonpublic school entities. If your school entity meets all level 1 baseline criteria listed below, please select the last option.

- A physical security assessment (aligned with standards and guidance adopted by the School Safety and Security Committee (SSSC)) has been conducted of a school building representative of the school entity.
- School entity has vehicle barriers and/or fencing of entrances and/or critical areas (as identified in a physical security assessment conducted in alignment with guidance and standards adopted by the School Safety and Security Committee (SSSC)) for each school facility.
- School entity has exterior lighting of all entrances and critical areas (as identified in a physical security assessment conducted in alignment with guidance and standards adopted by the School Safety and Security Committee) for each school facility.
- School entity has external, protective doors with viewing pane.
- School entity has door handles that cannot be barred.
- School entity has a school visitor buzz-in entry system that allows for visual observation, including a documented log of school visitors and packages.
- School entity's interior doors are capable of being locked from within each room.
- All exterior doors have working locks.
- School entity has policies and/or procedures for handling school visitors and packages and designated staff are trained on this. This should include procedures related to flagging immediate security concerns/risks/persons of concern to prevent entry/building access.
- School entity has cameras in blind spot areas.
- School entity has policies, procedures, and/or communications in place to educate students, staff, school visitors, and any other individual authorized to be in the facility on the importance of keeping exterior doors closed and secured.
- There is a single entry in and out of each school building during school hours.
- School entity has an active memorandum of understanding (MOU) with each law enforcement agency with jurisdiction and associated policies and/or procedures in place.
- If school security personnel are present, they have been hired/contracted and trained according to requirements in Pennsylvania state law.
- School entity has working mechanisms in place to communicate quickly to potentially affected individuals within and outside the building when necessary.
- School entity has adopted an emergency preparedness or emergency operations plan (EOP) (consistent with Title 35 Pa.C.S. Chapter 77, Subchapter B § 7701), including a communication and reunification plan.

- School entity has coordinated with and shared their updated emergency preparedness plan or EOP with the county Emergency Management Agency per 35 Pa.C.S. § 7701(g)
- All school entity employees have received annual training on school safety related topics as required by Act 55 of 2022, 24 P.S. §1310- B.
- My school meets all level 1 baseline physical security criteria.

22. Within the past three years, has your school entity conducted a Physical Security Assessment aligned with standards and guidance adopted by the SSSC, **and** conducted by an individual recognized to perform such assessments on the PCCD School Safety and Security Assessor Registry or the PA State Police Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Team (RVAT)?

23. If an assessment was conducted by an approved vendor, please provide the name of the individual that conducted the assessment (note: this individual must be a PCCD Recognized Assessor or with the PSP RVAT Unit):

24. Are you asking for funding to meet any of the criteria listed above?

- Yes, I intend to use some or all funding to meet a Level 1 Physical Security criterion or criteria.
- Yes, I intend to use some or all funding to meet a gap identified within an assessment conducted by someone listed on PCCD's Assessor Registry.
- No, my physical security funding request is not included on this list.
- No, I am not applying for funding for physical security needs.

25. If you will be using a professional assessment conducted by an individual listed on PCCD's Assessor Registry, please scan the pages of your assessment that identify your assessor and the date of the assessment, and **ONLY** scan the pages referencing the items or activities requested and attach it below. If possible, please highlight the sections that pertain to your funding request.

 

No file chosen



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Behavioral Health

26. Please select one or more level 1 Behavioral Health criteria that your school does not currently meet. You are not required to select any gaps in criteria that do not pertain to nonpublic school entities. If your school entity meets all level 1 baseline criteria, please select the last option.

- A Student Assistance and Behavioral Health Support Assessment (aligned with [standards and guidance](#) adopted by the SSSC) has been conducted that is representative of the school entity.
- School entity has a process in place for coordination of services and referrals as part of a Student Assistance Program.
- School entity has met statutory requirements related to the provision of certified school nursing services.
- School entity has a school counseling program in place to ensure all students have access to qualified services, when needed.
- School entity has a student services plan in place that includes access to a qualified school psychologist.
- School entity has a student services plan that includes access to qualified social work services.
- School entity conducts a survey that includes or addresses school climate-related questions at least every two years.
- School entity has policies and/or procedures in place that comply with state and federal civil rights requirements to respond to discrimination and promote a safe and supportive learning environment for all.
- School entity has policies and/or procedures in place that address the appropriate student use of technology and social media.
- School entity provides age-appropriate prevention education for students aligned with state and federal requirements (e.g. youth suicide awareness and prevention, opioid misuse prevention, threat assessment, etc.).
- Professional training provided to school entity employees pursuant to state and federal requirements.
- School entity has policies and strategies in place to address incidents of bullying and has made that information available as required.
- Where required by state or federal law, school entity has specialized staff training programs in place in the use of de-escalation techniques, and appropriate responses to student behavior that may require immediate intervention (e.g., training aligned with 22 PA Code Chapter 10 (Safe Schools), Chapter 14 (Special Education Services and Programs), Chapter 711 (Charter School and Cyber Charter School Services and Programs for Children with Disabilities); 24 P.S. §13-§1310-B (relating to school safety and security training), etc.).
- School entity develops a [trauma-informed approach plan](#).
- School entity has established at least one threat assessment team and developed policies and/or procedures for assessing and intervening with students whose behavior may indicate a threat.
- My school meets all level 1 baseline Behavioral Health criteria.

