Office of the Governor – Homeland Security Grants Division
2018 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)
Request for Applications (RFA) for Law Enforcement
Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA)

The Homeland Security Grants Division (HSGD) of the Governor's Office is soliciting applications for projects that support state and local efforts to prevent terrorism and other catastrophic events and prepare for the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk to the security of Texas citizens. HSGD provides funding to implement investments that build, sustain, and deliver the 32 core capabilities essential to achieving a secure and resilient state.

Purpose: Per Congressional mandate (911 Act), twenty-five percent (25%) of the combined Homeland Security Grant Program funding must be spent on Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA). The purpose of this solicitation is to assist high-threat, high-density Urban Areas in efforts to build and sustain the capabilities necessary to prevent terrorist attacks and support critical prevention and protection activities. All LETPA investments must be consistent with capability targets set during the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) process, and gaps identified in the State Preparedness Report (SPR).

The UASI is intended to support investments that improve the ability of jurisdictions to:

- **Prevent** a threatened or an actual act of terrorism; and/or
- **Protect** its citizens, residents, visitors, and assets against the greatest threats and hazards.

Prevention is defined as the capabilities necessary to avoid, prevent, or stop a threatened or actual act of terrorism.

Many activities which support the achievement of target capabilities related to terrorism preparedness may simultaneously support enhanced preparedness for other hazards unrelated to acts of terrorism. However, **all UASI projects must assist grantees in achieving target capabilities related to preventing, preparing for, or protecting against acts of terrorism.**

Available Funding: Federal funds are authorized under Section 2002 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended (Pub. L. No. 107-296), (6 U.S.C. § 603). Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) funds are made available through a Congressional appropriation to the United States Department of Homeland Security. All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated federal funds and any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

Funding Levels:
Minimum: $2,500
Maximum: None

Match Requirement: None

Standards: Grantees must comply with the requirements applicable to this fund source cited in the *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements* for Federal Awards (2 CFR 200); and all statutes, requirements, and guidelines applicable to this funding.

Prohibitions: Grant funds may not be used to support the following services, activities, and costs:

1) inherently religious activities such as prayer, worship, religious instruction, or proselytization;

2) lobbying;

3) any portion of the salary of, or any other compensation for, an elected or appointed government official;

4) vehicles or equipment for government agencies that are for general agency use and/or do not have a clear nexus to terrorism prevention, interdiction, and disruption (i.e. mobile data terminals, body cameras, in-car video systems, or radar units, etc. for officers assigned to routine patrol);

5) weapons, ammunition, tasers, weaponized vehicles or explosives (exceptions may be granted when explosives are used for bomb squad training);

6) admission fees or tickets to any amusement park, recreational activity or sporting event;

7) promotional gifts;

8) food, meals, beverages, or other refreshments, except for eligible per diem associated with grant-related travel or where pre-approved for working events;

9) membership dues for individuals;

10) any expense or service that is readily available at no cost to the grant project;

11) any use of grant funds to replace (supplant) funds that have been budgeted for the same purpose through non-grant sources;

12) fundraising;

13) legal services for adult offenders;

14) amateur radios and equipment, FMS radios, GMRS radios, or other radio equipment that is not P25 compliant;

15) regular or preventative maintenance of communications equipment or infrastructure; and

16) any other prohibition imposed by federal, state, or local law.

Eligible Applicants:

1) Eligible applicants must be located within a designated high-risk Urban Area receiving a FY 2018 federal allocation based upon an analysis of the relative risk of terrorism faced by the 100 most populous metropolitan statistical areas in the United States. Most recently, these areas in Texas include the Dallas/Fort Worth/Arlington Area, the Houston Area, and the San Antonio Area.

2) Applications from the following entities will be considered*:

    a. State agencies;

    b. Regional councils of governments;

    c. Units of local government;

    d. Nonprofit organizations; and

    e. Universities or Colleges.

    *Note: All applicant entities must have a mission to serve in an Urban Area operational role or be partnering on plans, training, and exercises within the Urban Area.

Eligible Activities:

1) Grant projects must be consistent with the [Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Information Bulletin (IB) 412](#) which discusses eligible activities outlined in:

   a. The [National Prevention Framework](#);

   b. The [National Protection Framework](#) where capabilities are shared with the prevention mission area;

   c. Section 2006 of the [Homeland Security Act of 2002](#), as amended; and

   d. The [FY 2007 Homeland Security Grant Program Guidance and Application Kit](#).

2) Grant projects must be consistent with the program purpose stated above and must be submitted in support of one of the approved urban area investment categories. Contact the applicable Urban Area Working Group for an updated list of investment categories.

3) All capabilities being built or sustained must have a clear linkage to one or more of the following Core Capabilities in the National Preparedness Goal: Planning, Public Information and Warning, Operational Coordination, Intelligence and Information Sharing, Interdiction and Disruption, Screening, Search, and Detection, and Forensics and Attribution.

