



### Overview

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Preparedness Directorate's Office of Grants and Training (G&T) is pleased to announce the release of the Fiscal Year 2006 Competitive Training Grants Program (CTGP) Solicitation for Concept Papers. The CTGP solicitation will provide funding for national preparedness training initiatives that further the DHS mission of preparing the nation to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from incidents of terrorism involving weapons of mass destruction or catastrophic events.

DHS is inviting applicants to submit concept papers providing a proposed program overview based on one of seven issue areas outlined below.

Concept papers must clearly demonstrate the applicant's ability to develop and deliver a national preparedness training program. While implementation of a delivery rollout with national coverage is required, the rollout strategy can be executed regionally to leverage expertise, share resources, and enhance training capacity. The proposed training initiatives must be innovative and non-duplicative of current training offered by the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium (NDPC), other G&T training partners, or other federal agencies.

Proposals must align to Homeland Security Presidential Directive 8 (HSPD-8) and the Interim National Preparedness Goal (the Goal). The Goal is a companion document to the National Response Plan (NRP), National Incident Management System (NIMS), and the Interim National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIIPP). As a result of HSPD-8, DHS is engaged in an innovative approach to define the Nation's preparedness through the development and implementation of target capabilities. Applicants should be cognizant of the requirement to align proposed training programs with the Target Capabilities List, which identifies 37 capabilities integral to nationwide terrorism and catastrophic event preparedness. Before submitting a concept paper, applicants are advised to familiarize themselves with the referenced documents, which can be access at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/assessments/hspd8.htm>.

### Eligibility

Entities eligible to receive funding under this program include: state, local, tribal, and territorial governments; national associations, including those representing elected officials; institutions of higher education; public safety agencies; non-profits, including community and Faith-based organizations; and private corporations, including owners and operators of critical infrastructure and health-care entities, working in conjunction with the nonprofit sector.

### Concept Paper Template Elements

G&T has developed a concept paper template to capture critical elements of a viable training strategy and delivery mechanism. Applicants are required to use the template to submit concept papers; the template can be downloaded at <http://www.grants.gov> and will be available on the G&T website, <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/>.

### Selection Criteria

Concept papers will be evaluated based on a set of criteria, illustrated in the Fiscal Year 2006 Competitive Training Grants Program Solicitation for Concept Papers. Each proposed program plan will be evaluated independently on its own merit and relevance to the identified problem and selected issue area. Based on peer reviewer recommendations, G&T will invite a select group of organizations to submit full proposals describing the program in greater detail including a comprehensive look at budget and staffing plans.

## Issue Areas

Applicants must designate a single issue area from the following list under which they would like to be considered for grant funding:

- *Issue Area #1:* Training to address regional collaboration, highlighting the need for embracing partnerships across multiple sectors, jurisdictions, regions, and states in building capabilities cooperatively.
- *Issue Area #2:* Training to focus on information sharing and fusion centers by gathering, analyzing, disseminating, using information regarded as intelligence.
- *Issue Area #3:* Training to address cyber terrorism prevention and cyber security awareness in an effort to protect our Nation's secure computer networks and critical information systems.
- *Issue Area #4:* Training to strengthen infrastructure protection by enhancing security and mitigating risk facing our Nation's critical infrastructure and key resources.
- *Issue Area #5:* Training to enhance medical surge capabilities by embracing a multi-disciplinary, multi-jurisdictional collaborative approach.
- *Issue Area #6:* Training to improve vulnerable population response planning by developing and coordinating local and regional plans for those that need assistance preparing for emergencies.
- *Issue Area #7:* Training to effectively communicate to the public with timely information about protective actions during an emergency.

To effectively address these gaps in training and achieve a full understanding of each issue area, please consult the FY06 Competitive Training Grants Program Solicitation for Concept Papers.

## Amount and Length of Awards

The number of awards will be determined by the number, quality, and requested funding levels of the proposals received. Awards will have a funding period not to exceed thirty-six months.

## Timeline

G&T will open the FY 2006 Competitive Training Grants Program Solicitation for Concept Papers on May 18, 2006 and submissions will be due no later than 8:00 p.m. EST on May 31, 2006. Organizations invited to submit a full proposal are required to submit their proposal by 8:00 p.m. EST on June 30, 2005. There will be no exceptions for late attempts to submit concept papers or full proposals.

## Submission Process

Applicants must submit their concept papers electronically through <http://www.grants.gov> (Submissions will no longer be accepted through the Grants Management System). Within Grants.gov, select "Apply for Grants," and follow the step-by-step instructions to successfully apply and submit a concept paper under the Fiscal Year 2006 Competitive Training Grants Program Solicitation for Concept Papers.

## Review Process

DHS is committed to a competitive process for awarding funding associated with the FY06 Competitive Training Grants Program. Concept papers will undergo an independent peer review, while full proposals will be subject to an independent subject matter expert evaluation culminating in a consensus panel review. Peer reviewers and subject matter experts will consist of representatives from academia, industry or Federal Government organizations, along with practitioners from Federal, State, and local criminal justice and public safety agencies.

## Reference Areas

Applicants will ensure that their proposals adhere to DHS/G&T Training, Exercise and Evaluation protocols to include:

- DHS/G&T Training Strategy  
[http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/blendedlearning/pdfs/t\\_s.pdf](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/blendedlearning/pdfs/t_s.pdf)
- DHS/G&T Emergency Responder Guidelines  
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/docs/EmergencyRespGuidelinesRevB.pdf>
- DHS/G&T Guidelines for Homeland Security - Prevention and Deterrence  
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/docs/ODPPrev1.pdf>
- DHS/G&T Approach for Blended Learning  
<http://www.hseep.dhs.gov>
- Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program  
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/docs/hseep.htm>
- Target Capabilities List and Explanation  
<http://www.llis.gov>
- HSPD-8 Overview  
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/odp/assessments/hspd8.htm>