



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 1216

LCO No. 3861



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:
(KID)

***AN ACT CONCERNING SCHOOL EMERGENCY RESPONSE
SYSTEMS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 84 of public act 13-3, as amended by section 15 of
2 public act 13-122, section 191 of public act 13-247, section 73 of public act
3 14-98, section 1 of public act 15-5, section 1 of public act 16-171, section
4 1 of public act 17-68, section 490 of public act 17-2 of the June special
5 session and section 73 of public act 20-1, is amended to read as follows
6 (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

7 (a) The Departments of Emergency Services and Public Protection,
8 Administrative Services and Education shall jointly administer a school
9 security infrastructure competitive grant program to reimburse (1) a
10 town, (2) a regional educational service center, (3) the governing
11 authority for a state charter school, (4) the Department of Education on
12 behalf of the technical high school system, (5) an incorporated or
13 endowed high school or academy approved by the State Board of
14 Education pursuant to section 10-34 of the general statutes, (6) the
15 supervisory agent for a nonpublic school, and (7) a licensed child care

16 center or private preschool operator that has received threats, provided
17 no family child care providers may be eligible for reimbursement
18 pursuant to this section, for certain expenses for schools, centers or
19 preschools incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for: (A) The
20 development or improvement of the security infrastructure of schools,
21 centers or preschools, based on the results of school building or child
22 care center building security assessments pursuant to subsection (d) of
23 this section, including, but not limited to, the installation of surveillance
24 cameras, penetration resistant vestibules, ballistic glass, solid core
25 doors, double door access, computer-controlled electronic locks, entry
26 door buzzer systems, scan card systems, panic alarms, emergency
27 response communications systems and personal emergency
28 communication devices, real time interoperable communications and
29 multimedia sharing infrastructure or other systems; and (B) (i) the
30 training of school personnel in the operation and maintenance of the
31 security infrastructure of school buildings, or (ii) the purchase of
32 portable entrance security devices, including, but not limited to, metal
33 detector wands and screening machines and related training.

34 (b) (1) On and after April 4, 2013, each local and regional board of
35 education may, on behalf of its town or its member towns, apply, at such
36 time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency Services
37 and Public Protection prescribes, to the Department of Emergency
38 Services and Public Protection for a grant for certain expenses for
39 schools under the jurisdiction of such board of education incurred on or
40 after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described in subsection (a) of this
41 section. Prior to the date that the School Safety Infrastructure Council
42 makes its initial submission of the school safety infrastructure
43 standards, pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general
44 statutes, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
45 Protection, in consultation with the Commissioners of Administrative
46 Services and Education, shall determine which expenses are eligible for
47 reimbursement under the program. On and after the date that the School
48 Safety Infrastructure Council submits the school safety infrastructure

49 standards, the decision to approve or deny an application and the
50 determination of which expenses are eligible for reimbursement under
51 the program shall be in accordance with the most recent submission of
52 the school safety infrastructure standards, pursuant to subsection (c) of
53 section 10-292r of the general statutes.

54 (2) A regional educational service center may apply, at such time and
55 in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
56 Protection prescribes, to the Department of Emergency Services and
57 Public Protection for a grant for certain expenses for schools under the
58 jurisdiction of such regional educational service center incurred on or
59 after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described in subsection (a) of this
60 section. The department shall decide whether to approve or deny an
61 application and which expenses are eligible for reimbursement under
62 the program. Such decisions shall be in accordance with the school
63 safety infrastructure standards developed pursuant to subsection (c) of
64 section 10-292r of the general statutes.

65 (3) The governing authority for a state charter school may apply, at
66 such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency
67 Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the Department of
68 Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant for certain
69 expenses for schools under the jurisdiction of such governing authority
70 incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described in
71 subsection (a) of this section. The department shall decide whether to
72 approve or deny an application and which expenses are eligible for
73 reimbursement under the program. Such decisions shall be in
74 accordance with the school safety infrastructure standards developed
75 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes.

76 (4) The superintendent of the technical high school system may
77 apply, at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of
78 Emergency Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the Department
79 of Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant for certain
80 expenses for schools in the technical high school system incurred on or

81 after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described in subsection (a) of this
82 section. The department shall decide whether to approve or deny an
83 application and which expenses are eligible for reimbursement under
84 the program. Such decisions shall be in accordance with the school
85 safety infrastructure standards developed pursuant to subsection (c) of
86 section 10-292r of the general statutes.

