



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

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To: Criminal Justice Services Board Grants Committee
From: Lindsay Burton, Division Director, Division of Public Safety Training and the Virginia Center for School and Campus Safety
Date: April 23, 2026
Re: FY 2027 School Security Officer (SSO) New Grant Funding

Presenting: Elizabeth Polak, Grant Programs Specialist

The purpose of the School Resource Officer/School Security Officer Incentive Grant Program funding opportunity 567212 is to fund new School Security Officer positions to maintain order and discipline, prevent crime, and investigate violations of school board policies. Funding originates from §9.1-110 of the *Code of Virginia*.

Grant Application Review	
# Grants Submitted	10
# Grants Denied	0
# Grants Recommended	10

DCJS Recommendations	
Amount Requested	\$1,739,745
Amount Denied	\$0
Amount Reduced/Increased	\$7,660/\$26,768
Total Amount Recommended	\$1,758,853

No applications were denied.

Recommended funding primarily supports SSO positions for school divisions across the Commonwealth. It also funds some necessary SSO equipment and expenses for some participants to attend the DCJS School Safety Training Forum.

In summary, DCJS Staff request approval to fund 10 grant applications for the 12-month period (7/1/2026 – 6/30/2027), totaling \$1,758,853 using \$1,282,185 from the SRO/SSO Incentive Grant Program and \$476,668 in required subrecipient provided match.

SSO -- Grants Committee Recommendations (Cover Report)

School Security Officer Grants - New

23-Apr-2026

Application Number	Applicant	Organization Type	Requested	Requested	Requested	Recommended	Recommended	Recommended
			DCJS Funds	Local	Total	DCJS Funds	Local	Total
568120	Buckingham, County	County Government	\$24,419.00	\$13,611.00	\$38,030.00	\$24,457.00	\$13,573.00	\$38,030.00
568337	Colonial Heights, City	City Government	\$78,593.00	\$48,662.00	\$127,255.00	\$78,593.00	\$48,662.00	\$127,255.00
568114	Henry, County	County Government	\$75,026.00	\$23,533.00	\$98,559.00	\$75,026.00	\$23,533.00	\$98,559.00
567911	James City, County	County Government	\$46,810.00	\$53,190.00	\$100,000.00	\$59,340.00	\$67,428.00	\$126,768.00
568928	Lee, County	County Government	\$46,662.00	\$10,389.00	\$57,051.00	\$46,662.00	\$10,389.00	\$57,051.00
567806	Manassas Park, City	City Government	\$110,000.00	\$27,900.00	\$137,900.00	\$105,000.00	\$26,628.00	\$131,628.00
568930	Norton, City	City Government	\$50,000.00	\$18,515.00	\$68,515.00	\$50,000.00	\$18,515.00	\$68,515.00
568256	Suffolk, City	City Government	\$31,957.00	\$18,282.00	\$50,239.00	\$31,957.00	\$18,282.00	\$50,239.00
567985	Wise, County	County Government	\$650,000.00	\$162,196.00	\$812,196.00	\$650,000.00	\$162,196.00	\$812,196.00
568273	York, County	County Government	\$161,150.00	\$88,850.00	\$250,000.00	\$161,150.00	\$87,462.00	\$248,612.00
Grant Program Total:			\$1,274,617.00	\$465,128.00	\$1,739,745.00	\$1,282,185.00	\$476,668.00	\$1,758,853.00

SSO -- Grants Committee Recommendations (Summary Report)

