

# MARYLAND CENTER for SCHOOL SAFETY

## Fiscal Year 2026 School Facility Mapping Grant (SFMG)

### Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) Application Guidance Document

**Online Submission Deadline: September 30, 2025**

#### Funded through: State of Maryland

Maryland Center for School Safety (MCSS)  
Care of: Maryland State Department of Education  
200 West Baltimore Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201  
[schoolsafety.maryland.gov](https://schoolsafety.maryland.gov)

Wes Moore, Governor  
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor  
Dr. Carey M. Wright, State Superintendent of Schools  
Kate Bryan, Executive Director, MCSS

**NOTE: MCSS will begin accepting applications for the FY2026 School Mapping Data Grant Program starting July 15, 2025.**  
[schoolsafety.maryland.gov](https://schoolsafety.maryland.gov)

**Eligibility:** The School Facility Mapping Grant is open to all twenty-four (24) local school systems, including public charter schools, within the State of Maryland. Nonpublic schools are not eligible to apply.

**Important Notes:** All FY2026 Grants administered by MCSS are State issued Funds and are paid on a reimbursable basis. Applicants must provide a copy of their **IRS Form W-9** to MCSS with their application.

**Premise:** The Maryland Center for School Safety administers the Safe Schools Fund grants set forth in Md. Code Ann., Education Art. §7-1512 of the Safe to Learn Act of 2018. For FY2026, three million dollars has been appropriated specifically to provide grants to local school systems to produce uniform digital school mapping data for each public school within their jurisdiction under Md. Code Ann., Education Article §7-1510.1.

**Application Process:** Applicants are required to apply for grant funding through the [MCSS website](https://schoolsafety.maryland.gov).

For general and technical assistance, contact the MCSS Grants Unit at [MCSS.MCSS@maryland.gov](mailto:MCSS.MCSS@maryland.gov).

**To qualify, the online application must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on September 30, 2025.**

## Table of Contents

<b>GRANT OVERVIEW</b>	3
<b>PURPOSE OF THE GRANT</b>	3
<b>ALLOCATION</b>	4
<b>GRANT TIMELINE</b>	5
<b>IMPORTANT DATES</b>	5
<b>APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS</b>	5
<b>APPLICATION REVIEW</b>	5
<b>ALLOWABLE AND UNALLOWABLE EXPENSES</b>	6
<b>A. Allowable Expenses</b>	6
<b>B. Unallowable Expenses</b>	6
<b>REPORTING AND REIMBURSEMENT REQUIREMENTS</b>	6
<b>A. Grant Compliance Reports</b>	6
1. Progress (Status) Reports	6
2. Final Project Report	7
<b>B. Reimbursement Requirements</b>	7
<b>RECORD RETENTION</b>	8
<b>GENERAL AND SPECIAL CONDITIONS</b>	9
<b>THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK</b>	10
<b>APPENDIX A - Jurisdictions with Twenty-five or Fewer Schools</b>	11
<b>APPENDIX B - Jurisdictions with Twenty-five or More Schools</b>	12
<b>APPENDIX C - Detailed Project Description</b>	13
<b>APPENDIX D - Interagency Commission on School Construction - School Mapping Data Standards</b>	13

## GRANT OVERVIEW

The Maryland Safe to Learn Act of 2018 (Senate Bill 1265, Chapter 30) became law on June 1, 2018. It established the Safe Schools Fund, and ushered in a new approach to school safety and security for Maryland's public schools. The purpose of the Fund is to provide grants to local school systems to enhance school safety.

The Maryland General Assembly passed Senate Bill 540 during the 2024 legislative session - Ed. Art. §7-1510.1. The law established the School Mapping Data Grant Program to provide funding to local school systems, including public charter schools, for the purpose of developing a school mapping data program in an electronic or digital format to assist first responders in responding to emergencies at a school. The fiscal year 2026 legislative budget includes a \$3.0 million appropriation to support this grant.

## BACKGROUND

In 2024, Senate Bill 540 and House Bill 472 were enacted. These bills established the School Mapping Data Grant Program--also referred to as the School Facility Mapping Grant (SFMG)--to provide funding to local school systems to produce school mapping data for each public school within their jurisdiction, including public charter schools, for the development of digital school facility maps to assist first responders in responding to emergencies at a school.

