

REQUEST FOR APPLICATION



MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

**Mississippi Community Oriented Policing Services
in Schools (MCOPS) Grant FY27 (2026-2027)**

**Submission Deadline Date: March 30, 2026
at 2:00 PM Central Standard Time**

Table of Contents

1.	INTRODUCTION AND PROGRAM OVERVIEW	4
1.1	Program Purpose and Goals.....	4
2.	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.....	5
3.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	5
3.1	Acknowledgement of Amendments/Questions and Answers.....	5
3.2	Restrictions on Communications.....	6
3.3	Conflict of Interest.....	6
4.	PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS	6
4.1	Application Criteria.....	6
4.2	Application Review and Scoring.....	7
5.	APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS DUE AT APPLICATION SUBMISSION	8
5.1	Formatting and Submission Directions.....	9
5.2	Application Submission and Due Date.....	9
5.3	Risk of Delivery.....	10
5.4	Rejection of Applications.....	11
5.5	Conditions of Solicitation.....	11
5.6	Acceptance of Applications.....	11
5.7	Modification or Withdrawal of an Application.....	12
5.8	Disposition of Applications.....	12
6.	TENTATIVE TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES	12
7.	GRANT AWARD AND RESPONSIBILITIES	13
7.1	Use of Funds.....	13
7.2	Responsibilities of A Fiscal Agent.....	14
7.3	Audit.....	16
	COVER PAGE.....	17
	ASSURANCES.....	20
	STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS.....	22
	AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE PAGE.....	25
	ASSURANCES.....	25
	CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM	25

FORM 5..... 26
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF AMENDMENTS 26
BUDGET SUMMARY PAGE..... 35
BUDGET NARRATIVE..... 36
BUDGET NARRATIVE (Matching Funds)..... 37

1. INTRODUCTION AND PROGRAM OVERVIEW

1.1 Program Purpose and Goals

The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE), Office of Safe and Orderly Schools, is seeking competitive written applications from qualified Applicants to provide services implementing the Mississippi Community Oriented Policing Services in Schools (MCOPS) Grant FY 27 (2026-2027) through grant awards issued by the Mississippi Department of Education.

The Mississippi Community Oriented Policing Services in Schools (MCOPS) Grant was established under Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-82, which authorizes the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE), Office of Safe and Orderly Schools, to assist law enforcement agencies in providing additional School Resource Officers (SROs) in and around public schools.

The program is designed to enhance school safety and foster positive relationships between students and law enforcement through community policing principles. It was motivated by the Legislature's commitment to improve safety infrastructure within Mississippi schools, reduce on-campus incidents, and align with the best national practices implemented in other states with successful SRO programs.

The Program's goals are to increase the number of certified School Resource Officers (SROs) in Mississippi K-12 schools statewide by:

- Strengthening community policing and partnerships between schools and local law enforcement;
- Ensure SROs complete required training National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) or MDE SRO Basic within 2 years and 40 hours annual CEUs.
- Improve school and safety through threat assessments, crisis response plans, mentoring, and safety policy development

School Resource Officers (SROs) may serve in one (1) or more of the following capacities:

- Law Enforcement Officer/School Safety Specialist;
- Law related educator for staff and students;
- Liaison between the district and community responders;
- Character education teacher for programs such as Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT), Drug Abuse and Alcohol Resistance Education (DARE), crime prevention, and substance abuse prevention;
- Liaison with the local youth court;
- Mentor for at-risk students;
- Conduct school safety/threat assessments;
- Write and/or revise crisis response plans; and/or
- Assist the district in developing policies to address school safety and criminal activity within 500 feet of the school campus.

A grant agreement will be signed at the discretion of the State Board of Education (SBE). This

solicitation and any resulting grant agreement shall be governed by the applicable provisions of *the State Board of Education Grant Policies*. The grant agreement Assurances and Standard Terms and Conditions have been included for your review, acceptance, and signature.

A copy of this solicitation, including all appendices and any subsequent amendments, including the Question and Answer amendment, if issued, will be posted on the MDE [website](#) under “Public Notice” RFP/RFQ/RFA/Invitation to Bid section. It is the sole responsibility of all interested parties to monitor the website for updates regarding this procurement.

2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

This solicitation is to provide information required to submit a response to this Request for Application (RFA). Please be aware that changes to previous requirements and/or eligibility solicited may have been made.

The MCOPS Grant is available to all local public education agencies (LEAs) that maintain or wish to establish a campus police department in accordance with the provisions Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-321 and Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-323 or LEAs that partner with county/municipal law enforcement agencies to deploy SROs. All SROs must meet the minimum requirements for SROs outlined in the [Mississippi School Safety Manual](#) and subsequent revisions.

