

Fiscal Year 2024 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program

California Supplement to the Federal Notice of Funding Opportunity

Revised January 2025

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Federal Program Announcement

In September 2022, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP), Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). The FY 2023 SLCGP NOFO was subsequently released in August 2023. Subrecipients must follow the programmatic requirements in the NOFOs, and the applicable provisions of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards located in Title 2, Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), Part 200.

Competitive Funding **Opportunity**

The Competitive Funding Opportunity (CFO) provides the information necessary to prepare a proposal for Cal OES's grant funds for the FY 2024 SLCGP. The SLCGP is a competitive grant; therefore, scoring criteria are established and grants are awarded for the top-scoring applications. Applications are recommended for funding based on the entities' proposed projects alignment with the California SLCGP Cybersecurity Plan as identified in the CFO.

Information **Bulletins**

DHS issues Information Bulletins (IBs) to provide updates, clarification, and new requirements throughout the life of the grant.

Grant Management Memoranda

Cal OES issues Grant Management Memoranda (GMMs) which provide additional information and requirements regarding SLCGP funds.

Purpose of the California Supplement

The FY 2024 SLCGP California Supplement to the NOFO (State Supplement) is intended to complement, rather than replace, the NOFOs. Applicants are highly encouraged to thoroughly read both the FY 2022 and FY 2023 NOFOs before referring to the State Supplement. The State Supplement will highlight additional California policies, priorities, and requirements applicable to FY 2024 SLCGP.

Eligible **Subrecipients**

Eligible Applicants, referred to as Subrecipients, must meet federal definition of Local Government in 6 U.S.C. §101(13) or Tribal Government in <u>6 U.S.C.</u> §665(g)(a)(7) and be located in California, or be agencies of the State of California. Private entities including non-profit organizations and for-profit organizations are not eligible to apply.

Local Unit of Government

"Local government" for purposes of being an eligible Subrecipient for the SLCGP is defined in 6 U.S.C. § 101(13) as:

- A. A county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (regardless of whether the council of governments is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under state law), regional or interstate government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government;
- B. An Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization, or in Alaska a Native Village or Alaska Regional Native Corporation; and
- C. A rural community, unincorporated town or village, or other public entity.

Tribal Government

"Tribal government" for purposes of being an eligible Subrecipient for the SLCGP is defined in 6 U.S.C. §665g(a)(7) as the "recognized governing body of any Indian or Alaska Native Tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, community, component band, or component reservation, that is individually identified (including parenthetically)" in the most recent published list of Federally Recognized Tribes.

Supplanting **Prohibited**

Grant funds must be used to supplement existing funds, not replace (supplant) funds that have been appropriated for the same purpose. Subrecipients may be required to provide supporting documentation that certifies a reduction in nonfederal resources that occurred for reasons other than the receipt or expected receipt of federal funds. Supplanting will result in the disallowance of the activity associated with this improper use of federal grant funds.

Public/Private **Organizations**

Subrecipients may contract with other public or private organizations to perform eligible activities on approved SLCGP projects.

Debarred/ Suspended **Parties**

Subrecipients must not make or permit any award (subaward or contract) at any tier, to any party, that is debarred, suspended, or otherwise excluded from, or ineligible for, participation in federal assistance programs.

Debarred/ Suspended **Parties** Cont.

Subrecipients must obtain documentation of eligibility before making any subaward or contract using SLCGP funds and must be prepared to present supporting documentation to monitors/auditors.

Before entering into a Grant Subaward, the Subrecipient must notify Cal OES if it knows if any of the principals under the subaward fall under one or more of the four criteria listed at 2 C.F.R. § 180.335. The rule also applies to Subrecipients who pass through funding to other local entities.

If at any time after accepting a subaward, Subrecipients learn that any of its principals fall under one or more of the criteria listed at 2 C.F.R. § 180.335, immediate written notice must be provided to Cal OES and all grant activities halted until further instructions are received from Cal OES. The rule also applies to subawards passed through by Subrecipients to local entities.

Civil Rights Policies

The Cal OES Grants Management and Office of Civil Rights and EEO Programs, in coordination with DHS, has developed the following policies tailored specifically to program beneficiaries, including Subrecipients of DHS funding:

- Non-discrimination in Programs & Services
- Reasonable Accommodation for Program Beneficiaries
- Language Access Policy

These policies can be found on the Cal OES website: www.caloes.ca.gov/office-of-the-director/policyadministration/civil-rights-eeo/

For questions about these policies, please contact:

Cal OES's Civil Rights and Equal Employment Opportunity Office via email at: eeo@caloes.ca.gov.

Civil Rights Policies Cont.

Or write to:

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services 3650 Schriever Avenue Mather, CA 95655 ATTN: EEO Office

To request a reasonable accommodation or alternate format or language services under these policies, please contact your Grants Analyst or the EEO Office.

SLCGP Program Objectives

Strengthening cybersecurity practices and resilience of state, local, and territorial (SLT) governments is an important national homeland security mission and the primary focus of the SLCGP. Through funding from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), the SLCGP enables DHS/FEMA to make targeted cybersecurity investments in SLT government agencies, thus improving the security of critical infrastructure and improving the resilience of the services SLT governments provide to their community.