School Security Officer Grants - New

23-Apr-2026

Application Number	Applicant	Organization Type	Type of Application	Requested Funding	Recommended Funding	Application Criteria	Project Description
568120	Buckingham, County	County Government	New	\$38,030.00	\$38,030.00	Meets criteria with conditions	Requesting continued funding for one School Security Officer for Buckingham County Primary School. The School Security Officer will monitor schools and grounds while schools are in session. The goal of the program is to provide a safe environment for all students and staff. The SSO also seeks to build positive relationships with students through authentic connections.
568337	Colonial Heights, City	City Government	New	\$127,255.00	\$127,255.00	Meets criteria with conditions	City of Colonial Heights is applying on behalf of Colonial Heights Public Schools to apply for 2 SSO positions at 2 public elementary schools. The SSO activities will include providing a safe and secure environment for students, staff and visitors, patrolling school grounds, monitoring building movement, interacting with students, and complete building security walkthroughs daily. Assist with emergency drills, and coordinate with Colonial Heights Police Department.
568114	Henry, County	County Government	New	\$98,559.00	\$98,559.00	Meets criteria with conditions	Henry County Public Schools has two high schools, each with approximately 1,100 students (Magna Vista High School and Bassett High School). Each high school will have one new School Security Officer employed through the school division. These school security officers will complete the necessary training requirements within the first 60 days of employment. The two security officers will help to ensure the safety, security, and welfare of all students, staff, and visitors in the school. They will also help to maintain order and discipline, prevent crime, investigate violations of school board policies, and prevent students from violating the law or school board policies on school property and at school-sponsored events.
567911	James City, County	County Government	New	\$100,000.00	\$126,768.00	Meets criteria with conditions	Looking to hire two new full time School Security Officers for our two new Pre-Kindergarten centers.
568928	Lee, County	County Government	New	\$57,051.00	\$57,051.00	Meets criteria with conditions	Lee County Public Schools has relocated our alternative education program for middle and high schools and our elementary behavior program to a new facility. Previously, these programs were housed on other school campuses, so an SSO was available. However, because of the new location of the programs as well as the nature of the students who are placed in these programs (students with discipline infractions or egregious behavior issues), we are requesting an additional SSO to serve this facility and these programs.
567806	Manassas Park, City	City Government	New	\$137,900.00	\$131,628.00	Meets criteria with conditions	The School Security Officer supports a secure and orderly learning environment by providing proactive safety and security services for students, staff, and visitors. This role involves patrolling campus areas, monitoring student movement, responding to emergencies, addressing conflicts, and collaborating with school administrators and law enforcement. The officer maintains required certifications, communicates effectively with stakeholders, and promotes positive relationships while ensuring compliance with Virginia safety standards and school board policies.
568930	Norton, City	City Government	New	\$68,515.00	\$68,515.00	Meets criteria with conditions	This position will be for School Security Officer (SSO) for John I. Burton High School. JIB is one of two schools in Norton City Schools. JIB is a school with an enrollment of over 300 students in grades 8-12. The school employs over 50 faculty and staff members. The school security officer will be responsible for the safety and security of all students, staff, and visitors. This will create a secure learning environment and foster positive interactions with students.
568256	Suffolk, County	County Government	New	\$50,239.00	\$50,239.00	Meets criteria with conditions	Suffolk Public Schools seeks funding to establish a 12-month School Security Officer (SSO) position to enhance year-round safety and operational stability. While most SSO roles are 10-month, site-specific assignments, this 12-month position provides the division with a consistent, year-round security presence at a primary school site while offering the flexibility to support the division during periods of high demand. By funding this 12-month role, Suffolk Public Schools ensures that safety protocols remain active 52 weeks a year, providing the division with a reliable, highly-trained professional capable of stabilizing security presence across multiple campuses when necessary.

567985	Wise, County	County Government	New	\$812,196.00	\$812,196.00	Meets criteria with conditions	We would like to hire School Security Officers to ensure the safety, security, and welfare of all students, faculty, staff, and visitors. They will work collaboratively with school administration, staff, students, and parents to promote safety, prevent crime, build positive relationships, and support student success.
568273	York, County	County Government	New	\$250,000.00	\$248,612.00	Meets criteria with conditions	The York County School Division (YCSD) has experienced a growing need for enhanced security staffing across its 10 elementary schools. In response, YCSD will create five (5) new School Security Officer positions, with each officer serving two elementary schools. These School Security Officers will play a vital role in maintaining safe and secure learning environments by supporting school administrators with access control, conducting routine patrols of school buildings and grounds, assisting with incident response and safety drills, implementing proactive and reactive interventions, supporting disaster and emergency response efforts, and providing security coverage at extracurricular events.