The Interagency Commission on School Construction (IAC) has developed [school mapping data standards](#) that local school systems (LSSs) must apply when requesting funding through the School Facility Mapping Grant (SFMG). Local school systems requesting to use the SFMG to fund their facility mapping data program are required to use and comply with the minimum standards developed by the IAC. Any local school system that chooses not to adhere to these standards as established, will not be approved for funding under the SFMG program.

Jurisdictions may also use the SFMG to supplement existing local funding for their school facility mapping programs. LSSs that use SFMG funding to supplement their local budget are also required to comply with these same minimum standards established by the IAC and the IAC's standards can serve as a reference guide to ensure minimum facility mapping standards are met.

Finally, jurisdictions may opt to use local funding instead of the SFMG funding for their school facility mapping programs. In such cases, MCSS recommends that they use the standards developed by the IAC as a reference guide to ensure that the minimum facility standards are met.

## PURPOSE OF THE GRANT

The purpose of the SFMG is to provide funding to local school systems to produce a uniform school mapping data for each public school within their jurisdiction, including public charter schools, using the mapping standards developed by the IAC. The SFMG funds can be used by each LSS to:

1. Produce school mapping data for each public Prekindergarten through Grade 12 school, including public charter schools, that can be used by authorized stakeholders such as first responders in emergencies, and by facilities management, and other school personnel, as necessary.

2. Ensure that the school mapping data meets the uniform standard outlined in the School Mapping Data Standards, including specifications for:
  - a. **Format:** Data must be available in printable and digital file formats compatible with various software platforms used by schools and public safety agencies, oriented true north, and overlaid on current aerial imagery with gridded X and Y coordinates.
  - b. **Accuracy:** Data must be verified for accuracy by periodic walk-throughs of school buildings and grounds.
  - c. **Labeling:** Data must contain site-specific labeling for school buildings (e.g., room labels, hallway names, external door/stairwell numbers, locations of hazards, critical utilities, key boxes, AEDs, trauma kits) and school grounds (e.g., parking areas, athletic fields, surrounding roads, neighboring properties).
  - d. **Case Sensitivity:** All data must preserve case, and map labeling must adhere to the casing rules of the applicable naming authority.
  - e. **Interoperability:** Data must be interchangeable between systems, either natively or through simple conversion, to support various public safety systems.
3. Cover the costs associated with collecting data for school facility mapping, including the site element and building elements (footprints of managed buildings, levels, units, details, access points, and points of interest).
4. Ensure the data collected reflects the physical state and programmed uses of the facility at the time of production, and if historical plans are used, they must be verified with current conditions.
5. Support the maintenance and updates of the school mapping data, prioritizing physical updates to floorplans, individual assets, and site geography resulting from construction projects or the addition/removal of structures.
6. Include additional metadata for individual data layers and attributes, as well as metadata specific to data collection methods - **optional**.

## ALLOCATION

The total school count based on the 2023-2024 MCSS annual [SRO Adequate Coverage Report](#) was one thousand four hundred and twenty-two (1,422) public schools. Based on the total school count and the FY2026 funding availability, this amounts to approximately \$2,110 per school. However, in order to ensure minimum funding availability for each jurisdiction:

1. Local school systems with up to twenty-five (25) schools are allocated **\$50,000** in grant funding to complete the tasks outlined above. Please refer to [Appendix A](#) in the NOFA for the allocation per jurisdiction.
2. Local school systems with twenty-five (25) or more schools are allocated \$1,934.98 per school. Please refer to [Appendix B](#) in the NOFA for the allocation amount per jurisdiction.

## GRANT TIMELINE

The performance period for the FY2026 School Facility Mapping Grant is from **July 1, 2025 (start date) to June 30, 2027 (end date)**. Grant funds will be obligated by MCSS once a completed Notice of Grant Award is issued. Funds are paid on a reimbursable basis.

Funds from the School Facility Mapping Grant shall not supplant or replace those funds that have been appropriated for the same purpose. The funds may be used to supplement existing State and local funds for the same program.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Begin Accepting Applications	July 15, 2025
Application Deadline	September 30, 2025
Award Approval/Denial Notice and NOGA Issuance	Up to 45-Days after Application
Award Start Date Award End Date	July 1, 2025 June 30, 2027
Final Invoice	July 31, 2027
<u>Grant Compliance Reports:</u> Progress Reporting Period (i.e. status report) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- July to December, 2025</li><li>- January to June, 2026</li><li>- July to December, 2026</li><li>- January to June, 2027</li></ul>	<u>Due Dates:</u>  January 31, 2026 July 31, 2026 January 31, 2027 July 31, 2027

