



**FEMA**

## **Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Port Security Grant Program (PSGP) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

### **1. What is the purpose of the FY 2009 ARRA PSGP?**

The ARRA is an economic stimulus package that was designed to jumpstart the U.S. economy, create or save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges nationally. Funds received under this Act are intended to support these goals, and unprecedented levels of transparency, oversight and accountability are required of the expenditure of Act dollars.

The purpose of the FY 2009 ARRA PSGP is to create a sustainable, risk-based effort to protect critical port infrastructure from terrorism, particularly attacks using explosives and non-conventional threats that could cause major disruption to commerce.

### **2. How much funding is available under the FY 2009 ARRA PSGP?**

The total amount of funds available under the FY 2009 ARRA PSGP is \$150,000,000.

### **3. How does the FY 2009 ARRA PSGP guidance differ from the FY 2009 PSGP guidance?**

One notable difference is the absence of the Fiduciary Agent process and the removal of target allocations. Additionally, the ARRA removed the federal cost share requirement for this program.

### **4. What are the priorities for the FY 2009 ARRA PSGP?**

The Department has identified the following four points as its priority selection criteria for FY 2009 ARRA PSGP:

- *Enhancing Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA)*  
MDA is the critical enabler that allows leaders at all levels to make effective decisions and act early against threats to the security of the nation's seaports. In support of the National Strategy for Maritime Security, port areas should seek to enhance their MDA through projects, such as access control/standardized credentialing, command and control, communications and enhanced intelligence sharing and analysis.

- *Enhancing Improvised Explosive Device (IED) and Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) prevention, protection, response and recovery capabilities*  
Port areas should seek to enhance their capabilities to prevent, detect, respond to and recover from terrorist attacks employing IEDs, WMDs and other non-conventional weapons. Of particular concern in the port environment are attacks that employ IEDs delivered via small craft (similar to the attack on the USS Cole), by underwater swimmers (such as underwater mines) or on ferries (both passenger and vehicle).
- *Efforts supporting implementation of the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC)*  
The TWIC is a congressionally mandated security program through which DHS will conduct appropriate background investigations and issue biometrically enabled and secure identification cards for individuals requiring unescorted access to U.S. port facilities. Regulations outlining the initial phase of this program (card issuance) were issued by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in cooperation with the Coast Guard in 72 Federal Register 3492 (January 25, 2007).
- *Construction or infrastructure improvement projects that are identified in the Port Wide Risk Management Plan (PWRMP) and/or Facility Security Plans (FSPs), and/or Vessel Security Plans (VSPs)*

**5. Who is eligible to apply for FY 2009 ARRA PSGP funds, and how will funds be allocated?**

Seven port areas have been selected as Group I (highest risk), forty-seven port areas have been selected as Group II and thirty-six port areas have been selected as Group III. Each Group I, Group II and Group III port area will compete for funding identified in their corresponding Group. These amounts are based upon the FY 2009 DHS risk analysis model. This will allow applicants to submit Investment Justifications (IJs) for projects without being confined to a set dollar amount, providing DHS the opportunity to conduct field and national reviews of each project and make awards based on the two overarching priorities of the ARRA PSGP, risk-based funding and regional security cooperation, as well as evaluating the extent to which each IJ buys-down risk for their port area.

Ports not identified in Group I, II or III are eligible to apply as an “All Other Port Areas” applicant. “All Other Port Areas” will compete for the funding identified in this Group. “All Other Port Areas” included within Group I, II or III’s Area Maritime Security Plans (AMSP) are allowed to receive grant funds from their geographically proximate higher Group if the project has regional impact across the entire port area, but not from both funding groups for the same project.

Under a fifth group, eligible ferry systems may also apply for funding. Not all eligible ferry systems are guaranteed to receive an award.

*The Fiduciary Agent process will not be utilized in the ARRA PSGP. Eligible applicants will apply directly to FEMA for funding under this program.*

**6. What are the key milestones associated with the FY 2009 ARRA PSGP?**

The key milestones associated with FY 2009 ARRA PSGP are:

- May 29, 2009: ARRA PSGP Grant Guidance and Application Kit released
- June 29, 2009: Completed Applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM Eastern Time.

**7. What legislation authorizes funding for the FY 2009 ARRA PSGP?**

The *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* (Public Law 111-5) provides funding for this program.

**8. Where is the FY 2009 ARRA PSGP Guidance and Application Kit located?**

The FY 2009 ARRA PSGP Guidance and Application Kit is located online at <http://www.fema.gov/grants> as well as on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

**9. What other resources are available to address programmatic, technical and financial questions?**

- For additional program-specific information, please contact the Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID) help line at (800) 368-6498 or [askcsid@dhs.gov](mailto:askcsid@dhs.gov). CSID hours of operation are from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday.
- To access application forms and instructions, please refer to <http://www.grants.gov>, the CFDA number for PSGP is **97.116**. If you experience difficulties or have any questions, please call the [grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) customer support hotline at (800) 518-4726.
- For financial-related questions, including pre-and post-award administration and technical assistance, please contact the FEMA Call Center at (866) 927-5646 or via E-mail to [ASK-GMD@dhs.gov](mailto:ASK-GMD@dhs.gov).

**10. What is the FY 2009 ARRA PSGP period of performance?**

The period of performance of this grant is 36 months. Extensions to the period of performance will be considered only through formal requests to FEMA with specific and compelling justifications why an extension is required.