## DHS Announces Additional \$374.9 Million in Funding to Boost State, Local Cybersecurity

Release Date: August 7, 2023

WASHINGTON – Today, the Department of Homeland Security announced the availability of \$374.9 million in grant funding for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP). State and local governments face increasingly sophisticated cyber threats to their critical infrastructure and public safety. Now in its second year, the SLCGP is a first-of-its-kind cybersecurity grant program specifically for state, local and territorial (SLT) governments across the country to help them strengthen their cyber resilience. Established by the State and Local Cybersecurity Improvement Act, and part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the SLCGP provides \$1 billion in funding over four years to support state, local and territorial governments as they develop capabilities to detect, protect against and respond to cyber threats. This year's funding allotment represents a significant increase from the \$185 million allotted in FY22, demonstrating the Administration and Congress's commitment to helping improve the cybersecurity of communities across the nation.

"In today's threat environment, any locality is vulnerable to a devastating cyber attack targeted at a hospital, school, water or other system," said **Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro N. Mayorkas**. "The Department of Homeland Security is helping to ensure that every community, regardless of size, funding, or resources, can meet these threats and keep their residents and their critical infrastructure safe and secure. These cybersecurity grants will help state, local and territorial governments do just that, and I strongly urge communities across the country to submit an application."

SLCGP is jointly administered by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). CISA provides expertise and guidance on cybersecurity issues while FEMA manages the grant award and allocation process. Award recipients may use funding for a



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wide range of cybersecurity improvements and capabilities, including cybersecurity planning and exercising, hiring cyber personnel and improving the services that citizens rely on daily.

"State and local governments are facing increasingly sophisticated cyber threats to their critical infrastructure and public safety," said? CISA Director Jen Easterly. "As the nation's Cyber Defense Agency, CISA is pleased to make available yet another tool to that will help strengthen cyber defenses for communities across the nation and bolster our collective cybersecurity."

"Building resilience requires more than mitigating against natural hazards," said **FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell.** "As our threat landscape continues to evolve, the funding provided through the state, local and territorial cybersecurity grant program will increase capability to help communities better prepare and reduce cyber risks."

State and local governments have until Oct. 6, 2023 to apply for this FY23 grant opportunity. For more information and helpful resources on the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program, visit <u>CISA's webpage</u>.