87 (5) An incorporated or endowed high school or academy may apply,
88 at such time and in such manner as the Commissioner of Emergency
89 Services and Public Protection prescribes, to the Department of
90 Emergency Services and Public Protection for a grant for certain
91 expenses incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for the purposes described
92 in subsection (a) of this section. The department shall decide whether to
93 approve or deny an application and which expenses are eligible for
94 reimbursement under the program. Such decisions shall be in
95 accordance with the school safety infrastructure standards developed
96 pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the general statutes.

97 (6) (A) The supervisory agent for a nonpublic school or a licensed
98 child care center or private preschool operator described in subdivision
99 (7) of subsection (a) of this section may apply, at such time and in such
100 manner as the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
101 Protection prescribes, to the Department of Emergency Services and
102 Public Protection for a grant for certain expenses for schools under the
103 jurisdiction of such supervisory agent or for such licensed child care
104 centers or private preschools incurred on or after January 1, 2013, for the
105 purposes described in subsection (a) of this section. The department
106 shall decide whether to approve or deny an application and which
107 expenses are eligible for reimbursement under the program. Such
108 decisions shall be in accordance with the school safety infrastructure
109 standards developed pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-292r of the
110 general statutes.

111 (B) Ten per cent of the funds available under the program shall be
112 awarded to the supervisory agents of nonpublic schools and licensed

113 child care center or private preschool operators described in subdivision
114 (7) of subsection (a) of this section, in accordance with the provisions of
115 subdivision (6) of subsection (c) of this section.

116 (c) (1) A town may receive a grant equal to a percentage of its eligible
117 expenses. The percentage shall be determined as follows: (A) Each town
118 shall be ranked in descending order from one to one hundred sixty-nine
119 according to town wealth, as defined in subdivision (26) of section 10-
120 262f of the general statutes, (B) based upon such ranking, a percentage
121 of not less than twenty or more than eighty shall be assigned to each
122 town on a continuous scale, and (C) the town ranked first shall be
123 assigned a percentage of twenty and the town ranked last shall be
124 assigned a percentage of eighty.

125 (2) A regional educational service center may receive a grant equal to
126 a percentage of its eligible expenses. The percentage shall be determined
127 by its ranking. Such ranking shall be determined by (A) multiplying the
128 population of each member town in the regional educational service
129 center by such town's ranking, as determined in subsection (a) of section
130 10-285a of the general statutes; (B) adding together the figures for each
131 town determined under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision; and (C)
132 dividing the total computed under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision
133 by the total population of all member towns in the regional educational
134 service center. The ranking of each regional educational service center
135 shall be rounded to the next higher whole number and each such center
136 shall receive the same reimbursement percentage as would a town with
137 the same rank.

138 (3) The governing authority for a state charter school may receive a
139 grant equal to a percentage of its eligible expenses that is the same as
140 the town in which such state charter school is located, as calculated
141 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection.

142 (4) The Department of Education, on behalf of the technical high
143 school system, may receive a grant equal to one hundred per cent of its

144 eligible expenses.

145 (5) An incorporated or endowed high school or academy may receive
146 a grant equal to a percentage of its eligible expenses. The percentage
147 shall be determined by its ranking. Such ranking shall be determined by
148 (A) multiplying the total population, as defined in section 10-261 of the
149 general statutes, of each town which at the time of application for such
150 school security infrastructure competitive grant has designated such
151 school as the high school for such town for a period of not less than five
152 years from the date of such application, by such town's percentile
153 ranking, as determined in subsection (a) of section 10-285a of the general
154 statutes, (B) adding together the figures for each town determined under
155 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, and (C) dividing the total
156 computed under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision by the total
157 population of all towns which designate the school as their high school
158 under subparagraph (A) of this subdivision. The ranking determined
159 pursuant to this subsection shall be rounded to the next higher whole
160 number. Such incorporated or endowed high school or academy shall
161 receive the reimbursement percentage of a town with the same rank.

162 (6) The supervisory agent for a nonpublic school or a licensed child
163 care center or private preschool operator described in subdivision (7) of
164 subsection (a) of this section may receive a grant equal to fifty per cent
165 of its eligible expenses, provided any such grant shall not exceed fifty
166 thousand dollars.