The FY 2024 SLCGP aligns with the 2020-2024 DHS Strategic Plan by helping DHS achieve Goal 3: Secure Cyberspace and Critical Infrastructure, Objective 3.3 Assess and Counter Evolving Cybersecurity Risks. The FY 2024 SLCGP also supports the 2022-2026 FEMA Strategic Plan which outlines a bold vision and three ambitious goals, including Goal 3: Promote and Sustain a Ready FEMA and Prepared Nation, Objective 3.2: Posture FEMA to Meet Current and Emergent Threats.

The goal of SLCGP is to assist SLT governments with managing and reducing systemic cyber risk. With SLCGP funding, Subrecipients are required to address how at least one or more of the following program objectives will be met in their proposed project(s):

- Objective 1: Develop and establish appropriate governance structures, including developing, implementing, or revising cybersecurity plans, to improve capabilities to respond to cybersecurity incidents and ensure continuity of operations.
- Objective 2: Understand their current cybersecurity posture and areas of improvement based on continuous testing, evaluation, and structured assessments.
- Objective 3: Implement security protections commensurate with risk.
- Objective 4: Ensure organization personnel are appropriately trained in cybersecurity, commensurate with responsibility.

SLCGP Program Objectives Cont.

FY 2022-23 **National Priorities** For more information on the program goals, objectives, subobjectives, and desired outcomes, please refer to the FY 2022 and FY 2023 SLCGP NOFOs.

To support the goals and objectives of the SLCGP, Subrecipients are highly encouraged to prioritize the following key Cybersecurity Best Practices, as appropriate, in their individual projects using SLCGP funds:

- Implement multi-factor authentication
- Implement enhanced logging
- Data encryption for data at rest and in transit
- End use of unsupported/end of life software and hardware that are accessible from the internet
- Prohibit use of known/fixed/default passwords and credentials
- Ensure the ability to reconstitute systems (backups)
- Actively engage in bidirectional sharing between CISA and SLT entities in cyber relevant time frames to drive down cyber risk
- Migration to the .gov internet domain

Subrecipients should eventually adopt and use all eight Cybersecurity Best Practices as described in the FY 2022 and FY 2023 SLCGP NOFOs, Section A, 10, c. Subrecipients are strongly recommended to prioritize the best practices in the implementation of their individual projects, as appropriate, to improve their cybersecurity posture and work on plans to move toward eventual adoption of all eight of the cybersecurity best practices. Although immediate adoption of all practices by the Subrecipient is not required, progression should be documented in the required performance reports.

With regard to migrating to the .gov internet domain (one of the Cybersecurity Best Practices), educational institution Subrecipients (e.g., school districts) using the .edu Internet domain are exempted from transitioning to the .gov Internet domain. All other Subrecipients are advised that a .gov

National Priorities Cont.

internet domain not only provides many security benefits but also signals trust and credibility to public users. For more information on migrating to the .gov internet domain please visit the DotGov Program at get.gov.

As states, territories, and local entities increase their cybersecurity maturity level, DHS/CISA recommends they move toward implementing more advanced cybersecurity best practices, such as endpoint detection and response capabilities, as well as conducting regular penetration testing. Please visit the SLCGP page on the CISA website for additional information and resources on cybersecurity best practices.

National Campaigns and **Programs**

Whole Community Preparedness – Subrecipients should engage with the whole community to advance individual and community preparedness and to work as a nation to build and sustain resilience. In doing so, Subrecipients are encouraged to consider the needs of individuals with access and functional needs and limited English proficiency in the activities and projects funded by the grant.

Subrecipients should utilize established best practices for whole community inclusion and engage with stakeholders to advance individual and jurisdictional preparedness and resilience. Subrecipients are encouraged to consider the necessities of all Californians in the activities and projects funded by the grant, including children, seniors, individuals with disabilities or access and functional needs, individuals with diverse culture and language use, individuals with lower economic capacity, and other underserved populations.

Continuity Capability – Continuity should be integrated into each core capability and the coordinating structures that provide them. Protection of critical systems and networks that ensure continuity of operation, business, and government are fundamental to ensuring delivery of all core capabilities. Continuity capabilities increase resilience and the probability that organizations can perform essential functions in the delivery of core capabilities that support the mission areas. FEMA is responsible for developing, managing, and promulgating national continuity planning, guidance, training, and exercise programs for the whole community.

FEMA develops and promulgates directives, policy, and guidance for continuing SLT government jurisdictions,

National Campaigns and Programs (cont.)

nongovernmental organizations, and private sector organizations' essential functions across a broad spectrum of emergencies. This direction and guidance assists in developing capabilities for continuing the essential functions of SLT governmental entities, as well as public/private critical infrastructure owners, operators, and regulators enabling them.

This aligns with the requirements that SLCGP Cybersecurity Plans ensure continuity of operations of the state or territory as well as applicable local governments in the event of a cybersecurity incident, as well as continuity of communications and data networks within the state or territory and between the state or territory and applicable local governments. See also <u>6 U.S.C.</u> § 665g(e)(2)(B)(vii), (ix).

