FY 2020 CSSGP
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Each of the following questions have been received several times regarding the FY 2020 CSSGP. This list will be updated as other FAQs are identified.

Eligible Projects

1. Are door barricade devices considered eligible expenditures for this grant?
   - No, door barricade devices are not eligible expenditures.
2. Security camera systems were eligible in the past, but I don't see them on this application. How do I apply for security cameras?
   - You will not be able to apply for security cameras in the FY 2020 CSSGP. Eligible expenditures are limited to those available in the dropdown menus and explained in detail on pages 11 – 13 of the Grant Application Guide.
3. The project that we want to do is not listed in the eligible projects, but it's also not one of the ineligible projects you list in the Grant Application Guide. Does this mean that it's okay to apply for it?
   - No. Eligible projects are limited to those expenditures identified in the dropdown menus and explained in detail in the Grant Application Guide. The ineligible expenditures identified on pages 13 – 14 of the Grant Application Guide is not meant to be an exhaustive list, as there are innumerable possibilities.
4. We want to apply for window film but that doesn't seem to be an option in the dropdown menu. What can I do?
   - Please read the Grant Application Guide in its entirety. Pages 11 – 13 will provide detailed explanations of each item in the dropdown menus on the application.

Applicants/Eligibility

1. We are a private school, and last year we were able to apply for the CSSGP. Can private schools apply for the FY 2020 CSSGP?
   - No, private schools are not eligible to apply for the FY 2020 CSSGP.
2. Why did you decide not to allow private schools to apply for the FY 2020?
   - The state Legislature wrote the appropriation that provides funding for the CSSGP, which was enacted in 2019 Public Act (PA) 162 (sec. 97). The language specifies that funding is limited to, "public schools, districts, and intermediate school districts (ISDs)."
3. Our district received funding from a previous CSSGP. Can we apply for another grant?
   - Yes, previous recipients are eligible to apply for the FY 2020 CSSGP.
4. We received an award in 2017 for only a few thousand dollars. Last year, in 2019, we were told we didn't get a grant because we received funding in 2017. Is there any point in applying for the grant this year?
   - Yes. While preference is given to applicants that have not received a CSSGP grant in the past, previous recipients are eligible applicants. Awards are dependent, in part, on the number of eligible applicants. We cannot know how many eligible applicants will apply; thus, it is always possible that previous recipients could receive awards.
5. We are an independent private school, not a religious-based school. Is our school eligible for this grant?
   - No, private schools are not eligible to apply for the FY 2020 CSSGP.

Building Eligibility

1. Our district has a stand-alone sports complex off of our main campus. Is this considered a building?
   - The appropriation requires that eligible buildings have "some or all of pre-K to grade 12 ***classrooms and pupils***." A stand-alone athletic complex would likely be without the classroom component of the requirement.
2. Our district has a school dedicated solely to special education, working with youth ages 18-26, in grade 14. Is this building eligible for an award?
   - No, the appropriation specifically states that the funds are for buildings that have any combination of ***pre-K to 12*** classrooms and students.

Application

1. When I clicked on the application on your website it opened up in a new tab and lets me fill things in, so I don't need to use Adobe, do I?
   - Yes, applications must be completed using Adobe Acrobat. Applicants risk losing information entered on the application, and/or being unable to save the completed application. Applications must be saved locally before entering any information and saved again before being attached to an email.
2. I emailed the completed application but received a reply that said the application was blank. Everything was filled in when I sent it, so what happened?
   - It is likely that you either completed the application in the browser when it opened, did not use Adobe Acrobat, or did not save the application to your computer before submitting.
3. When I entered my initials on page four it told me to save the file again, so I pressed save. Then it said that the file already exists and asked if I want to replace it. What did I do wrong?
   - You did not do anything wrong. Once you initial the application with Adobe, you will need to resave it with those initials. The same sequence of prompts will occur when you sign your name at the bottom of the page four.
4. The application won't let me type in my own project. Where should I enter than information?
   - Applicants are limited to the project categories provided in the dropdown menus. Please refer to pages 11 – 13 of the Grant Application Guide for details on each eligible project category.
5. Is the Alternate Law Enforcement Official Designation form required?
   - The Alternate Law Enforcement Official Designation form is only required if the law enforcement official signing the EOP certification does not meet the rank requirements provided on page 10 of the Grant Application Guide.

Requested/Awarded Funds

1. Our project will likely exceed the maximum award we can receive (over $50k), but our school will cover the difference. Is this allowable, and what should I put in the application for cost?
   - Yes, it is permissible to have a project that exceeds the maximum award. As you stated, the school/district would be responsible for the difference in cost. For application purposes, you only need to list the maximum award of $50,000 (the form should restrict anything greater than that amount). Once awarded, grantees will provide additional information to MSP, including the total expected cost of larger projects such as what you described.

2. Our district has five eligible school buildings. In order to receive the max amount, do I have to show a minimum of $50,000 <u>per building</u> on the application? For example, can one building have $70,000 of eligible expenses and another building have $30,000 of project costs, or do I have to show $50,000 for each building and then only spend $50,000 on each building.

- There are two parts to the award maximum: 1) Not more than $50,000 may be awarded or spent per building, and 2) Not more than $250,000 per district. A request of $70,000 for one building is not permissible, nor will the application form itself allow for a total of more than the stated maximum.