167 (d) (1) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014, if there are not
168 sufficient funds to provide grants to all towns, based on the percentage
169 determined pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, the Commissioner
170 of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in consultation with the
171 Commissioners of Administrative Services and Education, shall give
172 priority to applicants on behalf of schools with the greatest need for
173 security infrastructure, as determined by said commissioners based on
174 school building security assessments of the schools under the
175 jurisdiction of the town's school district conducted pursuant to this

176 subdivision. Of the applicants on behalf of such schools with the
177 greatest need for security infrastructure, said commissioners shall give
178 first priority to applicants on behalf of schools that have no security
179 infrastructure at the time of such school building security assessment
180 and succeeding priority to applicants on behalf of schools located in
181 priority school districts pursuant to section 10-266p of the general
182 statutes. To be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to this section, an
183 applicant board of education shall (A) demonstrate that it has developed
184 and periodically practices an emergency plan at the schools under its
185 jurisdiction and that such plan has been developed in concert with
186 applicable state or local first-responders, and (B) provide for a uniform
187 assessment of the schools under its jurisdiction, including any security
188 infrastructure, using the National Clearinghouse for Educational
189 Facilities' Safe Schools Facilities Checklist. The assessment shall be
190 conducted under the supervision of the local law enforcement agency.

191 (2) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2018, and the
192 fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, to June 30, 2021, if there are not
193 sufficient funds to provide grants to all applicants that are towns,
194 regional educational service centers, governing authorities for state
195 charter schools, the Department of Education, on behalf of the technical
196 high school system, and incorporated or endowed high schools or
197 academies based on the percentage determined pursuant to subsection
198 (c) of this section, the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public
199 Protection, in consultation with the Commissioners of Administrative
200 Services and Education, shall give priority to applicants on behalf of
201 schools with the greatest need for security infrastructure, as determined
202 by said commissioners based on school building security assessments of
203 the schools under the jurisdiction of the applicant conducted pursuant
204 to this subdivision. Of the applicants on behalf of such schools with the
205 greatest need for security infrastructure, said commissioners shall give
206 first priority to applicants on behalf of schools that have no security
207 infrastructure at the time of such school building security assessment
208 and succeeding priority to applicants on behalf of schools located in

209 priority school districts pursuant to section 10-266p of the general
210 statutes. To be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to this section, an
211 applicant shall (A) demonstrate that it has developed and periodically
212 practices an emergency plan at the schools under its jurisdiction and
213 that such plan has been developed in concert with applicable state or
214 local first-responders, and (B) provide for a uniform assessment of the
215 schools under its jurisdiction, including any security infrastructure,
216 using the National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities' Safe
217 Schools Facilities Checklist. The assessment shall be conducted under
218 the supervision of the local law enforcement agency.

219 (3) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2018, and the
220 fiscal years ending June 30, 2020, to June 30, 2021, if there are not
221 sufficient funds to provide grants to all applicant supervisory agents for
222 nonpublic schools or licensed child care center or private preschool
223 operators described in subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of this section,
224 based on the percentages described in subsection (c) of this section, the
225 Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection, in
226 consultation with the Commissioners of Administrative Services and
227 Education, shall give priority to applicants on behalf of schools, centers
228 or preschools with the greatest need for security infrastructure, as
229 determined by said commissioners. Of the applicants on behalf of such
230 schools, centers or preschools with the greatest need for security
231 infrastructure, said commissioners shall give first priority to applicants
232 on behalf of schools, centers or preschools that have no security
233 infrastructure at the time of application. To be eligible for
234 reimbursement pursuant to this section, an applicant supervisory agent
235 for a nonpublic school or licensed child care center or private preschool
236 operator described in subdivision (7) of subsection (a) of this section
237 shall (A) demonstrate that it has developed and periodically practices
238 an emergency plan at the school, center or preschool under its
239 jurisdiction and that such plan has been developed in concert with
240 applicable state or local first-responders, and (B) provide for a uniform
241 assessment of the schools, centers or preschools under its jurisdiction,

242 including any security infrastructure, using the National Clearinghouse
243 for Educational Facilities' Safe Schools Facilities Checklist. The
244 assessment shall be conducted under the supervision of the local law
245 enforcement agency.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	July 1, 2025	PA 13-3, Sec. 84
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Statement of Purpose:

To authorize the use of funds received under the school security infrastructure competitive grant program for the purchase of emergency response communications systems and personal emergency communication devices for school personnel.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]