



**Homeland
Security**

Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 Buffer Zone Protection Program (BZPP) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is the purpose of the FY 2007 BZPP?

BZPP provides funds to build capabilities at the State and local levels to prevent and protect against terrorist attacks against national critical infrastructure and key resources (CI/KR). The program helps to implement Buffer Zone Plans (BZPs) by providing funds to support planning and equipment acquisition.

Who is eligible to apply for and receive funds from the FY2007 BZPP?

The Governor of each State has designated a State Administrative Agency (SAA) to apply for and administer the funds under the BZPP. The SAA is the only agency eligible to apply for BZPP funds and is responsible for obligating BZPP funds to the appropriate responsible units of government or other designated recipients. The SAA must coordinate all BZPP activities with the respective State Homeland Security Advisor (HSA).

How much funding is available for the FY 2007 BZPP?

\$48,500,000 will be awarded through the FY 2007 BZPP.

What is the deadline for submission of the FY 2007 BZPP grant applications?

FY 2007 BZPP applications must be submitted by 11:59 PM EST, March 6, 2007.

How does an eligible applicant apply for the FY 2007 BZPP?

SAAs must apply for FY 2007 BZPP funding through the online grants.gov system at <http://www.grants.gov>.

How does an eligible applicant obtain assistance applying for the FY 2007 BZPP in the grants.gov system?

For all application related assistance, applicants may call the grants.gov Contact Center Phone Number: 1-800-518-4726. The Contact Center hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 7:00

a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

How does the FY 2007 BZPP improve homeland security?

The BZPP supports the implementation of the goals outlined in the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) and State/Urban Area Homeland Security Strategies — in particular the prevention and protection mission areas — and addresses many of the national infrastructure protection priorities and related target capabilities.

Through the completion of BZP, the BZPP assists responsible jurisdictions in building effective prevention and protection capabilities that will make it more difficult for terrorists to conduct site surveillance or launch attacks within the immediate vicinity of selected CI/KR assets.

What are the priorities of the FY 2007 BZPP?

Through the FY 2007 BZPP, DHS continues to build on its cross-sector baseline knowledge of CI/KR and the systematic approach initiated in FY 2006 to focus sufficient resources to reduce the risk associated with the highest priority CI/KR assets across certain targeted sectors. These include:

- Higher consequence chemical facilities
- Nuclear power plants
- Higher consequence liquefied natural gas
- Higher consequence liquefied petroleum gas facilities
- Higher consequence dams
- Critical telecommunications facilities
- Critical banking and finance facilities
- Critical water systems
- Select identified regions with multiple high-risk CI/KR sites¹

What are the key changes to the FY 2007 BZPP?

The FY 2007 BZPP includes an update and clarification of allowable expenditures.

What is a Buffer Zone Plan (BZP)?

BZPs help identify preparedness capabilities and preventive and protective measures that make it more difficult for terrorists to conduct surveillance or launch attacks within the immediate vicinity of high-risk CI/KR assets. BZPs are developed in cooperation between DHS and State and local officials and help increase the preparedness capabilities of the jurisdictions responsible for the safety and security of communities surrounding the identified CI/KR site.

How did DHS determine State funding allocations?

Determinations of the FY 2007 BZPP grant allocations are principally asset-based. Funds are allocated through the States to support those jurisdictions which are responsible for specific

¹ This includes identified dense-urban environments and regional clusters of similar asset types.
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high-risk CI/KR sites. BZPP seeks to reduce risk to a broad array of collateral critical assets and enhance the overall preparedness of State and local governments, so the ancillary benefits to the State and surrounding local communities are also an important component of the planning process.

How was the list of CI/KR sites developed for my State?

DHS worked with its Federal sector partners responsible for the 17 critical sectors (Sector-Specific Agencies (SSAs)), States, and the private sector to identify the top tier sites in each sector. DHS then conducted an initial screening of this list, assessing the risk of individual sites based on the consequence of their loss or disruption. Based on the results of this analysis, DHS refined the initial list down to a select group of high-risk sites for consideration through a full-spectrum risk analysis of:

- **Consequence:** The Department's risk analysis office at Oak Ridge National Laboratory performed asset-based consequence analysis on each asset identified for eligibility. Factors used in this analysis include potential impacts on public health and safety, the economy, national morale, and delivery of national essential functions.
- **Vulnerability:** The likelihood that an attacker would succeed in exploiting a weakness to gain access or cause damage to a given asset type. Vulnerability data is derived from subject matter experts, DHS analysis of the vulnerability of asset classes, and vulnerability assessments at specific sites.
- **Threat:** DHS capability to assess threats by infrastructure sector has greatly improved over the last fiscal year. The Homeland Infrastructure Threat and Risk Analysis Center (HITRAC), the Department's infrastructure-intelligence fusion center, provided measures of the likelihood that a specific type of attack will be initiated against a specific target type. HITRAC coordinates this effort with the Intelligence Community (IC) to ensure that all credible threats and incidents collected by the IC, operational indicators of terrorist activity, and assumptions of terrorist capability and intent are included in DHS analysis for the FY 2007 BZPP.

