VERMONT ENHANCED 9-1-1 BOARD
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ENHANCED 9-1-1 COMPLIANCE GRANT PROGRAM

SPRING 2020

Enhanced 9-1-1 Compliance Grant Program

A Building Communities Grant Overview

It is the intent of the General Assembly that the Enhanced 9-1-1 Compliance Grants Program shall cease to exist on June 30, 2021. The Enhanced 9-1-1 Board will award grants either until the current funding is expended or until 6/30/21, whichever comes first.

The Enhanced 9-1-1 Compliance Grant Program was created by Act 160 of the 2016 legislative session. This Building Communities grant is intended to provide financial assistance and incentive to Vermont schools to support the identification and implementation of needed changes to the school's telecommunications technology so accurate address and location information (i.e., specific call back number, building name/number, floor number, room number, etc.) is provided to Vermont 9-1-1 in the event of an emergency.

This program is administered by the Vermont Enhanced 9-1-1 Board which has the authority to award grants at its sole discretion. Grants are awarded competitively. The program is authorized to award matching grants of up to $25,000.00 per project. For projects involving multi-school phone system integration, each school may be considered as a separate project for the purposes of this application. The required match must be through dollars raised and not in-kind services.

It is important to recognize that each school may have a different starting point on the path to compliance with 9-1-1 location requirements. While the ultimate goal is to have all schools provide the required information, this grant program will support schools in taking any needed steps along the path toward compliance. Examples of projects that will be considered for these grants include but are not limited to: fees/costs for consultation services to identify current telecommunications system capabilities; fees/costs associated with consultation services to understand available options and/or obstacles related to improving the quality of information sent to 9-1-1; fees associated with improving a school's ability to maintain accurate location data; and/or costs for replacing or upgrading existing telecommunications technology to allow for more accurate location information.

Grant applications for public schools must be coordinated and submitted at the Supervisory Union or School District level on behalf of individual schools.

Independent schools that receive public funds for tuition are also eligible for this program and may submit applications on their own behalf.

Please note: It is the intent of the legislature that applicants applying for any of the Building Communities Grant Awards shall not apply for more than one grant as defined in Chapter 137 of Title 24 for the same project in a single calendar year, in any category. This does not prohibit organizations from requesting funding for a different project in an alternate location under any of the grants.

Questions about the 9-1-1 Compliance Grant Program?

Contact the Enhanced 9-1-1 Board at 802-828-4911 or e-mail us at e911.grant@vermont.gov.

New Requirements – Effective July 1, 2019

The Vermont Enhanced 9-1-1 Board recently adopted a rule governing the 9-1-1 requirements for ECS (Enterprise Communications Systems) previously known as Multi-Line Telephone Systems. This rule went into effect July 1, 2019.

In addition to providing clarification on previously existing requirements, this new Rule requires that **"ECS end users shall have the ability to directly initiate a call to 9-1-1 without dialing any additional digit, code, prefix or post-fix."**

You can find the full text of this rule at:
https://e911.vermont.gov/sites/nineoneone/files/graphics/E911-ECSRule_FINAL_May2019.pdf

Enhanced 9-1-1 Compliance Grant Program
Spring 2020 Application Instructions

Grant applications for public schools must be coordinated and submitted at the Supervisory Union or School District level on behalf of individual schools.

Independent schools that receive public funds for tuition are also eligible for this program and may submit applications on their own behalf.

Purpose: Funds are to be used to identify, implement, and/or maintain changes to a school's telecommunications system technology so the most accurate call back and dispatchable location information is available to a 9-1-1 call-taker in the event a 9-1-1 call is placed from the school's telephone system.

Eligibility: This grant program is open to all Vermont public pre-K-12 schools and Vermont independent pre-K-12 schools that receive public funds for tuition. Grants are not available for locations that house only administrative offices, i.e., the project must impact facilities that routinely house a student population. Grants are provided for projects that are ready to begin or are currently in progress. Projects that are already completed are not eligible.

