

PURPOSE

An Act relating to school security; creating a pilot program known as the School Resource Officer Program; directing State Department of Education to administer program; requiring completion of certain law enforcement training; defining term; creating the School Security Revolving Fund; designating department to administer funds; specifying source of funds and expenditures from fund; limiting annual expenditures from fund; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

- Establishing and maintaining a School Resource Officer Program; and
- Providing physical security enhancements for schools including, but not limited to: school resource officers, cameras, fencing, gates, lighting, locks, doors, windows, window film, AEDs, fire/smoke alarms, security geofencing, covered walkways between buildings and ballistic storm shelters.
- Monies in the School Security Revolving Fund shall supplement and not supplant existing school security funding.

For purposes of this section, "school resource officer" means a law enforcement officer with sworn authority assigned by an employing law enforcement agency, a retired law enforcement officer or an armed security guard with training in school-based law enforcement and crisis response to work collaboratively with one or more schools using community-oriented policing concepts.

PROCESS OVERVIEW

- Getting Started Project Code 376 "School Resource Officer Program"
- Review the guidance document for tools and resources.
- Complete a planning budget through GMS.
- Submit the following to OSDE through GMS upload for verification and auditing.
 - Any invoices/receipts for purchases made with SRO Grant money.
 - An expenditure report covering all dates for invoices/receipts above.
 - A memorandum of agreement (MOU), if applicable, with local law enforcement agency for School Resource Officer.

Schools are encouraged to develop/sign and upload a MOU for the hiring of an SRO.

[Sample Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\).](#)

- A pre-authorization letter from law enforcement agency if utilizing a retired law enforcement officer or an armed security guard (individual or with a company) including the verbiage for allowing access to their radio systems, a current commission card or CLEET license and the SRO's active shooter training certification or a registration for the course sometime during the current school year.

Per the SB 1521 amendment to HB 2903, our Office of Safety and Security team is requesting each school utilizing a retired law enforcement officer or an armed security guard (individual or with a company) to keep (for audit purposes) a copy of the pre-authorization letter from their local LE agency (including the verbiage for allowing access to their radio systems), a current commission card or CLEET license and the SRO's active shooter training certification or a registration for the course sometime during the current school year.

[Sample Pre-Authorization letter from LE agency](#)

FAQ

What can be purchased with this grant?

Districts can hire a new SRO but cannot supplant funding for a current SRO. Monies may also be spent on providing physical security enhancements as approved including, but not limited to, cameras, gates, lighting, locks, doors, fencing, windows, security geofencing, and ballistic storm shelters.

Can we hire staff?

Only an SRO. "School Resource Officer" means a law enforcement officer with sworn authority assigned by an employing law enforcement agency, a retired law enforcement officer or an armed security guard with training in school-based law enforcement and crisis response to work collaboratively with one or more schools using community-oriented policing concepts.

Schools will need to create and sign an MOU with the employing law enforcement agency outlining SRO duties, salary, etc. The MOU must be kept on file at the school for auditing purposes. ([Sample MOU](#))

What training is required of an SRO?

According to HB 2903, an SRO shall "successfully complete law enforcement active shooter emergency response training given by the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training (CLEET) and approved by the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety.

What school funds can be used for purchase of safety and security items to be reimbursed through the SRO Grant?

Schools must use their General Fund only (not their building Fund).

Can we hire an armed security guard or a retired law enforcement officer?

SB 1521 modifies the School Resource Officer Program. The measure directs participating districts to give first priority to employing or contracting with a law enforcement officer who is assigned by an employing agency. However, if a law enforcement agency that serves the area in which a school district is located is unwilling or unable to provide a law enforcement officer, a participating school

district may employ or contract with a retired law enforcement officer or an armed security guard who is licensed pursuant to the Oklahoma Security Guard and Private Investigator Act. The law enforcement agency that serves the area in which the school district is located shall preauthorize any individual employed or contracted with under this paragraph. The school shall require a background check on the individual. The law enforcement agency that serves the area in which the school district is located shall allow an authorized individual employed or contracted with the school district access to the preauthorizing agency's radio system, pursuant to this paragraph, and a police band radio system which may be used by the individual in the performance of his or her duties to be paid for by the employing district. A school district may use funds from the School Security Revolving Fund created pursuant to Section 5-148.2 of this title to cover the cost of the radio system.

Can funds be used to build a safe room?

Yes, ballistic storm shelters are an allowable expense.

Must purchases be linked to a threat and vulnerability assessment?

No, nothing in this law ties purchases to an assessment, but purchases should be “reasonable and link directly to school safety best practices.” You may reach out to the Office of School Safety and Security staff for support and guidance in determining purchasing priorities and identifying available supports through the implementation process.

Can funds be used to send school staff to conferences?

Funding can only be used for the required SRO training as stated in the law. Approved conferences include:

- NASRO National Association of School Resource Officer Conference

Can a school district purchase a weapon and/or ammunition for the SRO?

No, funding cannot be used to purchase weapons, tasers, or ammunition.

Can a school district purchase a vehicle for the SRO?

Automobiles are not an allowable expense, however, ATV/UTVs, side-by-side, or golf carts for use in patrolling school grounds or responding to incidents is an allowable expense.

Can we add outdoor lighting?

Lighting used to enhance the safety and security of school facilities is an allowable expense. Other lighting projects, e.g., lighting for athletic fields, courts, and fine arts buildings are not allowable.

Can we upgrade our intercom system?

New intercom systems or upgrades to existing intercom systems used for providing additional crisis communications are allowable expenses.

Can we purchase Drones for safety at big events?

Yes, this is an allowable expense if you provide proof that pilot is an FAA certified Remote Licensed Pilot.

Can we purchase body cams for our SROs?

Yes, that is an allowable expense.

Can funds be used to purchase K-9 units, K-9 dogs, K-9 Dog training, etc?

No, these are not allowable expenses.