



Mississippi Office of Homeland Security **State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program** **Batch 3 Release**

To: Mississippi Local Governmental Entities
From: Mississippi Office of Homeland Security
Re: State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program-Batch 3
Date: August 15, 2025
Batch 3 Opens: September 2, 2025/ Batch 3 Closes: October 31, 2025

As part of the FEMA State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP), the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security (MOHS) is coordinating efforts to improve cybersecurity across Mississippi. The MOHS has received federal grant funding for a variety of programs that benefit local government entities and jurisdictions. A few of the programs that will be part of the SLCGP programming may be found below.

- **Cybersecurity Assessment:** As part of this project, the MOHS is conducting a statewide needs and readiness assessment to determine gaps, vulnerabilities, and capabilities of local government entities/jurisdictions, with an emphasis on rural jurisdictions. As a participant in the SLCGP program, each entity/jurisdiction will receive a **free** cybersecurity assessment for your local jurisdiction.
- **Virtual Cybersecurity Training:** Each entity/jurisdiction will also receive the availability of virtual cybersecurity training that will help with work force training on a variety of topic areas from basic cybersecurity to more advanced levels.
- **In Person Training:** The MOHS in coordination with the Mississippi Cybersecurity Unit are in development of onsite training for local government entity/jurisdictions to have training for their staff and workforce from basic knowledge to expert knowledge in cybersecurity.
- **Attack Surface Management Platform:** The Mississippi Cyber Unit is currently onboarding our complimentary Attack Surface Management (ASM) platform for local entities. This platform provides visibility into your digital footprint, identifies vulnerabilities, and offers actionable insights to enhance your cyber resilience. While the ASM and the SLCGP will work together to support you, there are separate programs that require the two different MOUs to be signed. The ASM platform will jumpstart your cyber resilience and safeguard your assets against emerging threats, and the SLCGP will help you continue that practice once fully implemented.
- **Cybersecurity Grant Funding:** Also, part of this program is the potential of grant funds that may be available to those entity/jurisdictions that have received a cybersecurity assessment from the MOHS and have had needs identified that can be addressed with grant funds.

Eligibility Requirements: According to the Federal Emergency Management, local jurisdictions are defined as county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (regardless of whether the council of governments is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under State law), regional or interstate government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government; an Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization, or in Alaska a Native village or Alaska Regional Native Corporation; and a rural community, unincorporated town or village, or other public entity.

Entity/jurisdictions are encouraged to sign up for their subdivisions within their municipality/counties, so that each area can be assessed for their specific needs and potential gaps, risks and vulnerabilities. Ex. Police/Sheriff's Dept.; Fire Dept.; City/County Administration; Libraries; Airports; Emergency Management, etc.

Informational Webinar: The MOHS will be offering (3) Informational Webinars on the following dates, to provide information about the program and answer any question on program participation, etc. Please RSVP at: mohsgrants@dps.ms.gov, by **Friday, September 12, 2025**. Please include your name and email address, so that we can provide log-in instructions for the webinar.

- **Session 1: September 16, 2025. 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.**
- **Session 2: September 30, 2025. 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.**
- **Session 3: October 14, 2025. 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.**

Participation in SLCGP Program: As part of the SLCGP grant program, the MOHS requires two (2) forms to be completed and returned to our office for program participation.

- Interest Survey: The survey is designed to collect information from local government entities who are eligible to participate in the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP). This participation survey may include receiving state provided services, programming, and funding with the future year(s) of the SLCGP funding opportunities. The survey is an assessment, designed to ascertain a local entity's interest and potential need for cybersecurity services outlined through the grant period of performance.

A local government entity's participation in this survey signals an interest and an intention to participate in the SLCGP. Participation in the survey and needs assessment will be used to understand and prioritize the use of awarded funds, but survey participation does not guarantee funding will be available to meet the needs for all submissions.

- Memorandum of Understanding: The attached MOU is a document signed by the local jurisdictions to support the program, with the retention of grant award funds for the purpose of providing the local and rural jurisdictions with cybersecurity assessments/training for the evaluation of gaps, vulnerabilities, and capabilities. Data provided from the assessments will provide a path forward toward securing local jurisdictions into more secure cybersecurity postures.

Batch 3 Close Date: To properly plan and execute program resources, MOHS will conclude Batch 3 of the SLCGP program participation on **October 31, 2025**. All Interest Surveys and Memorandum of Understandings received from September 2, 2025, through October 31, 2025, will be included in Batch 3 participation and planning. At the conclusion the Batch 3, planning activities will begin with the procurement of services for Batch 3 participants.

Future Participation in the SLCGP Program: MOHS **cannot guarantee** that there will be additional batches of participation in the SLCGP program or additional funding available for services. The SLCGP is programmed as one-time federal funds. At the depletion of program funding, the MOHS will conclude the SLCGP. The MOHS is unaware of any future funds after the depletion of the current known or expected grant award funds.

Please return both the Interest Survey and the MOU to the following email address, to be part of the SLCGP Batch 3 Program, by October 31, 2025.

If you have any questions regarding the survey, please contact mohsgrants@dps.ms.gov