SAFE Grant Cycle 2 FAQs

	Category	Question #	Question	Answer	Posted	Updated
1			*Note: New questions will be reflected in green text for five days and updated responses will be reflected in red text for five days.*			
2			**Important Links and Resources:**	• The School Safety Standards Rule – Officially known as the Adopted amendment to 19 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 61, School Districts, Subchapter CC, Commissioner's Rules Concerning School Facilities, §61.1031, School Safety Requirements - https://texreg.sos.state.tx.us/public/readtac$ext.TacPage?sl=R&app=9&p_dir=&p_rloc=&p_tloc=&p_ploc=&pg=1&p_tac=&ti=19&pt=2&ch=61&rl=1031 • School Safety Resources - https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/health-safety-discipline/safe-and-supportive-schools/school-safety-resources		
3	General Questions	GQ-Q1	What authorized this program?	The General Appropriations Act of the 88th Texas Legislature authorized and funded this program.		
4	General Questions	GQ-Q2	What is the purpose of the Safety and Facility Enhancement (SAFE) grant?	To support LEAs in meeting the adopted School Safety Requirements.		
5	General Questions	GQ-Q3	Is my LEA eligible?	LEAs meeting the enrollment criteria below are eligible to apply for this grant program: - Public school districts and charter schools with a reported enrollment of at least one student from the October 2021 PEIMS fall snapshot submission will be eligible for funding. - Charter schools that opened prior to January 1, 2024 (the date of grant availability). - Private schools are not eligible recipients for funding.		
6	General Questions	GQ-Q4	How do LEAs certify compliance with the School Safety Requirements?	TEA will initiate revisions to an LEA's compliance status. Once initiated, LEAs will update their compliance status through the Compliance Assessment in the IDA Dashboard.		
7	General Questions	GQ-Q5	Is there a set dollar amount awarded to LEAs for the SAFE Grant Cycle 2?	This is a formula based grant for which all LEAs are eligible. The amount will be set based on your ADA with a minimum award amount of $150k per LEA.		
8	General Questions	GQ-Q6	If our LEA has met the School Safety Requirements, are we eligible for the SAFE Grant Cycle 2?	If an LEA has met the School Safety Requirements, the LEA is eligible for Cycle 2.		
9	Allowable Uses	AU-Q1	What are the allowable expenses under this program?	If the LEA has not met the School Safety Requirements, the allowable expenses of funds for the SAFE Grant are expenses that help an LEA certify minimum compliance with the School Safety Requirements (Tier 1). If the LEA has met the School Safety Requirements, the LEA is allowed to use grant funds for any expense in the Program Guidelines (Tier 2).		
10	Allowable Uses	AU-Q2	Is the building of a vestibule considered meeting a minimum standard for purposes of SAFE Cycle 2 Grant? Or is it an item that LEAs can only spend funds on if all minimum standards are met?	Building a vestibule would only be allowed once the LEA has met the minimum standards. A vestibule is a Tier 2 expense.		
11	Grant Requirements	GR-Q1	Will LEAs be out of compliance with the terms of the SAFE Grant and the School Safety Requirements if classroom doors remain open during the school day in the interior of school buildings?	No, there is not a state requirement to have interior classroom doors closed or locked. Therefore, it has no impact on state funding.		
12	Grant Requirements	GR-Q2	If we are in the process of purchasing items related to School Safety Requirements, are we compliant?	Work does not have to be complete to be in compliance with the School Safety Requirements. LEAs do have to have contracts in place and have allotted the required funds for the work. If an LEA has done this, then the LEA is provisionally compliant and may certify such.		
13	Allowable Uses	AU-Q3	Can I use Cycle 2 funds for security?	If the LEA has met the minimum safety standard (Tier 2), the LEA may use Cycle 2 funds for payroll, equipment, supplies, and training expenses for security. Stipends for non-employees are not allowable.		
14	Allowable Uses	AU-Q4	May either solely or in combination with other funds, purchase comprehensive school safety software systems that include, but not limited to, visitor screening, safety drills, response to emergencies, reunification, and GPS systems but only if the silent panic alert technology is a primary component of a comprehensive system?	These items are allowable for Cycle 2.		