# REQUEST FOR APPLICATION:

# SCHOOL SAFETY FUNDING

## Social Workers in Schools (SWxS) Enhancement

## School Resource/Police Officers

## School Safety Facility Improvements

## Social, Emotional, and Academic Development (SEAD)

Application is Due:

August 14, 2019, 5:00 pm

**Funding Period**: July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2021

# Applications:

Each school district or charter school will submit **ONE** application on behalf of those schools that wish to apply for funding from the School Safety account. Applications should be submitted electronically to:

**Christy McGill**, Director

cmcgill@doe.nv.gov

**Amber Reid**, Education Programs Professional

areid@doe.nv.gov

Issued by the:

Nevada Department of Education (NDE)

Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment (OSRLE)

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# Please address questions to:

Amber Reid

areid@doe.nv.gov

(775)-687-9161

# Restrictions/Conditions:

This request for new funding application is open to all Nevada school districts and charter academies on behalf of those schools that wish to apply for funding from the School Safety account.

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# PART I: Application Requirements and Guidelines

# A. Introduction

In the spring of 2018, former Governor Brian Sandoval convened a statewide School Safety Task Force following the tragic shooting at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida on February 14, 2018. Task force members were charged with examining elements that contribute to safe and respectful learning environments and with making recommendations regarding policy or fiscal improvements to support comprehensive school safety. The Task Force met throughout the following six months and delivered a [Final Report](http://www.doe.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/ndedoenvgov/content/Boards_Commissions_Councils/StatewideSchoolSafetyTaskForce/2018/NVSSTFFinalReport.pdf) of recommendations to Governor Sandoval on November 1, 2018. Following the acceptance of the Final Report by newly elected Governor Steve Sisolak, those recommendations translated into policy recommendations and budget enhancements which were included for consideration by the 80th (2019) Session of the Nevada Legislature.

The passage of several key bills during the 2019 Legislative Session constitutes a comprehensive approach to school safety with both policy and fiscal enhancements to support a holistic approach to the creation of safe and respectful learning environments. These bills include Senate Bill 89, which was an all-inclusive omnibus bill reflecting the final recommendations of the School Safety Task Force, as well as Senate Bills [528](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019/Bill/7001/Text), [551](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019/Bill/7071/Text), and [555](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019/Bill/7082/Text), which appropriate funding to support the comprehensive approach envisioned by the Task Force.

This application creates the mechanism for compliance with those Legislative mandates while supporting districts, charters, and schools in efforts to meet the unique needs of their school communities. It also acts as an agreement between LEA’s and the SEA for creating the conditions necessary to support collaborative and responsive partnership as we work toward safer schools for all students and all staff.

# B. Eligible Applicants

 This request for new funding application is open to all Nevada school districts and charter academies on behalf of those schools that wish to apply for funding from the School Safety account.

# C. Goals

The School Safety account was created in response to the recommendations included in the Final Report of the statewide School Safety Task Force (SSTF), which is attached in Part IV for your reference. The goals for each of the programs included in this application align with those recommendations as well as Legislative intent as captured in the policy and appropriations bills that created this funding. A brief description of the goals for each program is listed below, however additional information can be found in the Final Report of the SSTF, the Funding Legend, and within the language of each bill.

**Social Workers in Schools Enhancement**: This appropriation expands the funding for the Social Workers in Schools (SWxS) state block grant that was established during the 78th (2015) Legislative Session. This enhancement must expand the number of social workers or other licensed mental health workers in your district/charter and cannot be used to offset or increase existing costs for existing personnel.

**School Resource/Police Officers**: This appropriation creates funding to expand the number of school resource officers or school police officers that are assigned to schools in your district or charter, as applicable. The school police department or the jurisdictional law enforcement agency must complete and sign the Letter of Commitment included in Part III, indicating their agreement to support the hiring of additional officers. Senate Bills 528 and 555 place restrictions on the use of these funds; those restrictions can be found in the Funding Legend included in Part IV as well as in the language of the bills.

**School Safety Facility Improvements**: This appropriation provides for a one-time allocation to support capital improvements based on a school facility safety audit which has been conducted within the previous 4 years and by an approved vendor, contractor, or qualified district/charter employee who meets the qualifications to be a School Safety Specialist, as outlined in Section 7.5 of Senate Bill 89. Approved capital improvement projects must be identified in the school safety audit. This is the only program under the School Safety account for which unexpended award funds will carry forward from fiscal year 2020 to fiscal year 2021.

**Social, Emotional, and Academic Development**: This appropriation provides funding to support the implementation of a program of social, emotional, & academic development (SEAD) in schools throughout the state. Any curriculum purchased through these funds must be evidence based; see the application portion for more information regarding this requirement. These funds may also be used to support the hiring of district, charter, or school-wide implementation coaches; any coaches funded through this program must also assist in the development of a strategic plan that supports implementation of practices within a multi-tiered system of supports (see NRS 388.885) at both the district/charter level and at the state level, in partnership with OSRLE and NDE staff.

# D. Funding Information

# *Available Funds*

The amounts for each program covered by the RFA and within the School Safety account are listed below. More information regarding funding for each program can be found in Part IV under the Funding Legend and in the Budget Instructions.