All Grantees shall follow all SRO requirements regarding Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-321 and Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-323. If a district received MCOPS Grant funding for the previous school year (2025 – 2026), the Grantee must provide assurances of compliance with all eligibility criteria, program activities, use of funds, budget requirements, and fiscal responsibilities. All districts receiving MCOPS Grant funds for school year 2026 – 2027 must complete *Compliance Assurances for MCOPS Grant Recipients for school year 2025-2026 (form 4)*.

Applicants that have previously received a subgrant award must be in good standing with the MDE to receive an award through this solicitation. If a previous Subgrantee is not in good standing, the application will be disqualified and will not be considered for an award.

Subgrantees must have previously submitted:

- any final evaluation reports and data as required;
- any annual performance reporting data;
- finalized all monitoring review corrective actions;
- any requests for reimbursement of allowable expenditures following MDE’s reimbursement process; and
- the Year-End Budget Report.

3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

3.1 Acknowledgement of Amendments/Questions and Answers

Questions pertaining to this solicitation must be submitted to ProcurementOnR@mdek12.org and must be received no later than **Tuesday, March 17, 2026**, by 5:00 PM CST, to ensure a

response by the MDE. Responses to questions will be posted to the MDE website at <https://mdek12.org/procurement/rfp/> under “Public Notice” RFP/RFQ/RFA/Invitation to Bid section as an amendment to the solicitation on **Monday, March 23, 2026**. Questions received **after the deadline** shall not be considered.

It is the Applicant’s sole responsibility to regularly monitor the MDE website for amendments and/or announcements concerning this solicitation.

3.2 Restrictions on Communications

At no time shall any Applicant contact or attempt to contact any MDE staff regarding this solicitation. All correspondence shall be sent via email to the *Office of Procurement* within the time specified in the Acknowledgement and Required Attachments After Notice of Award sections. **Should it be determined that any Applicant or its personnel has attempted to communicate or has communicated with any other MDE staff regarding this solicitation, MDE, at its discretion, may disqualify the Applicant from submitting an application in response to the solicitation.**

3.3 Conflict of Interest

Each Applicant receiving an award for funds must maintain a written conflict of interest policy.

4. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Application Criteria

The awarded Subgrantee must meet the following criteria to submit an application for these services:

The criteria for this grant is to assist law enforcement agencies in providing additional School Resource Officers (SROs) to engage in community policing in and around primary and secondary schools in this State. Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-82 established the Mississippi Community Oriented Policing Services in Schools (MCOPS) Grant program for the utilization of School Resource Officers (SRO) within the K-12 education system.

The awarded Subgrantee must meet and certify the following criteria to submit an application for these services:

- Applicants receiving an award are responsible for utilizing these funds to carry out activities that advance student achievement and support student success.
- All Grantees must demonstrate they have primary law enforcement authority over the school(s) identified in their application and demonstrate their inability to implement this project without state assistance.
- Schools or law enforcement agencies may not reduce the overall federal, state, or locally funded level of sworn officers (including other SROs or other sworn officers assigned to the schools) as a result of applying for or receiving MCOPS grant funding.

- In the event of reduction in force by the district or law enforcement agency due to financial reasons unrelated to the availability of MCOPS, that officer may be re-hired with written approval from the MDE and utilize the MCOPS funding to provide an officer to the school.
- The SROs must devote at least 75% of their time in the primary and/or secondary schools.
- Funds cannot be used to simply hire campus enforcement officers (certified police officers who merely provide an armed presence) or school safety officers (non-commissioned security personnel). MCOPS funds **must** be utilized for certified SROs or those that will complete the MDE and/or the NASRO basic SRO certification course within two (2) years of employment in that position.
- School Resource Officers may serve in a variety of roles, including, but not limited to, that of a law enforcement officer/safety, law-related educator, and problem solver/community liaison. These officers may teach programs such as a crime prevention, substance abuse prevention, and gang resistance, as well as monitor and assist troubled students through mentoring programs. The SRO may also identify physical changes in environment that may reduce crime in and around the schools, as well as assist in developing school policies that address criminal activity and school safety.
- Officers shall be deployed and perform duties in accordance with the provisions of the *Mississippi Code of 1972 Annotated*, and the *Mississippi School Safety Manual* and subsequent revisions.
- If MCOPS funds were received during fiscal year 2026 (school year 2025 – 2026), all Grantees must meet the SRO requirements in Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-321 and Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-323
- Each SRO listed in the application must provide documentation of the required 40 hours of Continuing Education Units (CEUs). The training must be completed between January 1, 2026, and December 31, 2026. Training Hours will be accepted from January 1, 2026, until December 31, 2026.