4) Many capabilities which support terrorism preparedness simultaneously support preparedness for other hazards. Grantees must demonstrate this dual-use quality for any activities implemented under this program that are not explicitly focused on terrorism preparedness. Activities implemented under the UASI program must support terrorism preparedness by building or sustaining capabilities that relate to the prevention of, or protection from, terrorism.

5) Interoperable communications projects must enhance current capabilities or address capability gaps identified by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) or Texas Interoperable Communications Coalition (TxICC) in either the Texas Statewide Interoperability Plan (SCIP) or DPS Report on Interoperable Communications to the Texas Legislature. Note: Projects to increase voice communications interoperability for counties with the lowest interoperability levels are preferred over other types of communications projects. Prior to purchase, planned expenditures must receive validation from the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC). **Projects for the purchase of radios and similar equipment are only permitted under LETPA when the equipment is for members of special teams and the project narrative outlines how the teams will use the equipment for terrorism prevention/protection activities.** Note: Radios purchased must: a) follow the Statewide Radio ID Management Plan; b) be programmed following the Statewide Interoperability Channel Plan, and c) include encryption options capable of Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) encryption, IF encryption is being purchased.

Eligibility Requirements:

1) Grantees are required to maintain adoption and implementation of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The NIMS uses a systematic approach to integrate the best existing processes and methods into a unified national framework for incident management across all homeland security activities including prevention, protection, response, mitigation, and recovery. Grantees must use standardized resource management concepts for resource typing, credentialing, and an inventory to facilitate the effective identification, dispatch, deployment, tracking and recovery of resources.

2) Cities and counties must have a current emergency management plan or be a legally established member of an inter-jurisdictional emergency management program with a plan on file with the Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM). Plans must be maintained throughout the entire grant performance

period and must be at least at the Intermediate Level. If you have questions concerning your Emergency Management Plan (preparedness) level, contact your Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) or your regional Council of Governments (COG). For questions concerning plan deficiencies, contact TDEM at tdem.plans@dps.texas.gov.

3) In order for an applicant to be eligible, the county (or counties) in which the applicant is located must have a 90% average on both adult and juvenile criminal history dispositions reported to the Texas Department of Public Safety for calendar years 2012 through 2016. This requirement must be met by August 1, 2018.

4) Eligible applicants operating a law enforcement agency must be current on reporting Part I violent crime data to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for inclusion in the annual Uniform Crime Report (UCR). To be considered eligible for funding, applicants must have submitted a full twelve months of accurate data to DPS for the most recent calendar year.

5) Eligible applicants must have a DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) number assigned to its agency (to request a DUNS number, go to http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/displayHomePage.do).

6) Eligible applicants must be registered in the federal System for Award Management (SAM) database located at https://www.sam.gov/ and maintain an active registration throughout the grant period.

7) Failure to comply with program eligibility requirements may cause funds to be withheld and/or suspension or termination of grant funds.

Project Period: Grant-funded projects must begin between September 1, 2018 and March 1, 2019, and expire on or before August 31, 2020. Additional guidelines are noted below:

1) Project periods should be structured so that projects that include grant-funded salaries and/or recurring costs do not overlap with the project periods of previous or future grant awards with the same costs.

2) Project periods should be structured so that projects that include grant-funded salaries and/or annual recurring costs are on a 12 **or** 24-month grant cycle/performance period.

3) Project periods for equipment only projects are generally awarded for a 6 to 12 month grant period.

4) HSGD will consider proposed start or end dates falling outside of these guidelines on a case-by-case basis.

Application Process:

1) Applicants must contact the applicable Urban Area Working Group (UAWG) regarding their application.

2) Each UAWG holds its own application planning workshops, workgroups, and/or subcommittees and facilitates application prioritization for certain programs within its area. Failure to comply with requirements imposed by the UAWG may render an application ineligible.

3) Upon approval of the UAWG, eligible applicants must access HSGD's grant management website at https://eGrants.gov.texas.gov to register and continue the application process.

NOTE: Applicants must upload the required **Direct Deposit forms**, **New Payee Identification Form**, and **W9 Form** for each application prior to submission. The eGrants system will not allow an application submission until these forms are attached to the application. These forms are

available at https://egrants.gov.texas.gov/updates.aspx under the Financial Management Tools section.

Closing Date for Receipt of Applications: All applications must be certified via HSGD's grant management website on or before April 13, 2018 by 5:00 PM CST.

Selection Process:

1) The UAWG's sub-committee(s) will prioritize all eligible applications based on state and UAWG priorities, the UAWG risk-informed methodology, cost and program effectiveness.
2) HSGD will accept priority listings that are approved by the UAWG's executive committee.
3) HSGD will make final funding decisions based on eligibility, UAWG priorities, reasonableness, availability of funding, and cost-effectiveness.

Contact Information: For technical assistance or additional information, contact HSGD at eGrants@gov.texas.gov or (512) 463-8382.