27. Within the past three years, has your school entity conducted a Student Assistance and Behavioral Health Assessment aligned with standards and guidance adopted by the SSSC, and conducted by an individual recognized to perform such assessments on the PCCD School Safety and Security Assessor Registry)?

28. If an assessment was conducted by an approved vendor, please provide the name of the individual that conducted the assessment (note: this individual must be a PCCD Recognized Assessor).

29. Are you asking for funding to meet any of the criteria listed above?

- Yes, I intend to use funding to meet a Level 1 Behavioral Health criterion or criteria.
- Yes, I intend to use funding to meet a gap identified within an assessment conducted by someone listed on PCCD's Assessor Registry.
- No, my behavioral health funding request is not included on this list.
- No, I am not applying for funding for behavioral health needs.

30. If you will be using a professional assessment conducted by an individual listed on PCCD's Assessor Registry, please scan the pages of your assessment that identify your assessor and the date of the assessment, and ONLY scan the pages referencing the items or activities requested and attach it below.

No file chosen



## 2024-25 Targeted School Safety Grants for Nonpublic Schools

### Budget Detail and Summary

31. Nonpublic schools can apply for any eligible activity allowed under [24 P.S. §13-1306-B\(j\) \(1-31\)](#) as revised by Act 55 of 2024 . **PLEASE USE THE LINK PROVIDED TO REFER TO THE FULL ELIGIBLE ACTIVITY LIST AND NOTE THE CORRESPONDING SECTION/ACTIVITY NUMBERS TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION.** For example, if you are seeking funding for school security personnel, the corresponding activity section is 18; if you are seeking funding to support a physical assessment, the corresponding activity section is 1, etc.

In the following box, please type in all the activities or categories you are seeking funding for (e.g., I am seeking funding for activities: 1, 12, 18, 26).

I am seeking funding for activities:

32. Please enter the total amount of funding you are requesting (NOTE: Applicants can request up to \$75,000 for an 18-month project period).

33. Using the following script, please summarize your proposed project, a justification for the need for your request, and include budget estimates. If you are addressing any Level 1 Baseline Criteria gaps as noted in previous questions, you should provide an explanation in this section. You are not required to have bids at this point as estimates are acceptable; however, the reviewers should have a CLEAR understanding of what you are requesting funding for and how much you intend to budget for each item, activity or service requested (e.g., \$50,000 to support the salary of a school security personnel officer; 10 security cameras at \$200 each (\$2,000 in total) and \$10,000 for their installation). The script is as follows:

**[Name of nonpublic school] is requesting \$[insert grant amount request here] for the following: [provide bullet points of the requested items (see above for details)].**

**Funding for the proposed project is being requested due to: [provide a 3-5 sentences that justify your funding request].**

**By funding this project, [describe how the requested funds will help meet or solve the need identified].**

34. Discuss how outcomes will be determined and data, if applicable, collected.



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Municipality, Law Enforcement Agency, or Approved Vendor

35. Please provide your organization's name.

36. Please select what type of organization:

- Municipality
- Law Enforcement Agency
- Approved Vendor

37. Please list your organization's address.

**Street address**

**Street address line 2**

**City**

**State**

**Zip code**

38. Please select your organization's county.

PCCD will use the contact information below to reach you if you are approved to start the final application process. Please make sure that all information provided is typed accurately.

39. Primary Contact Person's Name

40. Primary Contact Person's Email Address

41. Primary Contact Person's Preferred Phone Number

42. Primary Contact Role/Title

43. Secondary Contact Person Name

44. Secondary Contact Person's Email Address

45. Secondary Contact Person's Preferred Phone Number

46. Secondary Contact Role/Title

## 2024-25 Targeted School Safety Grants for Nonpublic Schools

47. Please provide information about your entity, including your location and who you serve, and information about the school entity or nonpublic school that you will be supplying with school security personnel services.

48. Please describe your organization's experience and efforts related to improving school safety, including any current or recent initiatives or activities. If a municipality, law enforcement agency or approved vendor, please include information about how your organization/agency complies with requirements for school security personnel under Article XIII-C (School Security).