Continuity Guidance Circulars outline continuity requirements for agencies and organizations and provide guidance, methodology, and checklists. For additional information on continuity programs, guidance, and directives, visit the Continuity Resource Toolkit on the FEMA website.

National Cybersecurity Review

The National Cybersecurity Review (NCSR) is a required assessment for all Subrecipients of SLCGP funding to be completed on an annual basis.

The NCSR is a no-cost, anonymous, and annual selfassessment designed to measure gaps and capabilities of state, local, tribal, territorial, nonprofit, and private sector agencies' cybersecurity programs. The NCSR usually opens for completion in October and closes in February.

Additionally, FEMA recognizes that some subawards will not be issued until after the NCSR has closed. In these cases, Subrecipients will be required to complete the first available NCSR offered after the subaward has been issued by Cal OES.

The Chief Information Officer (CIO), Chief Information Security Officer (CISO), or equivalent should complete the NCSR. If there is no CIO or CISO, the most senior cybersecurity professional should complete the assessment. Additional information may be found in IB 439 and 429a.

Required CISA **Cyber Hygiene** Services

As a condition of receiving SLCGP funding, Subrecipients are required to participate in the vulnerability scanning service provided through the CISA Cyber Hygiene Services. Participation in this service is not required for submission and approval of a proposal, however it is required for approved projects funded through the SLCGP.

Match Requirement

The SLCGP requires cash and/or third-party in-kind contributions as a share of cost to match the federal share awarded through the program. Match required for the SLCGP is calculated based on the total project cost. The match requirement for Subrecipients has been waived in full.

Match requirements for the upcoming federal fiscal years of the SLCGP are as follows:

- FFY 2024: 30% of the total project cost
- FFY 2025: 40% of the total project cost

Applicants are referred to 2 C.F.R. § 200.306 for details on match requirements for federal awards. Non-federal match contributions have the same eligibility requirements as the federal share.

Management and Administration

The Management and Administration (M&A) allowance for Subrecipients is set at a maximum of 5% for the FY 2024 SLCGP.

Indirect Costs

Indirect costs are allowable under the FY 2024 SLCGP Grant Subaward.

Subrecipients with an indirect cost rate approved by their cognizant federal agency may claim indirect costs based on the established rate. Indirect costs claimed must be calculated using the base approved in the indirect cost negotiation agreement. A copy of the approved negotiation agreement is required at the time of application.

Indirect costs are in addition to the M&A allowance and must be included in the Grant Award Application as a "Project" and reflected in the FMFW on the Indirect Cost Tab if being claimed under the award.

Indirect Costs Cont.

Indirect costs must be claimed no more than once annually, and only at the end of the Subrecipient's fiscal year. An exception to this rule applies if there is a mid-year change to the approved indirect cost rate; in this case, costs incurred to date must be claimed. At that time, a Grant Subaward Modification reflecting the rate change must also be submitted to Cal OES, along with a copy of the new indirect cost rate agreement.

The FEMA Preparedness Grants Manual, published by FEMA, states that state and local governments are **not** permitted to use the de minimis rate. The de minimis rate is allowable only when an exception is granted to the SAA by FEMA per 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Appendix VII, paragraph D.1.b. Subrecipients should not include these costs based on the de minimis rate in their future applications until further notice. If necessary, subrecipients may work with their Grants Analyst to modify their existing projects to remove such costs that were included in their proposed projects.

Equipment Costs

Per the NOFO, equipment costs are allowable under this Program. SLCGP equipment is intended to be used to address cybersecurity risks and cybersecurity threats to information systems owned or operated by, or on behalf of, state, local, and tribal governments.

Per FEMA policy, the purchase of weapons and weapon accessories are not allowed with SLCGP funds.

Unless otherwise stated, all equipment must meet all applicable statutory, regulatory, and DHS standards to be eligible for purchase using SLCGP funds. In addition, Subrecipients will be responsible for obtaining and maintaining all necessary certifications and licenses for the requested equipment.

NOTE: Equipment requiring construction activities (including site preparation, utility installations, and any groundbreaking activities) or equipment installations are not allowable.

Equipment Maintenance/ Sustainment

Use of SLCGP funds for maintenance contracts, warranties, repair or replacement costs, upgrades, and user fees are allowable as described in FEMA IBs 336 and 379, as well as Grant Programs Directorate (GPD) Policy FP-205-402-125-1.

Emergency Communications Projects -**SAFECOM** Guidance

All Subrecipient emergency communications projects must comply with the SAFECOM Guidance on Emergency Communications Grants and describe how such activities align with the goals of the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan.

Telecom Equipment and Services **Prohibitions**

Effective August 13, 2020, section 889(f)(2)-(3) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2019 (NDAA) and 2 C.F.R. § 200.216 prohibit DHS/FEMA Recipients and Subrecipients (including their contractors and subcontractors) from using any FEMA funds under open or new awards for the following telecommunications equipment or services:

- 1) Telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation, (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities);
- 2) For the purpose of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities);
- 3) Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment; or
- 4) Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the People's Republic of China.

Please see <u>FEMA Policy #405-143-1</u> for additional information.