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The application requirements include the following:

- [Online Application Form](#)
- Project Request Form – *(required. Template provided)*
- Detailed Project Description – *(required)*. [See Appendix C](#)
- Quotes – *(optional)*

## APPLICATION REVIEW

Each application will be thoroughly assessed to ensure adherence to every required detail. Incomplete applications will be returned for completion. MCSS will provide guidance and technical on an as needed basis to ensure compliance with the application requirements. MCSS staff will assess each LSS's application based on:

- The information contained in the Online Application Form;
- The Project Request form;
- The Detailed Project Description - [See Appendix C](#); and

- d. Quotes - *if applicable*.

## **ALLOWABLE AND UNALLOWABLE EXPENSES**

### **A. Allowable Expenses**

Local school systems should use the guidance provided under the "[purpose of the grant](#)" when coming up with project ideas for this grant. Below is a list of allowable expenses under this grant. Please note that this list is not all-inclusive.

- a. Contractual Services: this includes third party vendors contracted to produce the digital mapping data for the school system.
- b. Equipment: this includes reasonable requests to purchase specific equipment needed to produce uniform school mapping data. Examples include mobile mapping systems, indoor positioning systems (IPS), and specialized software for map creation and management.
- c. Subscription Services: this includes costs associated with maintenance agreements, cloud data storage, and other subscription services directly related to the school mapping requirements. Any subscription costs beyond the grant performance period is the sole responsibility of the local school system.
- d. Overtime Wages: this includes overtime wages for school central staff who provide on-site support for contractors.

### **B. Unallowable Expenses**

Below is a list of unallowable expenses under this grant. Please note that this list is not all-inclusive.

- a. Travel
- b. Hotel accommodations
- c. Vehicles
- d. Capital projects

## **REPORTING AND REIMBURSEMENT REQUIREMENTS**

Invoices shall be submitted to MCSS via email: [mcss.mcss@maryland.gov](mailto:mcss.mcss@maryland.gov) All invoices and reports submitted to MCSS shall not contain personally identifiable information (PII) or sensitive information.

### **A. Grant Compliance Reports**

#### **1. Progress (Status) Reports**

Grantee shall submit three Progress Reports to the Center as outlined under the [Important Dates](#) section of this NOFA. These reports shall provide a status update on the project and any challenges encountered.

Please note: Extension requests will not be granted for the FY2026 School Mapping Data Grant Program (SFMG). The project shall be completed during the Grant performance period.

## 2. Final Project Report

A Final Project Report (FPR) is due to MCSS at the end of the performance period, i.e., **July 31, 2027**. Please refer to the [Important Dates](#) section of the NOFA for more information. The Final Project Report shall summarize information such as and not limited to:

- i. The list of the schools within the jurisdiction that now have digital mapping information as required under Md. Code Ann., Education Article §7-1510.10.
- ii. The equipment, tools, accuracy, materials or software used to accomplish the requirements of the mapping standards.
- iii. Clear statement on data ownership (the school system or jurisdiction should retain full ownership and control).
- iv. Evidence of collaboration with local first responder partners (police, fire, EMS, 911 dispatch) during the planning, execution, and review phases of the project to ensure the maps meet their operational needs.
- v. Plans for integrating the digital maps into existing emergency preparedness drills and protocols.
- vi. The name of the vendor(s) who completed the project
- vii. Challenges encountered during the project execution
- viii. Sustainability plan for the digital maps produced during the performance period

## B. Reimbursement Requirements

1. All FY2026 School Facility Mapping Grant invoices shall be submitted directly to MCSS.
2. No grant monies will be reimbursed for costs or obligations incurred, or work performed, *prior* to the beginning date of the performance period for this Grant.
3. Grantee shall use the MCSS invoice template when submitting reimbursement requests. The form is available on the [MCSS website](#).
4. Support documents<sup>1</sup> shall be included with all reimbursement requests. Examples of support documents include but are not limited to, copies of proof of payment to vendors or contractors, copies of original vendor invoices, contractual agreements, payroll report documenting overtime pay, etc.
5. Grantee shall submit reimbursement requests via email to [mcss.mcss@maryland.gov](mailto:mcss.mcss@maryland.gov).
6. Final invoice or request for reimbursement related to this grant shall be submitted no later than **30-days** after the end of the duration of this grant. MCSS will not process or reimburse any invoices or reimbursement requests submitted beyond this date.