Were all CI/KR sectors covered under the FY 2007 BZPP?

Through the FY 2007 BZPP, DHS continues to build on its cross-sector baseline knowledge of CI/KR and institute a systematic approach to focus sufficient resources to reduce the risk associated with the highest priority CI/KR assets across certain targeted sectors each FY. Based upon information collected through State data calls, SAA input, and collaborative Federal-State risk analysis, all sectors were not addressed under the FY 2007 BZPP.

Were there sector-specific criteria for grants?

DHS applied broad-based consequence criteria in the selection of BZPP sites across all critical sectors, including combinations of the following characteristics:

- Nationally significant loss of life;
- Severe cascading economic impacts;

- Mass evacuations with relocation for an extended period of time;
- Impact to a city, region, or sector of the economy due to contamination, destruction, or disruption of vital services to the public; and/or,
- Severe national security impacts.

DHS also worked with the SAAs to identify those CI/KR sites having inherently greater consequence potential than other assets within their sectors.

Are these grants redundant to other critical infrastructure grants?

The BZP and Vulnerability Reduction Purchasing Plan (VRPP) must be coordinated between the SAA and HSA, as well as any applicable State strategy planning teams, Urban Area Working Groups (UAWGs), Regional Transit Security Working Groups (RTSWG), and/or Area Maritime Security Committees, as applicable, to ensure that the use of 2007 BZPP funds complement, but are not duplicative of, other HSGP or infrastructure protection grant programs. Linkages among specific projects undertaken with BZPP funds and other grants must be disclosed in the VRPP and through regular required reporting mechanisms such as the Biannual Strategy Implementation Reports (BSIR).

What steps does the FY 2007 BZPP grant process entail?

First, DHS issues grant guidance outlining the programmatic and financial requirements for FY 2007. SAAs from eligible states must submit a SF-424 grant application with all necessary certifications through the <http://www.grants.gov> portal. G&T will evaluate and act on applications within 60 days of the application deadline. The period of performance begins once the grant award is made to the SAA.

The responsible jurisdiction develops the BZP and VRPP in coordination with the State (SAA and HSA), UAWG (if applicable), RTSWG (if applicable) and Area Maritime Security Committee (if applicable) for each of the identified sites. The jurisdiction then submits the completed BZP and VRPP to the SAA to coordinate BZPP implementation with existing State and/or Urban Area Homeland Security Strategies and programs, implementation of the NIPP, and related Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) and Infrastructure Protection Program funding. The Office of Infrastructure Protection (IP) will then perform a technical review of the BZP, while G&T will perform a financial and programmatic review. Upon review and approval of the BZP and VRPP, G&T will authorize the State to drawdown and obligate funds to the responsible jurisdiction as a sub-grantee. The responsible jurisdiction may then expend the funds to conduct allowable planning activities and acquire equipment to increase preparedness capabilities of communities surrounding the identified CI/KR site. IP and G&T will work jointly to monitor, validate, and verify implementation of the BZP and VRPP and to ensure program effectiveness.

What is the deadline for applicants to submit the BZP and VRPP?

DHS must receive completed BZPs and VRPPs for all CI/KR sites receiving funding through the FY 2007 BZPP from the SAA by November 30, 2007. If States fail to submit all BZPP materials by this date, funds may be deobligated by G&T.

What steps will DHS take if the BZP and/or VRPP do not meet program requirements?

If either the BZP or the VRPP does not meet program requirements, the SAA may be requested to re-submit program materials or provide additional information.

Will technical assistance visits and workshops be available to assist in plan completion?

Technical assistance visits and BZPP Workshops will be offered by IP and scheduled per the request of the responsible jurisdictions to assist with plan completion. For further information and scheduling, please contact Frank Waller at Frank.Waller1@dhs.gov.

From the time applicants submit the BZPs and VRPPs, how long will it take to receive the equipment?

Since the overall funds will have already been obligated to the SAA, disbursement for a particular jurisdiction will be made as soon as the IP and G&T review, approval, and authorization procedures have been completed and the SAA has been notified. Upon official notification of approval for the BZP and VRPP by DHS to the SAA, funds must be obligated to the responsible jurisdiction sub-grantee within 60 days. The order process will, of course, vary in duration from supplier to supplier.