4.2 Application Review and Scoring

Applications are reviewed by MDE program staff to determine if all formatting and submission requirements are met and certified. **If any application fails to meet the established deadline or listed eligibility requirements, the application will be disqualified.**

A minimum of three or more review committee members will review and score the Application utilizing a check list of Eligibility Requirements, Priority Points, review of a completed Threat Assessment Form for each school in the district and district student numbers to assigned school district officer ratio. The assessment form should reflect 2025-2026 student enrollment data.

AWARD METHOD

- The MDE will allocate funding based upon the average scores of all committee members and will fund Applicants, **based on the highest to lowest scores**, until funding is exhausted, or all eligible Applicants receive funding.
- Subject to the availability of funds, **grant funding for one (1) SRO position will be awarded beginning with the highest ranked grant application and continue through to the lowest ranked grant application that meets the eligibility requirements.**
- Subject to the availability of funds, **the process will continue with the highest ranked application requesting funding for more than one (1) SRO position and continue through to the lowest ranked application that meets the eligibility requirements.**
- The awarding of grant funds in this manner will continue until all available funds have been awarded.
 - I. Applications meeting the eligibility criteria and completing a Threat Assessment form for **each campus in the district** will be reviewed and considered for a grant award.
 - II. Total possible Priority Points: **30**
 - III. Applications meeting the eligibility criteria and completing a Threat Assessment form without priority points will be ranked and awarded based on the highest to lowest district student numbers to assigned school district officer ratio.

Priority points will be given to school districts based on criteria listed below:

- 1) New School District Police Department formed in last 12 months (January 1 -December 31, 2025) – **10 points** (Shall provide School Board Minutes)
- 2) New SRO Programs formed in last 12 months (January 1, -December 31, 2025) - **10 points** (Shall provide School Board Minutes)
- 3) School Districts that have never been awarded a MCOPS grant – **10 points**.

5. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS **DUE AT APPLICATION SUBMISSION**

1. Signed Cover Page (Form 1) Completed - *Required Signature(s)*
2. Completed Application for MCOPS FY 27 form
3. Completed Individual Campus Threat Assessment form from each campus in District
4. Signed Assurances (Form 2) - *Required Signature(s)*
5. Signed Standard Terms and Conditions (Form 3) - *Required Signature*
6. Signed Authorized Signature Page (Form 4) - *Required Signature*
7. Signed Acknowledgement of Amendments (Form 5) - *Required Signature*
8. Compliance Assurance for MCOPS Grant Recipients (2025-2026) – Completed –(Form 6) - *Required Signature*

9. School Resource Officers (SROs) Training Hours Log (Form 7)- *Required Signature (Wet signature)*
10. Law Enforcement Information Sheet (Form 8)
11. General Budget Instructions (Form 9)
12. Budget Forms A, B, C & D - Completed - *Required Signature(s)*

5.1 Formatting and Submission Directions

Applicants should submit applications using the following parameters:

- Submitted on 8.5” x 11” white paper using 12-point Times New Roman font
- Formatted using 1” margins on all sides
- Portrait setting
- Single-spaced and single-sided (pages must include the Applicant’s name and page number within the footer in the lower right-hand corner)
- The complete application including all attachments shall be submitted in a searchable Microsoft Office® format, preferably in Word® or Portable Document Format (PDF) only
- “Links” received to obtain a response via the RFXS will not be opened and the email will be rejected without further consideration for an award
- A response application received via the RFXS must include **ONE** application packet per the submission requirements.
- **Duplicate submission** of an electronic or mailed response application will result in the **LAST submission** being considered as a modification to the original submission. The previous submissions will be rejected and will not be considered for the evaluation and award. **Any late duplicate copy will disqualify all submissions from the evaluation process for an award.**
- **Applicants are encouraged to submit ONE response to prevent duplication. Upon submission of the response a confirmation receipt shall be provided as assurance that the Office of Procurement received the response packet.**

This grant competition is highly competitive. Applicants should ensure that all guidelines and requirements are met before submitting applications. Please note that the MDE staff will not grant permission to Applicants to modify or change the criteria established in the application. This includes extending the date and time applications are due.

5.2 Application Submission and Due Date

A signed application packet shall be submitted electronically in a PDF format via [RFXS <rfoxs@mdek12.org>](mailto:rfoxs@mdek12.org) no later than **Monday, March 30, 2026, by 2:00 p.m. Central Standard Time (CST)**. Applicants shall allow at least **72 hours** in advance of the due date to consider unforeseen technical issues. Applications received after the time designated in the solicitation shall be considered late and shall not be considered for an award.