Construction and Renovation

SLCGP funds may **not** be used for construction, renovation, remodel, or to perform alterations of buildings or other physical facilities. However, this does not prohibit a subrecipient from making minor modification to an existing building or other physical facility necessary to install and connect equipment purchased under an SLCGP grant subaward, such as drilling a hole in a building's wall to mount such equipment.

In addition, the prohibition does not apply in circumstances where the subrecipient constructs, remodels, or performs alterations of buildings or other physical facilities with its own funding when installing and connecting equipment for an information system purchased under the grant subaward. The prohibition only applies to work and associated costs sourced with federal funding and/or the non-federal cost share of a arant subaward and does not apply to work completed at the subrecipient's own expense.

Subrecipients may use SLCGP funding to perform minor modifications that do not substantially affect a building's or other physical facility's structure, layout, or systems; affect critical aspects of the building's safety; or otherwise materially increase the value or useful life of the building or other physical facility.

The following list provides examples of **potentially allowable** costs using SLCGP federal funds and/or match:

- Fastening equipment to building or other physical facility walls where it does not become a permanent fixture (such as hanging a server rack with servers on a building wall).
- Replacing an outdated existing electrical or internet outlet into which the equipment will connect.
- Installing new cabling.
- Replacing existing cabling.
- Moving cabling.
- Installing and connecting information system equipment to the building's network and power supply and internet.

Construction and Renovation Cont.

• Making a hole in the wall to attach the equipment to the building's network, power, or internet.

Examples of the types of construction, remodeling, and alterations that are unallowable with SLCGP funding or the non-federal cost share include:

- Constructing a new building or other physical facility.
- Updating an electrical system to a building or other physical facility that involves work to enhance or modernize the electrical infrastructure, such as replacing electrical panels, upgrading old or unsafe wiring, and replacing circuit breakers.
- Installing new walls or reconfiguring existing walls.
- Affixing equipment in such a way that it becomes a permanent part of a building or other physical facility (as this would result in the equipment no longer being personal property).

Minor modifications may be permitted under the SLCGP subject to additional reviews. As a reminder, recipients and subrecipients are required to submit projects for minor building modifications for approval to FEMA through the Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (EHP) review process. See IB 523 for additional information.

Conflict of Interest

To eliminate and reduce the impact of conflicts of interest in the subaward process, Subrecipients and pass-through entities must follow their own policies and procedures regarding the elimination or reduction of conflicts of interest when making subawards. Subrecipients and pass-through entities are also required to follow any applicable federal, state, local, and tribal statutes or regulations governing conflicts of interest in the making of subawards.

Subrecipients must disclose to their Grants Analyst, in writing, any real or potential conflict of interest as defined by the federal, state, local, or tribal statutes or regulations, which may arise during the administration of the SLCGP subaward within five days of learning of the conflict of interest.

California Cybersecurity **Priorities**

The State prioritized the following initiatives in the California SLCGP Cybersecurity Plan for the FY 2024 Grant Subawards:

- 1. Enhance the preparation, response, and resiliency of information systems, applications, and user accounts (SLCGP Cybersecurity Plan Element 3);
- 2. Implement a process of continuous cybersecurity risk factors and threat mitigation practices, prioritized by degree of risk (SLCGP Cybersecurity Plan Element 4);
- 3. Develop and coordinate strategies to address cybersecurity risks and threats (SLCGP Cybersecurity Plan Element 14);
- 4. Identify and mitigate any gaps in the cybersecurity workforces, enhance recruitment and retention efforts, and bolster the knowledge, skills, and abilities of personnel with reference to the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education Workforce Framework for Cybersecurity (SLCGP Cybersecurity Plan Element 8);
- 5. Assess and mitigate Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources risks and threats impacting local jurisdictions (SLCGP Cybersecurity Plan Element 10);
- 6. Ensure continuity of operations, including by conducting exercises (SLCGP Cybersecurity Plan Element 7); and
- 7. Ensure rural communities have adequate access to, and participation in, California SLCGP Cybersecurity Plan activities (SLCGP Cybersecurity Plan Element 15).

These focus areas drive the prioritized cybersecurity projects described in the California SLCGP Cybersecurity Plan, Appendix B: Project Summary Worksheet. Cybersecurity projects funded through the FY 2024 SLCGP in California must align with one or more of the SLCGP Objectives and one or more of the 16 Cybersecurity Plan Elements.

"On Behalf Of"

Cal OES may, in conjunction with local approval authorities, designate funds "on behalf of" local entities who choose to decline or fail to utilize their subaward in a timely manner.

Public Alert and Warning

Cal OES encourages Subrecipients to consider their jurisdiction's alignment with the State of California Alert and Warning Guidelines, developed pursuant to Senate Bill 833 of the 2018 Legislative Session.

Financial Management **Forms Workbook** (FMFW)

The FY 2024 Cal OFS FMFW includes:

Grant Subaward Face Sheet – Use the Grant Subaward Face Sheet to apply for grant programs. The Grant Subaward Face Sheet must be signed and submitted in portrait format. An active UEI# (Formerly DUNS#) is required. UEI registration information is available on sam.gov.

Authorized Agent Contact Information – Provide the contact information of Authorized Agents (AA), delegated via the GBR or Signature Authorization Form, including staff related to grant activities. More than one person is recommended for designation as the AA; in the absence of an AA, an alternate AA can sign requests.

