

# The NRA School Shield Grant Program

## 2019 Grant Program FAQs



### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

#### 1. What is NRA School Shield?

NRA School Shield was introduced in December 2012 as a new initiative focused on improving school security in an effort to help prevent national tragedies at educational institutions in America. Recognizing that school security is a complex issue with no simple, single solution, NRA School Shield is committed to addressing the many facets of school security, including best practices in security infrastructure, technology, personnel, training, and policy. Through this multidimensional effort, NRA School Shield seeks to engage communities and empower leaders to help make our schools more secure.

#### 2. What is the NRA Foundation?

The NRA Foundation is the Nation's largest charitable organization in support of the shooting sports. In large part through funds raised by the *Friends of NRA* program, the Foundation has awarded nearly \$398 million in grants in support of the National Rifle Association and other shooting sports, firearms and safety related charitable, educational or scientific programs.

#### 3. How can the NRA Foundation support NRA School Shield?

Per its organizing documents, the NRA Foundation was established, in part, to support NRA's qualified programs, which includes NRA School Shield. As part of the NRA's bylaws, the purposes and objectives of the organization include the promotion of public safety. This directly relates to the activities of NRA School Shield.

#### 4. What kinds of projects does the NRA Foundation support through NRA School Shield?

Requests for support should focus on projects and/or activities that facilitate the inclusion and/or enhancement of industry best practices in school security infrastructure, technology, personnel, training, and/or policy. Examples of past awards include funds to support the following projects and/or activities: perimeter fencing updates and repairs, secured visitor entry systems (door buzzers with security cameras and intercoms), DVR and camera systems, window safety/security film, immediate response systems/panic buttons, communications systems, training, and emergency kits. It is important to note, types of projects and/or activities funded may differ from year to year, depending on NRA School Shield program priorities for that grant cycle.

#### 5. How are grant awards determined?

All applications successfully submitted will first be reviewed for completeness, eligibility, and compliance with IRS and Foundation policies. Applications are then forwarded to the NRA School Shield Grant Committee for consideration, based on application merit and funding availability. Applications are either approved for funding or declined by the NRA School Shield Grant Committee and applicants are notified accordingly.

#### 6. How are grant awards disbursed?

Grant recipients are first notified of award approval via email and then a check is issued directly to the school requesting the funds within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of award notification. Grant funds may only be expended as documented in the grant application. Any unused funds must be returned to the Foundation and may not be retained for alternate use.

### GRANT ELIGIBILITY

#### 1. Who can apply for a NRA School Shield grant?

The NRA School Shield Grant Program is open to all recognized non-profit and public K-12 schools, including private and parochial schools, meeting IRS requirements.

#### 2. Do I need to be a member of the NRA in order to apply?

No - Applicants are not required to be members of or have association with the NRA in order to receive funds under this grant program.

#### 3. Does my project and/or activity need to fall within a certain date range in order to be eligible?

Projects and/or activities must begin after notification of grant funding and be completed by June 30, 2020.

#### 4. Can I request a grant to hire School Resource Officers (SROs) or security personnel?

Administrative fees, salaries and/or office overhead or other similar charges are not eligible for funding, however, training for staff is eligible.

**5. My school has received funding in the past – are we disqualified from future funding?**

Funding from previous years does not preclude you from future awards, however, you must submit all outstanding final reports before you can be considered for future awards.

## COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

**1. What is the deadline to submit my grant application?**

For the 2019 grant period, applications must be received by the Foundation prior to 11:59 PM EST on May 20, 2019 – late applications will not be considered.

**2. Which grant application do I need to complete?**

Be sure to complete the online *NRA School Shield* grant application.

**3. Can I submit more than one application for the same school?**

No – Only one (1) grant request will be considered per school.

**4. What supporting documentation is required to complete my application?**

The following pieces of documentation must be submitted with the grant request:

- W-9 Form (an IRS W-9 form must be completed, signed and dated within the last two years)
- IRS Determination Letter, if not a public school
- Budget (Required Budget Worksheet Form provided in application)

*Optional Supplemental Documentation:*

- Needs Assessment (i.e. security/vulnerability assessment)
- Photos of items/areas related to proposal
- Letters of Support (letters of support may come from PTA members, staff, local government officials, parents of current students, etc.)

**5. Do you have any tips to make my application stand out?**

All applications and supporting documents should be legible and well-organized to permit ease of review. Applicants are encouraged to request funds for projects and/or activities where a need has been clearly documented and the school has support from all applicable stakeholders to address the need. Photos are encouraged to provide visual perspective of proposed projects and/or needs related to replacements or repairs. Documentation showing funds could not otherwise be obtained through alternate sources will strengthen the request. However, for larger projects in particular, proof of available matching funds would be appropriate (although matching funds are not required). Applicants are encouraged to clearly document and account for both purchase estimates, as well as installation costs, where appropriate, to ensure full project accounting. Lastly, where appropriate, applicants should include plans for longevity, especially if requesting funds for projects or activities that will require future maintenance and upkeep.

**6. How long does it take to receive a funding decision?**

For the 2019 grant cycle, applicants should receive a decision by no later than June 15, 2019.

## FINAL REPORTS

**1. Are applicants required to submit a final report for grant awards?**

Yes - All grant recipients must complete the online Final Report form, detailing and accounting for how all grant funds were spent - copies of receipts and/or paid invoices for items purchased with grant funds must be included. Final reports are due within thirty (30) days of the project end date.

**2. How do I complete my final report?**

The final report form must be completed online. A notice to complete the final report will be sent via email to the primary contact on file, per the project end date, as stipulated in your grant request.