* Social Workers in Schools: $4,762,243.00 in FY 20 and $8,237,756.00 in FY 21
* SRO’s/SPO’s: $4,250,000.00 in FY 20 and $5,750,000.00 in FY 21
* Facility Improvements: $7,500,000.00 one-time appropriation across the biennium for rural districts; $8,340,845.00 in FY 20 and $8,340,845.00 in FY 21 open to all districts.
* SEAD: $2,235,000.00 in FY 20 and $2,250,000.00 in FY 21

# *Duration of Subgrants*

Awards from this application will be for both Fiscal Year 20 and Fiscal Year 21, beginning on July 1 of each fiscal year. Unexpended funds for the SWxS, SRO/SPO, and SEAD programs at the end of FY 20 will revert back to the state and will not carry forward for subgrantees to FY 21. Unexpended funding under the Facility Improvements program at the end of FY 20 will be added to the subgrantee’s subaward for FY 21 for that program only.

# *Use of Funds and Unauthorized Activities/Expenses*

Please see the Budget Instructions and the Funding Legend in Part IV for more information regarding acceptable uses of funds as well as unauthorized activities and expenses for each program within this School Safety account application.

# E. Participation, Evaluation, and Reporting

# *Participation*

A participation rate of **75%** by all eligible survey takers within each school (all students in grades 5 through 12 except those students which are eligible for Nevada Alternative Assessments, or NAA) on the Nevada School Climate/Social Emotional Learning Survey (NV-SCSEL) or the approved district survey for Washoe and Clark counties is required in order to be considered eligible for School Safety grant funding for FY 20.

The same minimum participation rate requirement must be met on the applicable school climate survey which is administered in the 19-20 school year in order for each participating school to receive continued funding for FY 21.

As identified in the grant Assurances, schools and districts accept School Safety grant funding in accordance with applicable Federal and State statutes, regulations, programs, plans, and applications, and agree to administer the programs in compliance with all provision of such statutes, regulations, applications, policies and amendments thereto, including but not limited to the drafting of job descriptions, job postings, recruitment efforts, public outreach, advocacy, collaborations and partnerships.

# *Evaluation*

Multiple sources of data will be used to support evaluation of program implementation, including but not limited to school climate data, discipline and behavior data, and end-of-year program survey data. Participation in any external evaluation conducted on behalf of the Department is also required of subgrantees.

Service delivery data as captured on the SISP (Specialized Instructional Support Personnel) Module within Infinite Campus will also be used to evaluate implementation of the SWxS program and as such it is required that all SISP who are funded through the SWxS grant enhancement must report all service delivery data within that module. Onboarding and training support for the use of the SISP Module will be provided by the Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment.

# *Reporting*

As this is a multi-year grant, NDE will require a brief program update due by June 15, 2020, from each district and charter that receives a subaward for FY 20. The program update template will be provided by the Department no later than April 1, 2020. In addition, the state will pull relevant data to assist in evaluation of program efficacy.

If it is determined that a school or district/charter is failing to meet expectations regarding the use of funds within the programs covered under this application the Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment will work directly with subgrantees to create a collaborative action plan to support more effective implementation and use of funds.

# F. Grant Technical Assistance

All application materials and guidance documents can be found on the Department’s website under the Grants tab. The Office for a Safe and Respectful Environment will provide ongoing collaborative support to subgrantees throughout the biennium, including support for program implementation, the use of a multi-tiered system of supports, general fiscal support and guidance as needed, and the expansion of school based services through Medicaid.

# G. Review Process

Applications will be reviewed by an external team comprised of stakeholders from the fields of education, law enforcement, and mental health, and in accordance with Department policies and protocols.

# H. Review Criteria

Information regarding the review of applications can be found in the Scoring Rubric included in Part IV. Additionally, approved expenses must fall within the constraints described in this RFA and all supporting documents, including the Budget Instructions and Funding Legend found in Part IV.

Applications must be completed thoroughly and accurately in order to be considered for review; applicants will be notified by OSRLE staff no later than August 16th if any portions of the application are missing prior to review by an external team. Succinctness and clarity of information is encouraged in all narrative portions of the application.

Please note that there is no data reporting requirement for inclusion in this application, as the Department has pulled the data (for the 2017-2018 school year) that was collected in previous application cycles and which will be used for consideration in funding decisions for the current application cycle (FY 19-20 and FY 20-21). A similar data pull will be executed for the 2018-2019 school year once that data is available, for evaluation and progress monitoring purposes. The data pull includes for each school:

* Total enrollment
* Special populations (IEP, FRL, EL, Homeless, Migrant)
* Race/Ethnicity
* Discipline data available on Nevada Report Card:
	+ Violence to Students
	+ Violence to Staff
	+ Possession of Weapons
	+ Sale or Distribution of Controlled Substances
	+ Possession of Controlled Substances
	+ Possession of Alcohol
	+ Habitual Discipline
	+ Habitual Truants
	+ Bullying and cyberbullying

# I. Proposed Timeline

| Date | Deadline |
| --- | --- |
| July 10, 2019 | Application and guidance released by NDE. |
| August 14, 2019 | Applications due to NDE on or before 5:00pm on this date. |
| August 15-16, 2019 | Application components reviewed by NDE staff. |
| August 20-21, 2019 | Applications scored by external review team. |
| August 26, 2019 | Applicants will be notified of award status. |
| June 15, 2020 | Program status report due to NDE (template to be provided by NDE; data to be pulled by NDE). |
| June 30, 2020 | Final deadline for expenditures or budget encumbrances against the subgrant award for FY 20. |
| Sept. 30, 2020 | Fiscal year 2020 Final Financial Report (FFR) due to NDE on or before this date. |
| June 30, 2021 | Final deadline for expenditures or budget encumbrances against the subgrant award for FY 21. |
| Sept. 30, 2021 | Fiscal year 2021 Final Financial Report (FFR) due to NDE on or before this date. |