

H.B. 487 was signed by Governor John R. Kasich on June 19, 2014. One of the provisions in the bill expanded the School Security Grant Program to serve public, private, parochial and chartered nonpublic schools. The Program is administered by the Ohio School Facilities Commission.

Application deadline: October 16, 2015

Reimbursement documentation deadline: October 14, 2016

Program Overview

H.B. 487 authorizes the Ohio School Facilities Commission (OSFC) to reimburse public and chartered nonpublic schools, for an emergency communication system or Multi-Agency Radio Communications System (MARCS) and costs incurred with a purchase of a security entrance system. Specifically:

- Up to \$2,000 for one emergency communication system or MARCS In-School Communications System unit per eligible school building; and
- Up to \$5,000 for costs incurred with a purchase of a security entrance system consisting of a secure door, security camera, an intercom, and remote access equipment at **one main** entrance per school building.

The program and associated funds are not designed to be a complete solution for school security, but a way to address the most crucial needs of first responder communications and secure building access.

Please note: School buildings that were approved for either grant in Round 1 may not apply for the same type of grant in Round 2.

What is an Eligible District?

The eligible district list will be provided to OSFC by the Ohio Department of Education via the Ohio Education Directory database. An eligible district/school includes any of the following:

- City
- Exempted Village
- Local
- Joint Vocational
- STEM (operating under ORC 3326.07)
- Community
- Educational Service Center
- Developmental Disabilities
- Chartered Nonpublic

Additional information and criteria will be provided in the School Security Grant Guidelines that are available on the OSFC website at <http://osfc.ohio.gov>.



Types of Grants

Security Entrance Grant

H.B. 487 allows for a security door system, consisting of a secure door, security camera, an intercom, and remote access, at **one main** entrance per school building.

Eligibility - Must Meet All of the Following:

- Building used primarily for PK-12 instruction.
- A physical building or physically-connected group of buildings with a student body headed by an administrator dedicated to that group of students, and identified by an Information Retrieval Number (IRN).
- Secured entrance and associated systems not constructed or renovated to design standards contained in OSFC Design Manual version 2009 or later.
- Entrance security system under consideration installed on or after January 1, 2013.
- Proposed security system at main entrance of the building includes improvements in one of more of the following areas:
 1. Door
 2. Security camera
 3. Intercom
 4. Remote access
- Proposed improvements to building meet current Ohio Building Code

Types of Grants (cont'd)

Emergency Communication Systems

A school district is eligible for either a MARCS In-School Communication System or another type of emergency communication system.

The law states that if law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over all or a portion of the geographical area of a public school do not use MARCS, a public school may purchase one emergency communications system compatible with the system or systems in use by law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over the school building.



MARCS In-School

MARCS In-School Process

In order for the Ohio School Facilities Commission to approve your MARCS In-Schools emergency communication system, districts/schools must certify during the application process that they have read, understand and agree to the MARCS process and timeline for delivery and installation. This process explains the steps necessary to ensure your district/school receives the emergency communication system, and the communication and implementation plan has been coordinated with first responders in the district.

Additional information on the MARCS In-Schools emergency communication system can be found on the School Security Grant website listed below.

The financial arrangement is strictly between OSFC and Motorola. The District/school is not responsible for ordering or paying for this unit.

Other Emergency Communication Systems

As mentioned earlier, school district may select another type of emergency communication system. Once approved by OSFC, and the system is installed, tested, and certified by the district, OSFC will reimburse the district for its purchase.

In preparation to receive your emergency communications system, and in order to get the benefit of this radio system, the district should work with their first responder(s) on guidelines and protocol for emergency communications. It is recommended that this preparation be completed prior to the district receiving the unit, as the protocol you develop jointly with first responder(s) will enable the district to activate the new system upon delivery and set-up.

Eligible Districts - How to Apply

The Commission will email eligible school districts (superintendents, treasurers or principals) an invitation to apply for the security grant program. In the email, each district/school will receive an application link specific to its district or school and should be used by school district staff only. Distribution of this link should be limited to those who can make decisions on the district's behalf for the grant program.

For **public** school districts, this program will be administered at the district level, no invitations have been sent directly to individual schools. It is the district's responsibility to apply on behalf of all the schools in its district.

For **nonpublic** schools, this program will be administered at the individual school level. Invitations have been sent to the principal and business contact (if any). It is the school's responsibility to apply on behalf of its school.



Ohio School Facilities Commission

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<http://ofcc.ohio.gov/ServicesPrograms/SchoolSecurityGrants/RoundTwo.aspx>
grants.info@ofcc.ohio.gov