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From: Steve Hodges
Chief Information Security Officer

Notice to 2022 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant applicants: Status Update as of Jan 15, 2023

Thank you to all who submitted applications to the State of Georgia in response to the September 2022 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Federal IIJA State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program. More than 115 individual projects were submitted by 59 different governmental entities (state agencies – 4; local urban – 42; local rural – 13).

I am writing to offer a brief update on the status of project submissions:

- The GA SLCGP Planning Committee is currently reviewing all projects submitted by the November 2, 2022, deadline. To be eligible for funding, the project must be aligned with one of the following cybersecurity areas of focus:
    1. Multifactor authentication
    2. Endpoint detection and response
    3. Web presence protection
    4. Backup and recovery solutions
    5. Threat intelligence and brand management
    6. Enhanced monitoring
    7. Cyber maturity assessments
    8. Training (cybersecurity)
- The State of Georgia applied for the grant and was awarded a total of $4.8M. Receipt of the funds is on hold pending the submission and

successful review of the State Cybersecurity Plan by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

- The total amount will be divided as prescribed by the NOFO:
  - Total 2022 grant to Georgia
    $4,875,501.00
  - State grant amount (20%)
    $979,100.20
    - Management and administration (5%) $243,775.05
    - State agency projects (15%) $731,325.15
  - Local agency projects (80%)
    $3,900,400.80
    - Local urban (75% of 80%) $2,925,300.60
    - Local rural <50K pop. (25% of 80%) $975,100.20
- Because of the tight timeline between the release of the NOFO and the grant application deadline, Georgia, like many other states, filed an exception letter with the application which extends the deadline for submission of the plan to September 2023. The intent is to submit the plan before the end of Q1 2023.
- Submitted projects that were either begun or funded after the period of performance began in September 2022 remain eligible.
- With more than 115 projects submitted by 59 different entities and requested funding ranging from $11K to $3.5M, the committee decided to limit a submitting entity to the funding of <u>one</u> project each with the amounts being divided among the projects in each funding category (state, local urban, local rural). Once all projects have been evaluated, entities that submitted more than one project will be asked to choose a single approved project for funding. Instructions will be provided for submitting formal grant applications to GEMA/HS, the agency responsible for the management of the grant.

Again, thank you for your participation in this important opportunity to strengthen cybersecurity across our state. Should you have questions, please contact gacyber@gta.ga.gov . I look forward to communicating with you as the evaluation process continues.

Steve Hodges
Chief Information Security Officer