



CRS Report for Congress

FY2009 Appropriations for State and Local Homeland Security

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Summary

Congress appropriated, in P.L. 110-329, approximately \$4.36 billion for state and local homeland security assistance programs. This is approximately \$135 million more than was appropriated in FY2008 (\$4.22 billion). Congress chose not to fund the Real ID program in FY2009, however, it did appropriate funding (\$2 million) for a new assistance program titled the Center for Counterterrorism and Cyber Crime at Norwich University in Northfield, Vermont. This report will not be updated.

This report is an overview of the FY2009 appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) programs for states and localities that are designed to provide assistance to state and local governments. The assistance is primarily used by first responders, which include firefighters, emergency medical personnel, emergency managers, and law enforcement officers.

The Office of Grant Programs within the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is responsible for facilitating and coordinating DHS state and local assistance programs. The office administers formula and discretionary grant programs to further state and local homeland security capabilities. As a result of the reorganization mandated by the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-295), the work of the Office of Grant Programs was separated from FEMA training activities. FEMA's National Integration Center within the agency's National Preparedness Directorate administers training, exercises, and technical assistance for states and localities. In FY2009, DHS's assistance programs for states and localities include:

- State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP);
- Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI);
- Port Security Program;
- Transit Security Program;
- Bus Security Program;
- Trucking Security Program;
- Buffer Zone Protection Program (BZPP);
- Assistance to Firefighters (FIRE);

- Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG);
- Citizen Corps Program (CCP);
- Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS);
- Training, technical assistance, exercises, and evaluations;
- Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP);
- Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant Program (PSIC);
- Center for Counterterrorism and Cyber Crime;
- Emergency Operations Centers (EOC); and
- Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grants.

Table 1. FY2008 and FY2009 Appropriations for State and Local Homeland Security Assistance Programs

(Amounts in millions)

Program	FY2008 Appropriation	FY2009 Appropriation
State Homeland Security Grant Program	\$950	\$950 ^a
Urban Area Security Initiative	\$820	\$838 ^b
Port Security	\$400	\$400
Transit Security	\$400	\$400 ^c
Bus Security	\$12	\$12
Trucking Security	\$16	\$8
Emergency Operations Centers	\$15	\$35
Buffer Zone Protection Program	\$50	\$50
Assistance to Firefighters	\$750	\$775
Emergency Management Performance Grants	\$300	\$315
Citizen Corps Programs	\$15	\$15
Metropolitan Medical Response System	\$41	\$41
Training, technical assistance, exercises, and evaluations	\$299	\$429 ^d
Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program	\$25	\$8
Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant Program	\$50	\$50
Real ID Grants	\$50	—
Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grants	\$35	\$35
Center for Counterterrorism and Cyber Crime	—	\$2 ^e
Total	\$4,228	\$4,363

Source: P.L. 110-161 (Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008) and P.L. 110-329 (FY2009 DHS appropriations).

- a. Of the \$950 million for SHSGP, 25% must be used for law enforcement terrorism prevention activities and \$60 million for Operation Stone Garden.
- b. Of the \$838 million for UASI, 25% must be used for law enforcement terrorism prevention activities and \$15 million for non-profit organization security.
- c. Of the \$400 million for transit security, \$25 million must be used for Amtrak security.
- d. Of the \$429 million for training, exercises, and evaluations, \$165 million must be used for the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium institutions.
- e. The Center for Counterterrorism and Cyber Crime at Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont, is a new grant program in FY2009.

Allocation of Funding. One area of continued congressional interest is DHS's allocation of funding to states and localities for homeland security assistance. P.L. 110-329 requires the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to report to Congress on the data, assumptions, and methodology that DHS uses to assess risk in determining SHSGP and UASI allocations. Specifically, this report is to include information on the reliability and validity of the data used, the basis for the assumptions used, how the methodology is applied to determine the risk scores for individual locations, an analysis of the usefulness of placing states and cities into tier groups, and the allocation of grants to eligible recipients.¹ Additionally, the *Congressional Record* version of the DHS explanatory statement states that FEMA is "expected to continue to fully engage agencies with subject matter expertise within the Department, when appropriate, in the development of grant guidance and the determination of awards."²

¹ P.L. 110-329, Title III.

² *Congressional Record*, daily edition, vol. 152, September 24, 2008, p. H9804.