Please NOTE: The email subject line and electronic document shall identify the name of the solicitation and the name of the entity/individual submitting the

response. Any deviation from these instructions may result in disqualification of the response application and shall not be considered for an award.

Example Format for Subject Line: 21st Century Program by John Blue LLC (DO NOT UNDERSCORE or INSERT SYMBOLS)

OR

Shipping instructions are provided below:

An original signed application packet shall be shipped/mailed and received in a sealed envelope at the MDE no later than **Monday, March 30, 2026, by 2:00 PM Central Standard Time (CST).**

Please NOTE: The return address label must be visible on the outside of the sealed shipping envelope and shall include the name of the entity/individual submitting the response. Any deviation from these instructions may result in disqualification of the response application and shall not be considered for an award.

Ship To:

**MONIQUE CORLEY
Office of Procurement
The Mississippi Department of Education
Mississippi Community Oriented Policing Services in Schools (MCOPS) FY27
359 North West Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39201**

5.3 Risk of Delivery

Timely submission of the application package is the sole responsibility of the Applicant. It is suggested that if the application is shipped to the MDE, it should be tracked to require an MDE mailroom staff signature and request a return receipt/notice with signature. Any application shipped or mailed **MUST** be verified, date and time stamped, and recorded by an MDE mailroom staff. The time and date of the receipt will be indicated on the sealed application envelope or package by the MDE mailroom staff. The only acceptable evidence to establish the time of receipt at the MDE will be identified by the time and date stamp of the MDE mailroom staff on the application wrapper or other documentary evidence of receipt used by the mailroom.

Packages that are delivered at the MDE in person by the applicant or a representative will NOT be opened. Packages received by shipping/mail without the appropriate acceptance by the MDE mailroom staff or is received and recorded AFTER the submission deadline will NOT be considered for an award.

The MDE will not be responsible for delivery delays or lost packets. All risk of late arrival due to unanticipated delays – whether delivered by shipping or electronic method – is entirely on the Applicant. All Applicants are urged to take the possibility of delay into account when submitting the application and submit the packet electronically via [RFXS](#). **Applicants are encouraged to submit ONE response to prevent duplication. Upon submission of the response a confirmation receipt shall be provided as assurance that the Office of Procurement received the response packet.** The Applicant shall be notified if their application was rejected

and the reason for such rejection after the applicable State Board of Education session.

Supplemental or revised application information, either from the Applicant or another source, will not be accepted. An application package must contain every element intending to be submitted. Applicants are encouraged to carefully review the procedures for submitting their materials. No changes or additions to an application will be accepted after the deadline.

5.4 Rejection of Applications

Applications that do not conform to the requirements of the solicitation will be rejected by the Mississippi Department of Education. Applications will be rejected for reasons below:

- The application is received late. Late applications will be maintained unopened in the procurement file.
- The Applicant has previously been cited with major and/or significant deficiencies by the MDE in one or more programs or included on the debarment list.
- Required application, signed cover page and other required forms are not included in the application.
- Additions, modifications, alterations, or perceived improvements to any portion of the solicitation shall be considered non-responsive and will not be evaluated.
- The application packet was attached as a “link” in response to the solicitation.
- In person delivery.

5.5 Conditions of Solicitation

The MDE reserves the right to accept, reject, or negotiate regarding submitted applications based on the evaluation criteria contained in the solicitation. The final decision to award a grant rest solely with the MDE.

The Applicant should note the following:

1. The MDE will not be liable for any costs associated with the preparation of applications incurred by the Applicant.
2. The selection of an Applicant is contingent upon favorable evaluation of the application; approval of the application by the review panel selected by MDE, approved budget and the State Board of Education approval.
3. The selection of an Applicant is contingent upon successful negotiation of any changes to the application as required by MDE.
4. The MDE also reserves the right to accept any application submitted for grant award, without negotiation. Therefore, Applicants are advised to propose their most favorable terms initially.
5. Applicants will be required to assume full responsibility for meeting all specified requirements stated in the solicitation.

5.6 Acceptance of Applications

The Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to waive minor irregularities in applications. A minor irregularity is a variation of the solicitation that does not affect the application or the competitiveness, give one party an advantage or benefit over other parties, or adversely impacts the interest of the MDE.

5.7 Modification or Withdrawal of an Application

Prior to the application due date, a submitted application may be withdrawn by submitting a written request for its withdrawal to the MDE, signed by the Applicant.

An application may be submitted as an amended application before the due date for receipt of applications. Such amended applications shall be a complete replacement for a previously submitted application and shall be clearly identified as such. The MDE shall not merge, collate, or assemble application materials.