How long is the performance period of the grant?

States have 36 months from the date of grant award to expend the allocated funds against approved VRPPs.

What are the BZPP management and administrative (M&A) cost guidelines?

M&A costs are allowable only within the period of performance of the grant program. No more than 5 percent of the total State award under FY 2007 BZPP may be used for M&A by the State. Each State shall make no less than 95 percent of the total grant program amount available to responsible units of government within 60 days of the approval notification for the VRPP.

Responsible jurisdiction sub-grantees may retain and use up to 3 percent of their sub-award from the State for local M&A purposes. States may pass through a portion of the State M&A allocation to sub-grantees in order to supplement the 3 percent M&A allocation allowed on sub-grants. However, no more than 5 percent of the total sub-award may be expended by sub-grantees on M&A costs. Please consult the DHS/G&T Office of Grant Operations (OGO) Financial Management Guide for additional guidance on M&A costs.

Can FY 2007 BZPP funds be used for construction activities?

Construction and renovation are prohibited under the FY 2007 BZPP.

Where can an eligible applicant obtain additional information regarding specific equipment eligibility and specifications?

Information on the FY 2007 Authorized Equipment List (AEL) is available online through the Responder Knowledge Base (RKB) at <http://www.rkb.mipt.org/ael.cfm>.

Are the AEL categories the same as in FY 2006?

The AEL categories eligible for funding under the FY 2007 BZPP have been expanded since FY 2006, but remain targeted to support the development and/or enhancement of prevention and protection capabilities. The eligible categories are available online through the Responder Knowledge Base (RKB) at <http://www.rkb.mipt.org/ael.cfm> and are outlined in the table below.

BZPP Allowable Equipment Categories

#	Category Title
[2]	Explosive Device Mitigation and Remediation Equipment
[3]	CBRNE Operational Search and Rescue Equipment*
[4]	Information Technology
[5]	Cyber Security Enhancement Equipment
[6]	Interoperable Communications Equipment
[7]	Detection Equipment
[10]	Power Equipment
[13]	Terrorism Incident Prevention Equipment
[14]	Physical Security Enhancement Equipment
[15]	Inspection and Screening Systems
[16]	Agricultural Terrorism Prevention, Response and Mitigation Equipment
[20.3]	Intervention Equipment - Equipment, Fingerprint Processing and Identification
[21]	Other Authorized Equipment

* Only select sub-categories within AEL Categories 3 and 20 are eligible for FY 2007 BZPP funding. These sections include: 3.1.6, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4, and 20.3.

Who is responsible for purchasing the equipment for approved BZPs?

Responsible jurisdictions will purchase and own their approved equipment. Various G&T equipment assistance programs are available to responsible jurisdictions.

Where can I get detailed information on the BZPP?

For immediate assistance, please contact the Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID) on 1-800-368-6498 or askcsid@dhs.gov, your G&T Preparedness Officer, or email BZPP@dhs.gov.

Attachment: BZPP Allocations

States / Territories	Total FY 2007 BZPP Funding
Alabama	\$770,000
Arizona	\$2,077,500
Arkansas	\$577,500
California	\$4,695,000
Connecticut	\$192,500
Delaware	\$192,500
District of Columbia	\$1,500,000
Florida	\$2,310,000
Georgia	\$962,500
Hawaii	\$385,000
Idaho	\$385,000
Illinois	\$1,540,000
Indiana	\$1,347,500
Iowa	\$192,500
Kansas	\$385,000
Kentucky	\$962,500
Louisiana	\$3,080,000
Maine	\$192,500
Maryland	\$770,000
Massachusetts	\$577,500
Michigan	\$1,155,000
Minnesota	\$962,500
Mississippi	\$192,500
Missouri	\$1,155,000
Montana	\$192,500
Nebraska	\$385,000
Nevada	\$385,000
New Hampshire	\$385,000
New Jersey	\$1,540,000
New York	\$4,425,000
North Carolina	\$770,000
Ohio	\$2,310,000
Oklahoma	\$385,000
Oregon	\$192,500
Pennsylvania	\$1,655,000
Puerto Rico	\$192,500
Rhode Island	\$692,500
South Carolina	\$770,000
Tennessee	\$1,847,500
Texas	\$2,810,000
Utah	\$577,500
Virginia	\$770,000
Washington	\$577,500
West Virginia	\$500,000
Wisconsin	\$385,000
Wyoming	\$192,500
Total	\$48,500,000