Project Ledger – The project ledger is used in the application process to submit funding information and is used for submitting cash requests and grant subaward modifications.

Planning Ledger – Provides detailed information on grantfunded planning activities with a final product identified.

Organization Ledger – Provides detailed information on grantfunded organizational activities.

Equipment Ledger – Detailed information must be provided under the equipment description for all grant-funded equipment. AEL numbers must be included for all items of equipment. Always refer to the AEL for a list of allowable equipment and conditions, if any.

Training Ledger – Provides detailed information on grantfunded training activities. All training activities must receive Cal OES approval prior to starting the event, including a Training Feedback number. The Training Request Form must be submitted and approved to obtain a Training Feedback number and should be submitted at least 30 days in advance.

Exercise Ledger – Provides detailed information on grantfunded exercises.

M&A Ledger – Provides information on grant-funded M&A activities.

Financial Management **Forms Workbook** Cont.

Indirect Costs Ledger – Provides information on indirect costs.

Consultant-Contractor Ledger – Provides detailed information on grant-funded consultants and contractors.

Authorized Agent Page – The AA Page must be submitted with the application, all cash requests, and Grant Subaward Modifications. The AA Page must include a valid signature on file with Cal OES and the date.

Subrecipient Grants Management Assessment

Per <u>2 C.F.R. § 200.332</u>, Cal OES is required to evaluate the risk of non-compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and grant terms and conditions posed by each Subrecipient of passthrough funding. The Subrecipient Grants Management Assessment Form contains questions related to an organization's experience in the management of federal grant awards. It is used to determine and provide an appropriate level of technical assistance, training, and grant oversight to Subrecipients during the subaward. The questionnaire must be completed and returned with the grant application.

Application Attachments

Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) Financial Disclosure – Use the FFATA Financial Disclosure Form to provide the information required by the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006.

Certification Regarding Lobbying – Use the <u>Certification</u> Regarding Lobbying Form to certify lobbying activities, as stipulated by the Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment, 31 U.S.C. § 1352.

STD 204 Payee Data Record – This form provides information for income tax reporting and to ensure tax compliance with federal and state laws. This form is only required if the Applicant has not previously received a Grant Subaward from Cal OES.

Indirect Cost Rate Agreement – If claiming indirect costs at a federally-approved rate, please provide a copy of the approved indirect cost rate agreement.

Standard Assurances

The Standard Assurances list the requirements to which the Subrecipients will be held accountable. All Applicants will be required to submit a signed, original of the FY 2024 Standard Assurances as part of their FY 2024 SLCGP application.

Standard Assurances Cont.

The required Standard Assurances can be found only in PDF format on the Cal OES website.

NOTE: Self-created Standard Assurances will not be accepted.

Governing Body Resolution

The Governing Body Resolution (GBR) appoints Authorized Agents (AA) – identified by the individual's name or by a position title - to act on behalf of the governing body and the Applicant by executing any actions necessary for each application and subaward. All Applicants are required to submit a copy of an approved GBR in order to execute their Grant Subaward agreement. Resolutions may be valid for up to three grant years given the following:

- The resolution identifies the applicable grant program (e.g., SLCGP);
- The resolution identifies the applicable grant years, (e.g., FY 2024); and
- Adheres to any necessary elements required by local protocols, rules, etc., if applicable.

Resolutions that only identify a single grant program will only be valid for that single program. Resolutions that do not identify applicable grant years will only be valid for the grant year in which the resolution was submitted.

Authorized Agent Information – For each person or position appointed by the governing body, identify the individual in the Cal OES Grants Central System (GCS) by assigning them the Authorized Agent role.

All changes in AA and contact information must be submitted through the GCS. If the GBR identifies the AA by name, a new resolution is needed when changes are made. If the GBR identifies the AA by position and/or title, changes may be made by an existing AA, who can register the new AA in the GCS. Cal OES will not accept signatures of an AA's designee, unless authorized by the governing body's resolution. A change to an AA's designee must be submitted through the GCS.

State Agencies and Tribes Only

State agencies and federally recognized tribes may submit the Signature Authorization Form in lieu of a GBR, signed by the most senior ranking official, such as the Secretary, Director, President, Chancellor, or Chairperson.

Application Submission

Subrecipients must submit an electronic copy of their completed FMFW to their Program Representative for review. After the application is approved, a completed copy of the FMFW, along with all other application components must be submitted, with official signatures, by the application due date. During the application process, if it is determined not all allocated funds can be expended by the end of the period of performance, please inform a Program Representative as soon as possible. The completed application should be received by Cal OES no later than the date provided in the FY 2024 SLCGP Timeline, referenced as Attachment A.

Late or Incomplete **Application**

Late or incomplete applications may be denied. If an application is incomplete, the Program Representative may request additional information. Requests for late submission of applications must be made in writing to the Program Representative prior to the application due date. Cal OES has sole discretion to accept or reject a late or incomplete grant application.