Unless requested by the MDE, no other amendments, revisions, or alterations to applications shall be accepted after the application due date.

Any submitted application shall remain a valid application for one hundred eighty (180) calendar days from the application due date.

5.8 Disposition of Applications

All applications become the property of the state of Mississippi.

6. TENTATIVE TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES

A recommendation to the SBE for an approval of awards is anticipated for Applicants based on applications submitted and accepted, and an evaluation and selection process. All new Subgrantees approved for funding by the SBE at that time must attend subsequent mandatory meetings for all Subgrantees. An award or non-award letter will be sent to Applicants confirming the SBE's action. The letter will include specific information on meeting dates and times, if applicable.

Important tentative dates and activities related to this solicitation are listed below.

Important Dates	Activity
February 26, 2026 March 5, 2026	RFA Issued – Email and Post to MDE Website/Newspaper
March 17, 2026	Deadline for submitting questions
March 23, 2026	Answers posted to website
March 30, 2026, by 2:00 PM CST	Applications deadline by 2:00 PM CST
April 6, 2026	Review of applications

June 18, 2026	State Board of Education approval
April 17, 2026	Notification of awards and non-awards

7. GRANT AWARD AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Funds are subject to appropriations by the state/federal government. This grant will be awarded to each awardee in the amount of \$10,000 minimum contingent on adequate FY27 availability funding. All grants will be awarded contingent upon appropriations, proper implementation of the proposed project implementation, completion, and submission of all required documentation. Funding to eligible Applicants is subject to the SBE approval. **The Mississippi Department of Education reserves the right to negotiate grant award amounts with all potential Subgrantees.**

7.1 Use of Funds

Grant funds shall only be used for personnel and personnel benefits

The grant award will not be less than \$10,000 per officer and shall only be used for the salary and fringe benefits of the awarded officer.

The grantee shall match at least \$10,000 in local funds or in-kind match which shall be used on **equipment for the SROs and/or safety equipment for the school** upon which they are assigned or **safety related training costs for the SROs**. If you are uncertain about what items would be considered Safety Items, it is recommended to contact the MDE Division of School Safety before purchasing items.

Items that could be considered safety equipment include, but are not limited to:

- Ballistics/safety vest
- Ammunition
- Weapons
- Police vehicle
- Camera systems
- Controlled Access System
- Fencing
- Badging system
- Other safety equipment
- Travel and registration expenses for SRO training

It is the intent of MDE to award as many grants as funding allows. When there is a discrepancy in the district budget plan (summary and/or narrative) for the grant funding and the specifications of the MCOPS Grant guidelines, the MDE MCOPS Grant guidelines will be the rule.

Applicants should be aware that funds must be used in a manner consistent with all requirements of the statute and must be used only to supplement, not supplant, any federal, state, local, or

non-federal funds available to support activities.

All Grantees' budgets must meet the following requirements:

- MCOPS grant funds are to be used for certified SROs or those that will complete the MDE/NASRO SRO certification course within two (2) years of employment in that position.
- Local funds are to be matched on a 50/50 basis in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-82.
- Funds must be obligated by June 30, 2027, and liquidated by July 13, 2027.
- Each Grantee shall agree to meet the requirements of this MCOPS Grant opportunity.
- Grantees shall attend an MCOPS Grant orientation.
- A one (1) time payment to districts will be disbursed electronically from MDE.
- Grantee shall agree to deploy the SRO in accordance with the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that must be submitted with the grant agreement. The MOU shall be signed by the Superintendent and the Chief law enforcement representative.

7.2 Responsibilities of A Fiscal Agent

The following are some of the expectations, roles, and responsibilities of a fiscal agent:

1. As the official Subgrantee, all awards must be adopted by the Local Board of Education for LEAs or the Board of Directors for non-LEAs.
2. Administer the subgrant from award to closeout in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.
3. Serve as the Subgrantee representative and point-of-contact for all business management aspects of the award agreement.
4. Apply appropriate management controls using management systems, checklists, and records, including, but not limited to:
 - **Internal Controls**
 - Safeguard assets; ensure reliability of accounting data and subgrant terms and conditions
 - **Operating Controls**
 - Fiduciary procedural manuals; budgetary control
 - **Accounting Controls**
 - Implement controls to ensure reliability of recorded financial data;
 - Maintain appropriate level of transaction review and authorization;
 - Develop and implement proper procurement procedures and cash management procedures that are well defined; and
 - Develop procedures that facilitate timely review and audit of financial activity.
 - **Compliance Controls**