49. Please explain current funding gaps for the proposed project and how these funds will help fill that gap. Include a description of why additional financial resources are needed to enhance security. This description should give the reviewer a general sense of the applicant's overall financial situation.



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50. Are you applying for funding to supply school security personnel services to a school entity or nonpublic school to assist them in meeting a gap in their Level 1 Physical Security Baseline Criteria (i.e., the school entity currently does not have school security personnel)?



51. Within the past three years, has the nonpublic school(s) or school entity/ies you will be (or have previously) provided school security personnel services conducted a Physical Security Assessment aligned with standards and guidance adopted by the SSSC, and was conducted by an individual recognized to perform such assessments on the PCCD School Safety and Security Assessor Registry or the PA State Police Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Team (RVAT)?



## 2024-25 Targeted School Safety Grants for Nonpublic Schools

Assessor Name

52. Please provide the name of the assessor.



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53. Are you applying to support a school police officer?

54. Do the budgeted personnel satisfy the following requirements?

- 1) Are retired federal agents or retired state, municipal or military police officers.
- 2) Are independent contractors of the school entity or nonpublic school.
- 3) Are compensated on an hourly basis and receive no other compensation or fringe benefits from the school entity or nonpublic school.
- 4) Have completed annual training as required by the municipal police officers' education and training commission under 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 21 Subchapter D (relating to municipal police education and training).
- 5) The requirements of Section 111 of the PA Public School Code.
- 6) In the case of a school entity, have been indemnified by the school entity under 42 Pa.C.S. § 8548 (relating to indemnity).
- 7) Are utilized by a school entity or nonpublic school that has not employed a school police officer within the three years immediately preceding the effective date of this section.

55. Are you applying for funding to support school security personnel that have already completed the training and qualifications required under Article XIII-C?

56. If your municipality, law enforcement agency, or approved vendor has been funded previously, please discuss any past funding that has been used to support school security personnel, if applicable, including why grant funding is needed to support the proposed project.



## 2024-25 Targeted School Safety Grants for Nonpublic Schools

### Project Summary and Budget Request

57. Please enter the total amount of funding you are requesting (NOTE: Applicants can request up to \$75,000 for an 18-month project period).

58. Using the following script, please summarize your proposed project, a justification for the need for your request, and include budget estimates. If you are addressing any Level 1 Baseline Criteria gaps as noted in previous questions, you should provide an explanation in this section. You are not required to have bids at this point as estimates are acceptable; however, the reviewers should have a CLEAR understanding of what you are requesting funding for and how much you intend to budget for each item, activity or service requested. The script is as follows:

**[Name of municipality, law enforcement agency, or approved vendor] is requesting \$[insert grant amount request here] for the following: [provide bullet points of the requested items (see above for details)].**

**Funding for the proposed project is being requested due to: [provide a 3-5 sentences that justify your funding request].**

**By funding this project, [describe how the requested funds will help meet or solve the need identified].**



## 2024-25 Targeted School Safety Grants for Nonpublic Schools

### All Applicants

59. Thank you for participating in the initial request for a 2024-25 Targeted School Safety grant. Please read through and check the boxes below to confirm that you understand the following, and sign the final attestation:

- Once you click the submit button on the next page, your initial request will be submitted to PCCD and you will not be able to make any other edits to your request. SurveyMonkey will not provide you with an acknowledgement that your initial request was received. Please be assured that once you hit the “Submit Your Application” button below, PCCD has received it. Do not contact us for a copy of your initial request.
- In the event you accidentally submit an incomplete request, or if you want to add more information to a request, you are able to resubmit a request in SurveyMonkey at any time during the open request period. Ultimately, only one application per organization will be reviewed. PCCD will use the last submitted request from an applicant in the review process and will not consider earlier submittals.
- If you are selected to move forward in the process, you will receive an email from PCCD staff outlining information relating to submitting a final application within PCCD’s Egrants system. Please note: Pursuant to changes made by Act 55 of 2024, nonpublic schools will be submitting their own application through PCCD’s Egrants system and will no longer need to utilize their local IU as an applicant.
- PCCD is not liable for any costs incurred prior to the start date of the award. Further, grant recipients will be required to submit financial reports in PCCD’s Egrants system and PCCD will reimburse grantees for reported, eligible expenditures. Please see the webpage for more information about the reimbursement process.

### 60. Final Acknowledgement

By signing below, I acknowledge that should this initial request be accepted for an award by the Commission, my organization is responsible for completing a final application via PCCD’s Egrants system and meet all further programmatic and fiscal requirements prior to receiving the official award.

Signed:

Date:

By submitting this final acknowledgement and hitting the “Submit Your Application” button below, your initial request has been completed. **Survey Monkey will not generate a confirmation of your submission.** Thank you.