SLCGP Contact Information

All Subrecipient application materials, questions, comments, and correspondence should be directed to:

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services ATTN: Grants Management (Building F) State & Local Projects Unit 3650 Schriever Avenue Mather, CA 95655

Trevor Martin (916) 328-7693 Trevor.Martin@caloes.ca.gov

Subaward **Approval**

Subrecipients will receive a formal notification of award. The award letter must be signed, dated, and returned to Cal OES within 20 calendar days. Once the completed application, along with the signed award letter, is received and approved, reimbursement of eligible subaward expenditures may be requested.

Payment Request Process

To request a cash reimbursement of SLCGP funds, Subrecipients must first complete a payment request. Subrecipients who fail to follow instructions may experience delays in processing the payment request.

Payments can only be made if the Subrecipient has an approved application.

Advances and Interest Earned on Advances

An Advance payment is a payment that is requested before Subrecipients have disbursed the funds for program purposes. Subrecipients may be paid an advance, provided they maintain a willingness and ability to maintain procedures to minimize the time elapsing between the receipt of funds and their disbursement. The timing and amount of advance payments must be as close as administratively feasible to the actual disbursements by the Subrecipient for project costs.

Federal rules require advances to be deposited in interestbearing accounts. Interest earned amounts up to \$500 per year may be retained by Subrecipients for administrative expenses; any additional interest earned on federal advance payments must be returned annually to Cal OES.

Semi-Annual Drawdown **Requirements**

All Subrecipients must report expenditures and request funds at least semi-annually throughout the period of performance. Semi-annual drawdowns should occur by March and October of each calendar year following final approval of the subaward application, except for the final cash request, which must be submitted within 20 calendar days after the end of the period of performance.

Modifications

Post-award budget and scope modifications must be requested, signed by the Subrecipient's AA, and submitted to the Grants Analyst.

The Subrecipient may implement grant modification activities, and incur associated expenses, only after receiving written final approval of the modification from Cal OES.

Modifications Cont.

Subrecipients must provide a written justification with all modification requests. The justification may be included in the body of the e-mail transmitting the request, or in a document attached to the transmittal e-mail. Please reference GMM 2018-17 for additional information regarding modification requests.

Any changes to the scope of work of a proposal selected for funding are not permitted.

Training

All grant-funded training activities must receive Cal OES approval prior to starting the training event. Cal OES shall allow Subrecipients to develop a "placeholder" for future training conferences when an agenda has not been established at the time Subrecipient applications are due. Please work with a Grants Analyst and the Training Branch to identify a possible "placeholder" for these types of training activities.

When seeking approval of non-DHS/FEMA developed courses, course materials must be submitted with the approval requests. Conditional approvals are not offered.

Subrecipients must complete a Training Request Form and submit it electronically to the Cal OES Training Branch to be approved with a Training Feedback Number before beginning any training activities. This includes project components like travel to, materials for, or attendance in training courses. Training Feedback Numbers should be obtained no later than 30 days before the first day of the training or related activities. Requests that are submitted with less than 30 days prior to the start of the training or activity are not guaranteed to be approved in time and run the risk of training being unallowable. Training Feedback numbers must be included on the Training Ledger to be considered for reimbursement.

For more information on this or other training-related inquiries, contact the Cal OES Training Branch at (805) 594-2500.

Exercises. **Improvement** Plans, and After-**Action Reporting**

Subrecipients should engage stakeholders to identify long-term training and exercise priorities. These priorities should address capability targets and gaps identified through the THIRA and SPR process, real-world events, previous exercises, and national areas for improvement identified in the NPR.

Subrecipients must report on all exercises conducted with SLCGP grant funds. An After-Action Report (AAR)/Improvement Plan (IP) or Summary Report (for Seminars and Workshops) must be completed and submitted to Cal OES within 90 days after exercise/seminars/workshops are conducted. It is acceptable to submit an Exercise Summary Report for Seminars and Workshops in lieu of a full AAR/IP.

Please e-mail AAR/IPs and Summary Reports to:

- hseep@fema.dhs.gov
- exercise@caloes.ca.gov
- christopher.camacho@caloes.ca.gov

For exercise-related issues and/or questions, please email the Cal OES Exercise Team at exercise@caloes.ca.gov.

Exercise costs will not be considered for reimbursement until an AAR/IP is received by Cal OES.

Procurement Standards and Written **Procedures**

Subrecipients are required to conduct procurement activities in accordance with documented procurement procedures, that alian with federal procurement standards outlined in 2 C.F.R. Part 200. In cases where there is a conflict between the local procedures and federal standards, the more stringent requirements must be followed. Additionally, subrecipients must implement written conflict of interest policies that govern the actions of employees involved in the selection, award, and administration of contracts. These policies should include provisions for disciplinary actions in the event of violations.

Procurement Thresholds

Under 2 C.F.R. Part 200, procurement thresholds are defined as follows:

Micro-purchase threshold: This is the maximum amount for which purchases can be made without requiring competitive quotes or formal procurement processes, provided the price is reasonable. The micro-purchase threshold is set at \$10,000.

Simplified acquisition threshold: This sets the maximum amount for which federal procurement procedures may be simplified. The threshold is \$250,000. For purchases at or below this amount, subrecipients may use streamlined methods, such as obtaining competitive price or rate quotations from an adequate number of qualified sources. Purchases exceeding \$250,000 require more formal procurement procedures, including sealed bids or competitive proposals.