- Consider mechanisms to monitor and review compliance with subgrant terms (i.e., ensure grant funds are disbursed only to eligible Subgrantees);
 - Ensure **all** expenditures and disbursements are consistent with the objectives of the subgrant award and comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations governing the program and use of funds.
- **Document Control System**
 - Develop written documentation of adequate internal operating and accounting controls that demonstrate evidence of controls related to grant compliance.
5. Assemble appropriate staff resources and communicate all compliance requirements and resources of the subgrant.
 6. Keep abreast of changes in policies, procedures or requirements and continue to advise program staff of subgrant requirements.
 7. Request any further “prior approvals” when identified.
 8. Submit subgrant reimbursement requests no later than June 30, 2027, with liquidations by July 13, 2027.
 - **Eligibility of Expenditures**
 - Adhere to the list of eligible activities for which funds under the program may be spent, as well as allowable cost objectives in applicable cost principles; and
 - Ensure that transactions are made in a reasonable and prudent manner, are allowable and allocable, and avoid double charging and ensure that credits are applied appropriately.
 9. Prepare necessary reports:
 - **Source Documentation**
 - Appropriately support transactions entered into the Subgrantee’s system
 - Documentation tracks each subgrant transaction and supports the validity of financial data reported; and
 - Maintain separate funding lines for funds
 - **Audit Trail**
 - The lowest level of detail the system should provide is documentation that supports all transactions (e.g., invoices, contracts, purchase orders);
 - The overall recordkeeping system should be able to trace financial statement balances through the Subgrantee’s general ledger, cash books and other journals; and
 - Amounts claimed on financial statements and reports accurately reflect the accounting books and records from which they were prepared.
 10. Use feedback from site visits by the MDE to enhance the program, show Subgrantee’s strength and demonstrate commitment to the project.
 11. Keep the MDE and the public aware and informed about grant project progress.
 12. Evaluate the extent to which measurable project objectives are being met.
 13. Liquidate all obligations incurred under the award within the set deadline.

14. Ensure and oversee the performance of final audits and resolution of findings.
15. Establish adequate system for records retention.

7.3 Audit

Please note that the Subgrantee is required to, **if applicable**, have the financial and compliance audits conducted in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1966 and 2 C.F.R. Part 200 Subpart F – Audit Requirements. Any non-federal entity that expends \$750,000 or more in a year in federal awards shall have a single or program specific audit conducted for that year in accordance with the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200 Subpart F. If the non-federal entity did not expend \$750,000 or more in a year in federal awards, a letter **MUST** be provided stating that this requirement does not apply.

The financial audit shall be conducted by a certified public accountant or by an accountant certified as qualified to audit local government accounts. The audits must be performed in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards (GAAS) and the financial statements must be prepared in conformity with general accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

Application For MCOPS FY27 (2026-2027)

1. Eligibility

The awarded Grantees must adhere and certify to all eligibility requirements as listed in Section 1.2 and all SRO requirements regarding Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-321 and Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-323 (pg. 5) of the RFA to meet the criteria as this will determine eligibility for the application. **YES** _____ **NO** _____

The awarded Grantees shall follow all SRO requirements regarding Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-82. The Grantees must adhere and certify to all eligibility requirements as listed in Section 2.1 (pg. 5-6) of the RFA to meet the criteria as this will determine eligibility for the application. **YES** _____ **NO** _____

The awarded Grantees must agree to the listed requirements and certify the following criteria to submit an application for these services. Grantees will adhere and certify to all eligibility requirements as listed in Section 2. (pg. 5) of the RFA to meet the criteria as this will determine eligibility for the application. **YES** _____ **NO** _____

2. Priority Points 0-30

Priority points will be awarded to school districts based on the criteria and documentation listed below:

- 1) New School District Police Department formed in last 12 months – **10 points** **YES** _____ **NO** _____ (Shall provide School Board Minutes)
- 2) New SRO Programs formed in last 12 months - **10 points** **YES** _____ **NO** _____ (Shall provide School Board Minutes)
- 3) School Districts that have never been awarded a grant – **10 points**. **YES** _____ **NO** _____

3. Grant Award and Responsibilities

Grantees will adhere and certify to all eligibility requirements as listed in Section 7 (pg. 13) of the RFA to meet the criteria as this will determine eligibility for the application. **YES** _____ **NO** _____

4. Use of Funds

Grantees will adhere and certify to all eligibility requirements as listed in Section 7.1 (pg. 13) of the RFA to meet the criteria as this will determine eligibility for the application. **YES** _____ **NO** _____

5. Threat Assessment Form

Complete the Threat Assessment form for **ALL** school campuses in the school district in the MCOPS grant application. There will only be one (1) District application, but there **multiple threat assessment forms**.

