

MEMORANDUM

To: Superintendents and Principals

From: Stephen Balko, Director of School Safety

Date: July 19, 2019

Re: House Enrolled Act 1225 - Safe Schools

Background:

House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1225 provides that school corporations, charter schools, and accredited non-public schools with the sheriff for the county in which the school corporation, charter school, or accredited non-public school is located, may apply for a grant from the Indiana Secured School Fund to provide for the initial set up costs for an active event warning system. Additionally, HEA 1225 outlines what is required of an active event warning system.

Guidance:

HEA 1225 provides a one-time grant to school corporations, charter schools, and non-public schools who jointly apply for a Secured School Safety Grant through the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) with the county sheriff to provide initial set-up costs for an active event warning system. Sheriff departments may receive multiple grants.

Warning systems must include:

- Two phone application-based system that includes school officials as a sender within the system and law enforcement agencies as a receiver within the system;
- An adjusted geofence to alert law enforcement agencies that are within a certain geographic location, including settings based on rural and urban locations, with an urban setting having a reduced geofence and a rural setting having a broader geofence;
- The ability for students and the public to submit anonymous tips through a free reporting application;
- The ability for information within the system to be interoperable with the 911;
- The ability to display the school's address and location on a map;
- The ability to provide notifications during emergencies and nonemergencies;
- The ability to call 911 automatically when the system is triggered; and
- The ability to operate several individual school response plans.

Applications for active event warning systems under the Secured School Safety grant must include:

- Vendor name;
- Name of product;
- Total cost for the initial set-up (this is the only amount that is reimbursable);
- Total project cost;
- Brief description of the warning system;
- Brief overview of the implementation timeline;
- Narrative budget summary; and
- Explanation for requested funding if applicant has been previously funded for the same project scope.

IDHS will include information about implementing universal electronic access to school property for law enforcement in all schools within each county; and access to closed circuit cameras from a central location to be used in an emergency situation. More information on the active event warning system and the Secured School Safety Grant can be found in the Notice of Funding Opportunity published by IDHS found [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Balko at 317-232-4914 or e-mail at sbalko@doe.in.gov.

This bill was authored by Representative Gregory Steuerwald and the full bill text can be found [here](#). Information regarding how to contact your legislators can be found [here](#).