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<sup>1</sup> Reimbursement requests with no support documents will not be processed.

## **RECORD RETENTION**

- a. Grantee shall retain grant documents and equipment purchased using grant funds for the retention period of three (3) years after final invoice submission.
- b. Grantee shall allow MCSS and its affiliated agencies, the Maryland State Department of Education, the Department of Budget and Management, the State Comptroller, and the Legislative Auditor; to examine and audit this supporting documentation on request and at any reasonable time within the retention period.
- c. Grantee shall retain reports, activity logs, timelines, and any additional related supporting documentation for any other expenses that are covered in whole or in part by any grant funds for the retention period of three (3) years.

## **STATUTORY REFERENCE - Ed. Art. §7-1510.1**

The statutory reference for the School Mapping Data Program--also referred to as the School Facility Mapping Grant (SFMG)-- is provided below

- (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.
  - (2) "Program" means the School Mapping Data Program.
  - (3) "School mapping data" means data in an electronic or digital format to assist first responders in responding to emergencies at a school.
- (b) There is a School Mapping Data Program in the Center.
- (c) The purpose of the Program is to provide funds to local school systems to produce school mapping data for each public school in the county, including public charter schools.
- (d) (1) Each local school system, in consultation with the local law enforcement agency, may apply to the Subcabinet for funds to produce school mapping data.
  - (2) School mapping data produced with funding from the Program shall comply with the facility mapping standards developed by the Interagency Commission on School Construction under § 5-310.1 of this article.
  - (3) The Center shall work in consultation with the Interagency Commission on School Construction to ensure that school mapping data produced with funding from the Program meets the facility mapping standards developed under § 5-310.1 of this article.
  - (4) At a minimum, school mapping data produced with funding from the Program shall:
    - (i) Be compatible with software platforms used by the school and local, State, and federal public safety agencies that provide emergency services to the school without requiring the purchase of additional software or charging a fee to view or access the data;
    - (ii) Be in a printable format and, if requested, be in a digital file format that can be integrated into interactive mobile platforms;
    - (iii) Be verified for accuracy by a walk-through of the school buildings and grounds;
    - (iv) Be oriented true north;
    - (v) Be overlaid on current aerial imagery;



- (vi) Contain site-specific labeling that matches the structure of school buildings, including:
  - (1) Room labels;
  - (2) Hallway names;
  - (3) External door or stairwell numbers; and
  - (4) Locations of:
    - a) Hazards;
    - b) Critical utility locations;
    - c) Key boxes; and
    - d) Automated external defibrillators and trauma kits;
- (vii) Contain site-specific labeling that matches the school grounds, including:
  - (1) Parking areas;
  - (2) Athletic fields;
  - (3) Surrounding roads; and
  - (4) Neighboring properties; and
- (viii) Be overlaid with gridded x and y coordinates.

## GENERAL AND SPECIAL CONDITIONS

Grant awards are subject to these General and Special Conditions. The MCSS reserves the right to add Special Conditions, if and when needed, during the life of the award period. These General Conditions outline the post-award policies, procedures, guidelines, and business rules from MCSS for grant funds.

- A.** Any expenditure of Grant funds that is not consistent with the purposes of the grant award, or that violates any requirement, term or condition of the School Mapping Data Grant Program (SFMG) or the Notice of Grant Award (NOGA) agreement will be disallowed.
- B.** All grant related activities must be completed no later than **June 30, 2027**.
- C.** Grantee shall ensure that all work performed pursuant to the SFMG and this agreement is completed by contractors and/or staff holding all necessary certifications and licenses.
- D.** Grantee shall ensure that any business or non-profit organization operating in Maryland with which Grantee contracts or partners to carry out the purposes of the Grant is registered and in good standing with the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation.
- E.** All work performed pursuant to the Grant shall comply with all applicable State, local, and federal laws and regulations.
- F.** Grantee is responsible for ensuring that any equipment acquired using State issued grant funds is protected from theft, loss and damage. MCSS must be notified if any grant funded equipment is lost, stolen, or damaged.
- G.** Grantee should establish safety measure protocols for activities taking place on school premises during an emergency, including projects that:
  - a. Maintain open lines of communication between schools and law enforcement agencies; and
  - b. Incorporate active shooter response training.
- H.** The award may be terminated by one or both parties with written notice. If the award is terminated before the end of the funding period, an accounting of the year-to-date expenses must be provided within thirty (30) calendar days after termination.