MCOPS INDIVIDUAL CAMPUS THREAT ASSESSMENT

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

Please use this form for <u>ALL</u> school campuses in the school district for the MCOPS grant application. There will only be one (1) District application, but there may be multiple individual campus information worksheets.	School District:		
	School Name:		
1. How many School Resource Officers (SRO's) are on this campus?	Name/s:		
2. How many Campus Enforcement Officers (CEO's) are on this campus?	Name/s:		
3. Are the SRO's shared between other campuses? Name campuses:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
	How many campuses are shared?		
4. If the answer to question #3 is <u>YES</u> , what is the average response time between campuses?			
5. What grade level(s) are served at this campus?			
6. How many students and staff members are present on this campus?	Students	Staff	Total
7. What is the estimated response time for local law enforcement to this campus if additional law enforcement resources are needed?			
8. How many incidents requiring an arrest have occurred on this campus in the past 12 months?			
9. How many out of school suspensions have occurred on this campus in the past 12 months?			

Form 2
ASSURANCES
(Please read carefully before signing)

The Applicant hereby assures that as a Subgrantee, in accordance with the statute, the Applicant submitting this application shall comply with the following:

Certain terms and conditions are required for receiving grants from the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE); therefore, the Subgrantee will agree to the items that follow.

- A. The Subgrantee shall be an equal opportunity employer and shall perform to all other applicable requirements; accordingly, the Subgrantee shall neither discriminate nor permit discrimination in its operation or employment practices against any person or group of persons on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, disability, or sex in any manner prohibited by law. Further, the Subgrantee agrees to comply with the Civil Rights Acts of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Every Student Succeeds Act
- B. The Subgrantee agrees that the MDE, or any of its duly authorized representatives, at any time during the term of this agreement, shall have access to, and the right to audit examine any pertinent books, documents, papers, and records of Subgrantee related to Subgrantee charges and performance under this agreement. The Subgrantee shall keep such records for a period of five years after final payment under this agreement, unless the MDE authorizes their earlier disposition. Subgrantee agrees to refund to the MDE any overpayments disclosed by any such audit. However, if any litigation, claim, negotiation, audit, or other action involving the records has been started before the expiration of the five-year period, the records shall be retained until completion of the action and resolution of all issues that arise from it.
- C. The Subgrantee assures that it possesses legal authority to apply for and to receive funds under this agreement.
- D. The Subgrantee certifies they have not been barred from contracting or otherwise doing business with the State or Federal Governments.
- E. This agreement shall not be modified, altered, or changed except by mutual agreement by representative(s) of each party to this agreement, and must be confirmed in writing through MDE grant modification procedures.
- F. The Subgrantee shall perform all services as an independent grantee and shall discharge all of its liabilities as such. No act performed or representation made, whether oral or written, by the Subgrantee with respect to third parties shall be binding on the MDE.
- G. The MDE, by written notice, may terminate the grant, in whole or in part, if funds supporting the grant are reduced or withdrawn. To the extent that the grant is for services, and if so terminated, the MDE shall be liable only for payment in accordance with payment provisions of the grant for services rendered prior to the effective date of termination. The MDE, by written notice, may terminate the application for nonperformance of the applicant at any time during the term of the program. The Subgrantee agrees that work, data, etc. created under the auspices of the program shall be turned over to the MDE upon such termination. The MDE, in whole or in part, may terminate the program for cause by written notification. Furthermore, the MDE and the Subgrantee may terminate the agreement, in whole or in part, upon mutual agreement. Either

the Mississippi Department of Education or the awardee may terminate this agreement at any time by giving written notice to the other party of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof. The Subgrantee shall be paid an amount which bears the same ratio to the total compensation as the services actually performed bear to the total services of the contractor covered by the agreement, less payments of compensation previously made.

- H. This agreement, and all matters or issues collateral to it, shall be governed by, and constructed in accordance with, the laws of the State of Mississippi.
- I. Subgrantee shall not assign or sub-grant in whole or in part, its rights or obligations under this agreement without prior written consent of MDE. Any attempted assignments without said consent shall be void and of no effect.

Superintendent/Executive Director/Fiscal Agent Signature

Date

Chief Law Enforcement Representatives Signature

Date

Form 3

STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Certain terms and conditions are required for contracting. Therefore, the Applicant shall assure agreement and compliance with the following standard terms and conditions.

1. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

It is expressly understood and agreed that the obligation of the MDE to proceed under this agreement is conditioned upon the appropriation of funds by the Mississippi State Legislature and the receipt of appropriated funds. If the funds anticipated for the continuing time fulfillment of the agreement are, at any time, not forthcoming or insufficient, regardless of the source of funding, the MDE shall the right upon 10 business days written notice to Contractor, to terminate this agreement without damage, penalty, cost, or expense to the MDE of any kind whatsoever. The effective date of the termination shall be as specified in the notice of termination.