Award Limits and Financial Match Documentation: The maximum available grant is $25,000.00 per project. For projects involving multi-school phone system integration, each school may be considered as a separate project for the purposes of this application. Requests in any amount up to the twenty-five-thousand-dollar limit will be considered. A letter from the supervisory union or school district authority confirming the existence of the required financial match must be included in the application package. In-kind services may not be used as the match source.

Required Documentation: Each grant application ***must*** have a quote/estimate attached that provides specific details about the work to be done and the cost of the project.

Application Deadline: All applications and supporting material must be received by the Vermont Enhanced 9-1-1 Board by **4:30 PM on Friday, 6 March 2020**. Applications may be submitted by e-mail or by US mail.

If submitting by e-mail, please use **APPLICATION** in subject line. E-mail completed applications and attachments to: e911.grant@vermont.gov

OR

Submit via US Mail to: **Vermont Enhanced 9-1-1 Board, Attn: 9-1-1 Compliance Grant Program, 100 State St, 4th Floor, Montpelier, VT, 05620-6501**

Evaluation Process: Grant applications will be reviewed by a committee of staff members from the Vermont Enhanced 9-1-1 Board. A supplemental risk assessment questionnaire will be required prior to final award offer. Award notifications will be made in writing on or before 3 April 2020.

Enhanced 9-1-1 Compliance Grant Program – Spring 2020 Application Form

- **Name and Address of Supervisory Union/School District** (if applicable):

- **Supervisory Union/School District DUNS #:**

- **Contact Person** *(this individual will be the single point of contact for all correspondence on this grant)*

  Name: **Title:**
  Phone Number: **E-mail:**

- **Project Location**
  School Name:
  School 9-1-1 Locatable Address:
  School Mailing Address:
  School DUNS #:

- **Project Scope:** (Brief Description – telephone system replacement/upgrade, consultation services, database maintenance costs)

- Is this project part of – **and dependent upon** – a multi-school phone system integration? Yes ☐ No ☐

- Will the completion of this project make your school's phone system E9-1-1 compliant? Yes ☐ No ☐
  If NO, please provide detailed information about what is needed to make your phone system compliant AND how this project will help you reach compliance.

- **Total Project Cost**:

- **Grant Amount Requested:**
  The program is authorized to award matching grants up to $25,000.00 per project.

- **Actual or Expected Project Start Date**:

- **Expected Project End Date**:

- **Detailed Project Description -** *Note: Grant funds are awarded on a competitive basis.* ***Each application must contain a comprehensive and detailed description of the work to be performed along with an itemized estimate/quote for the project.*** *The description should include a detailed statement regarding the impact of the work on the ability of the school's telephone system to provide accurate and specific location information to a 9-1-1 call-taker. If this project is dependent upon a multi-school phone system integration, details should be provided in this section. This statement is an integral part of the evaluation committee's grant award determination process.*

- **Financial Match Documentation:** The application packet *must* include a signed letter from the supervisory union or school district authority confirming the existence of a sufficient financial match for the grant amount requested. As a reminder, in-kind contributions of labor and/or materials or other types of in-kind match are not allowed.

Spring 2020 Grant Application Supplemental Information

This information must be provided for your application to be considered complete.

Multi-Building/Multi-Story

1. Is this a multi-building school? YES ☐ NO ☐ If YES, number of buildings ____

   Note: Only count buildings with phone service.

   Please provide the 9-1-1 locatable address for each building.

2. Is the school a multi-story school? YES ☐ NO ☐ If YES, number of floors ____

   Note: If your school has multiple buildings, please answer the multi-story question for each building.

Cell Coverage

1. Is cell coverage at this school:

   ☐ a. Unavailable ☐ b. Consistently poor or spotty

   ☐ c. Good – certain carriers only ☐ d. Good throughout – all carriers