- I.** Any overtime wages, personnel expenses, contractual expenses, equipment purchases, and other expenses paid for with the School Mapping Data Grant Program must be used to **supplement** your organization's existing budget, and **may not replace** any funds that were already included in your entity's existing or projected budget. **Supplanting** is the use of the SFMG funds to replace State, federal or local funds which were previously appropriated / budgeted for, or otherwise would have been spent on, the specific purpose(s) for which this grant has been awarded.
- J.** All grant funds related to the award project shall be encumbered, obligated (requisitions, purchase orders, or contracts, which are negotiated purchases), and expended (payment of an invoice) by the end of the award period of June 30, 2027.
- K.** Reimbursement **is only** for work completed during the grant period.
- L.** All final financial reports under the grant award shall be submitted no later than **thirty (30) days** after the end date of the award period.
- M.** Grantee shall promptly report any credible evidence of fraud, waste, abuse and similar misconduct with grant funding to the MCSS.
- N.** All correspondence should be directed to [mcss.mcss@maryland.gov](mailto:mcss.mcss@maryland.gov).

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**APPENDIX A - Jurisdictions with Twenty-five or Fewer Schools**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Number of Schools</b>	<b>Allocation per Jurisdiction</b>
Allegany	22	\$50,000.00
Calvert	25	\$50,000.00
Caroline	10	\$50,000.00
Dorchester	13	\$50,000.00
Garrett	11	\$50,000.00
Kent	5	\$50,000.00
Queen Anne's	14	\$50,000.00
Somerset	8	\$50,000.00
Talbot	8	\$50,000.00
Worcester	14	\$50,000.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>\$500,000.00</b>

\*School count based on the annual [2024 SRO Adequate Coverage Report](#)

**APPENDIX B - Jurisdictions with Twenty-five or More Schools**

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>Number of Schools</b>	<b>Allocation per Jurisdiction</b>
Anne Arundel	127	\$245,743.00
Baltimore City	151	\$292,183.00
Baltimore	179	\$346,362.00
Carroll	44	\$85,139.00
Cecil	30	\$58,050.00
Charles	42	\$81,269.00
Frederick	71	\$137,384.00
Harford	54	\$104,489.00
Howard	78	\$150,929.00
Montgomery	211	\$408,282.00
Prince George's	206	\$398,607.00
St. Mary's	28	\$54,180.00
Washington	45	\$87,074.00
Wicomico	26	\$50,309.00
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,292</b>	<b>\$2,500,000.00</b>

\*School count based on the annual [2024 SRO Adequate Coverage Report](#)

## **APPENDIX C - Detailed Project Description**

A comprehensive project description should cover the following aspects:

1. **Purpose and Scope:** Clearly define the project's objective (e.g., creating a new plan, updating an existing one, or focusing on a specific preparedness aspect). Establish project boundaries, specifying what will be included and excluded.
2. **General Data Standards and Requirements:** Outline the fundamental data standards for information collection and processing. This includes adherence to IAC standards and any additional expanded standards.
3. **Accuracy, Metadata, and Verification Plan:** Detail the measures for ensuring data accuracy and reliability, including precision levels and collection methods. A rigorous verification plan is essential. Develop a comprehensive metadata strategy, documenting the data source, creation date, update frequency, and projection system to enhance discoverability and usability.
4. **Compatibility and Interoperability based on Functional Requirements:** Explain how project outputs will integrate with current and future systems. Analyze the functional requirements for various applications, such as:
  - **Asset Management:** Integration with school asset management systems.
  - **Space/Facility Management:** Support for efficient school building management and hoteling space management.
  - **Emergency Planning:** Facilitation of comprehensive emergency plans (e.g., evacuation routes, reunification points, shelters).
  - **Emergency Response:** Assistance for first responders in rapid navigation and coordination.
  - **Emergency Notification:** Linking spatial data to PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point) and other notification systems for targeted alerts.
  - **Next Gen 911:** Support for enhanced location services and data exchange. Defining these ensures that deliverables contribute to a holistic emergency management ecosystem.
5. **Standards and Expectations for Ownership and Maintenance of Data:** Define data ownership and outline a detailed maintenance plan. This includes responsibilities for updates, archiving, and security. Specify the review frequency and address sharing protocols/access controls to ensure timely access and data privacy.

## **APPENDIX D - Interagency Commission on School Construction - School Mapping Data Standards**