Subrecipients must adhere to these thresholds and, in cases of conflict between local procurement procedures and federal requirements, must apply the more stringent requirements.

Procurement Documentation

Per 2 C.F.R. § 200.318(i), non-federal entities other than states and territories are required to maintain and retain records sufficient to detail the history of procurement covering at least the rationale for the procurement method, contract type, contractor selection or rejection, and the basis for the contract price. For any cost to be allowable, it must be adequately documented per <u>2 C.F.R. § 200.403(g)</u>. Examples of the types of documents that would cover this information include, but are not limited to:

- Solicitation documentation, such as requests for quotes, invitations for bids, or requests for proposal;
- Responses to solicitations, such as quotes, bids, or proposal;
- Pre-solicitation independent cost estimates and postsolicitation cost/price analyses on file for review by federal personnel, if applicable;
- Contract documents and amendments, including required contract provisions; and other documents required by federal regulations applicable at the time a grant is awarded to a Subrecipient.

Noncompetitive **Procurement**

All noncompetitive procurements exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold requires Cal OES prior written approval to be eligible for reimbursement. This method of procurement must be approved by the local Purchasing Agent prior to submitting a request for Cal OES approval. A copy of the Purchasing Agent's approval must be included with the Cal OES Request for Noncompetitive Procurement Authorization form. Cal OES may request additional documentation that supports the procurement effort.

Cal OES will not reimburse for any noncompetitive procurement contracts for any SLCGP terrorism-related training, regardless of the cost of the training. Exceptions to this policy may be approved in limited circumstances, e.g., related to a procurement effort that has resulted in inadequate competition. Please refer to GMM2017-01A and GMM2021-05 for additional guidance.

Inventory Control and **Property** Management

Subrecipients must use standardized resource management concepts for resource typing and credentialing, in addition to maintaining an inventory by which to facilitate the effective identification, dispatch, deployment, tracking, and recovery of resources.

Subrecipients must have an effective inventory management system, to include:

- Property records that document description, serial/ID number, fund source, title information, acquisition date, cost, federal cost share, location, use, condition, and ultimate disposition;
- A physical inventory conducted at least every two years;
- A control system to prevent loss, damage, and theft of grant-purchased equipment and supplies; and
- Adequate maintenance procedures to keep the property in good condition.

Equipment Disposition

When original or replacement equipment acquired under the SLCGP is no longer needed for program activities, the Subrecipient must contact the Grants Analyst to request disposition instructions. See <u>2 C.F.R. § 200.313(e)</u>.

Performance Reporting

Performance Progress Reports – Subrecipients must prepare and submit Performance Reports to the State for the duration of the subaward period of performance, or until all grant activities are completed and the subaward is formally closed by Cal OES. The SLCGP Performance Reports must be submitted on an annual basis, consistent with section 2200A(q)(1) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002. The Performance Reports must include the progress made on identified activities, as well as other required

Performance Reporting Cont.

information. Failure to submit a Performance Report could result in subaward reduction, suspension, or termination.

To ensure that mandated performance metrics and other data required under the subaward is reported accurately, all SLCGP Performance Reports must be submitted electronically, via email, to their Cal OES Grants Analyst for

review and vetting. Electronic documents submitted for Cal OES review and vetting should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than, seven calendar days before the

identified due date(s) associated with the Performance Report. Submission of the electronic copy is only to occur after their Cal OES Grants Analyst's review has concluded and the Subrecipient is directed by their Cal OES Grants Analyst to submit the signed electronic copy.

Extension Requests

Extensions to the initial period of performance identified in the subaward will only be considered through formal, written requests to your Grants Analyst. Upon receipt of the extension request, Cal OES will:

- 1. Verify compliance with performance reporting requirements by confirming the Subrecipient has submitted all necessary performance reports;
- 2. Confirm the Subrecipient has provided sufficient justification for the request; and
- 3. If applicable, confirm the Subrecipient has demonstrated sufficient progress in past situations where an extension was authorized by Cal OES.

Extension requests will be granted only due to compelling legal, policy, or operational challenges, must be projectspecific and will only be considered for the following reasons:

- 1. Contractual commitments with vendors that prevent completion of the project within the period of performance;
- 2. The project must undergo a complex environmental review which cannot be completed within this timeframe;
- 3. Projects are long-term by design and therefore, acceleration would compromise core programmatic goals; and
- 4. Where other special circumstances exist.

Extension Requests Cont.

To be considered, extension requests must be received no later than 60 days prior to the end of the Subrecipient's period of performance and must contain specific and compelling justifications as to why an extension is required. All extension requests must address the following:

- 1. Grant program, fiscal year, and award number;
- 2. Reason for delay;
- 3. Current status of the activity/activities;
- 4. Approved period of performance termination date and new project completion date;
- 5. Amount of funds drawn down to date;
- 6. Remaining available funds, both federal and non-federal;
- 7. Budget outlining how remaining federal and non-federal funds will be expended;
- 8. Plan for completion, including milestones and timeframes for each milestone and the position/person responsible for implementing the plan for completion; and
- 9. Certification the activity/activities will be completed within the extended period of performance without any modification to the original Project Scope.

