

ADE School Security Requests: Title IV-A

Educator & School Excellence Unit

The Title IV-A grant allows LEAs to use their funding in the Safe & Healthy Students category. US Department of Education gives SEAs & LEAs guidance on the types of programs that fall under the Safe & Healthy Students Category.

Allowable activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Promoting community and parent involvement in schools
- · Providing school-based mental health services and counseling
- Promoting supportive school climates to reduce the use of exclusionary discipline and promoting supportive school discipline
- Establishing or improving dropout prevention
- Supporting re-entry programs and transition services for justice- involved youth
- Implementing programs that support a healthy, active lifestyle (nutritional and physical education)
- Implementing systems and practices to prevent bullying and harassment
- Developing relationship building skills to help improve safety through the recognition and prevention of coercion, violence, or abuse
- Establishing community partnerships

(ESEA section 4108)

The emphasis of the grant is for the LEA to foster Safe & Healthy learning environments for students. This may include school security measures. To help the Arizona Department of Education in the processing of school security requests, additional steps for LEAs requesting to purchase school security measures will be required.

All school security requests need to provide the following:

Student Survey data showing the need for the requested funding

And

• LEA School Safety/Risk Assessment or Audit conducted by a third party or government agency (law enforcement)

As a reminder, school security measures should be rooted in evidence-based information that supports the program request, as required by ESSA Section 4108. **Sec 4108 (5)(A)** may include, among other programs and activities— (A) drug and violence prevention activities and programs that are evidence-based (to the extent the State, in consultation with local educational agencies in the State, determines that such evidence is reasonably available). Evidence-based research for school safety measures can be found on https://www.schoolsafety.gov/.

For funding specific to School Resource Officers (SROs), the LEA must provide the following:

- A detailed job description of the Officers duties, including how they will impact the educational environment and the school's climate and culture
- Proof that the SRO has attended an evidence based training program, such as ADE's School Safety Program https://www.azed.gov/shs/ssp/

The following programs are considered school security measures and will require additional supporting documentation from the LEA:

- School Resource Officers (SROs)
- Security Guards/Personnel
- School Security Equipment such as video cameras, etc.
- School Badge/ID Systems
- Hardening of School Facilities, including window and/or door locks, door barricades, fences, etc.
- Vaping Detectors or other such devices
- School Safety Hot Line or Tip Line
- Any other device or equipment deemed as a school security measure

This list is not exhaustive and school security measures will be evaluated on an individual LEA basis.

For more information contact:

Keri Schoeff
Safe, Healthy & Active Students Specialist

keri.schoeff@azed.gov