General questions regarding extension requirements and the extension request form, should be directed to your Grants Analyst. For additional information, please see IB 379. Extension requests for personnel and salaries do not meet the requirements of IB 379 and will not be granted. Subrecipients are expected to complete all grant-funded personnel activities by the end of the subaward period of performance.

Progress Reports on Grant **Extensions**

All Subrecipients that receive Cal OES approval to extend their FY 2024 Grant Subaward period of performance may be required to submit progress reports indicating completed and future project milestones on all extended projects. Progress reports must be submitted electronically to the Subrecipient's Grants Analyst. Deadlines for the submission of progress reports will be established at the time of extension approval.

Monitoring

Cal OES Grants Monitoring actively monitors Subrecipients, through day-to-day communications, programmatic site visits, desk, and on-site compliance assessments. The purpose of the compliance assessment is to ensure Subrecipients are in compliance with applicable state and federal regulations, grant guidelines, and programmatic requirements.

Monitoring activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Verifying entries recorded in categories are properly supported with source documentation;
- Eligibility of and support for expenditures, typically covering two to three years of data;
- Comparing actual Subrecipient activities to those approved in the grant application and subsequent modifications, including the review of timesheets and invoices as applicable;
- Procurements and contracts;
- Ensuring equipment lists are properly maintained and physical inventories are conducted;
- Ensuring advances have been disbursed in accordance with applicable guidelines; and
- Confirming compliance with Standard Assurances, and information provided on performance reports and payment requests.

NOTE: It is the responsibility of all Subrecipients that pass down arant funds to other entities, to maintain and utilize a formal process to monitor the grant activities of their subawards. This requirement includes, but is not limited to, on-site verification of grant activities, as required. It is common for Subrecipients to receive findings in a programmatic site visit or compliance assessment, which require a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to be submitted by Subrecipients. Those Subrecipients who fail to submit a CAP, as required, shall have a "hold" placed on any future reimbursements until the "finding" is resolved.

Failure to Submit Required **Reports**

Periodic reporting is required by the grant. Subrecipients who miss a single reporting deadline may receive a letter addressed to their governing body informing them of the failure to report. Subrecipients who fail to report twice consecutively may have subsequent awards reduced by 10% until timely reporting is reestablished.

Suspension/ **Termination**

Cal OES may suspend or terminate grant funding, in whole or in part, or other measures may be imposed for any of the following reasons:

- Failure to submit required reports.
- Failure to expend funds in a timely manner consistent with the grant milestones, guidance, and assurances.
- Failure to comply with the requirements or statutory progress toward the goals or objectives of federal or state law.
- Failure to make satisfactory progress toward the goals or objectives set forth in the Subrecipient application.
- Failure to follow Grant Subaward requirements or Special Conditions.
- Proposing or implementing substantial plan changes to the extent that, if originally submitted, the application would not have been selected for funding.
- False certification in the application or document.
- Failure to adequately manage, monitor, or direct the grant funding activities of their Subrecipients.

Before taking action, Cal OES will provide the Subrecipient reasonable notice of intent to impose corrective measures and will make every effort to informally resolve the problem.

Closeout

Cal OES will close-out Subrecipient awards when it determines all applicable administrative actions and all required work of the federal award have been completed.

Subawards will be closed after:

- All funds have been requested and reimbursed, or disencumbered;
- Receiving all applicable Subrecipient reports indicating all approved work has been completed, and all funds have been distributed;
- Completing a review to confirm the accuracy of reported information;
- Reconciling actual costs to subawards, modifications, and payments.

Records Retention

The records retention period is three years from the date of the Cal OES Grant Closeout letter, or until any pending litigation, claim, or audit started before the expiration of the three-year retention period has been resolved and final action is taken.

For indirect cost rate proposals, cost allocation plans, or other rate computation records, the start of the record retention period is dependent on whether the proposal, plan, or other computation is required to be submitted to the federal government (or to the pass-through entity) for negotiation purposes. See 2 C.F.R. § 200.334(f).

In order for any cost to be allowable, it must be adequately documented per 2 C.F.R. § 200,403(g).

The Cal OES Grant Closeout Letter will notify the Subrecipient of the start of the records retention period for all programmatic and financial grant-related records.

Closed grants may still be monitored and audited. Failure to maintain all grant records for the required retention period could result in a reduction of grant funds, and an invoice to return costs associated with the unsupported activities.

If documents are retained longer than the required retention period, FEMA, the DHS Office of Inspector General, Government Accountability Office, and pass-through entity have the right to access these records as well. See 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.334, 200.336.

DHS/FEMA Approval of California's SLCGP Cybersecurity Plan	September 29, 2023
2024 SLCGP CFO release	July 31, 2024
2024 SLCGP California Supplement release	July 2024
Subrecipient Award Notifications	December 2024
Subrecipient period of performance begins	December 1, 2024
Subrecipient Final Applications Due to Cal OES	February 28, 2025
Subrecipient First Performance Report Due	December 31, 2025
Subrecipient period of performance ends	December 31, 2026
Final Cash Requests due to Cal OES	Within twenty (20) calendar days after end of grant
Subrecipient Final Performance Report Due	January 15, 2027
Cal OES's period of performance ends	November 30, 2027