2. CHANGES

This agreement shall not be modified, altered, or changed, except by mutual agreement by an authorized representative(s) of each party to this agreement, and must be confirmed in writing through MDE grant modification procedures.

3. INDEPENDENT SUBGRANTEE

The Subgrantee shall perform all services as an independent Subgrantee and shall discharge all of its liabilities as such. No act performed or representation made, whether oral or written, by Subgrantee with respect to third parties shall be binding on the MDE.

4. TERMINATION

The MDE, by written notice, may terminate this grant, in whole or in part, if funds supporting this grant are reduced or withdrawn. To the extent that this grant is for services, and if so terminated, the MDE shall be liable only for payment in accordance with payment provisions of this grant for services rendered prior to the effective date of termination.

The MDE, in whole or in part, may terminate this grant for cause by written notification. Furthermore, the MDE and the Subgrantee may terminate this grant, in whole or in part, upon mutual agreement.

Either the MDE or the Subgrantee may terminate this agreement at any time by giving 30 days written notice to the other party of such termination and specifying the effective date thereof. The Subgrantee shall be paid an amount which bears the same ratio to the total compensation as the services actually performed to the total services of the Subgrantee covered by the agreement, less payments of compensation previously made.

5. ACCESS TO RECORDS

The Subgrantee agrees that the MDE, or any of its duly authorized representatives, at any time during the term of this agreement, shall have access to, and the right to audit and examine any pertinent books, documents, papers, and records of Subgrantee related to Subgrantee's charges and performance under this agreement. Such records shall be kept by Subgrantee for a period of five (5) years after final payment under this agreement, unless the MDE authorized their earlier disposition. Subgrantee agrees to refund to the MDE any overpayments disclosed by any such audit. However, if any litigation, claim, negotiation, audit, or other action involving the records has been started before the expiration of the 5-year period, the records shall be retained until

completion of the action and resolution off all issues which arise from it.

6. LAWS

This agreement, and all matters or issues collateral to it, shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of Mississippi.

7. LEGAL AUTHORITY

The Subgrantee assures that it possesses legal authority to apply for and receive funds under this agreement.

8. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

The Subgrantee shall be an equal opportunity employer and shall perform to applicable requirements; accordingly, Subgrantee shall neither discriminate nor permit discrimination in its operations or employment practices against any person or group of persons on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, disability, or sex in any manner prohibited by law.

9. COPYRIGHTS

The Subgrantee: (i) agrees that the MDE shall determine the disposition to title to and the rights under any copyright by Subgrantee or employees on copyrightable material first produced or composed under this agreement; and, (ii) hereby grants to the MDE a royalty free, nonexclusive, irrevocable license to reproduce, translate, publish, use and dispose of, to authorize others to do so, all copyrighted or copyrightable work not first produced or composed by Subgrantee in the performance of this agreement, but which is incorporated in the material furnished under the agreement, provided that such license shall be only to the extent Subgrantee now has, or prior to the completion or full final settlements of agreement may acquire, the right to grant such license without becoming liable to pay compensation to other solely because of such grant.

Subgrantee further agrees that all material produced and/or delivered under this grant will not, to the best of the Subgrantee's knowledge, infringe upon the copyright or any other proprietary rights of any third party. Should any aspect of the materials become, or in the Subgrantee's opinion be likely to become, the subject of an infringement claim or suite, the Subgrantee shall procure the rights to such material or replace or modify the material to make it non-infringing.

10. PERSONNEL

Subgrantee agrees that, at all times, the employees of Subgrantee furnishing or performing any of the services specified under this agreement shall do so in a proper, workmanlike and dignified manner.

11. SURRENDER OF EQUIPMENT

Subgrantee and MDE shall jointly conduct a closing inventory and Subgrantee shall replace or repair all equipment lost, damaged, or destroyed to make up any deficiency between the opening and closing inventories. Subgrantee shall transfer all equipment per MDE's guidance and written instructions.

12. ASSIGNMENT

Subgrantee shall not assign or subgrant in whole or in part, its rights or obligations under this agreement without prior written consent of the MDE. Any attempted assignment without said consent shall be void and of no effect.

13. MISSISSIPPI ETHICS

It is the responsibility of the Subgrantee to ensure that subcontractors comply with the Mississippi Ethics Law in regard to any conflict of interest. A statement attesting to said compliance shall be on file by the Subgrantee.

Superintendent/Executive Director/Fiscal Agent Signature

Date

Chief Law Enforcement Representatives Signature

Date

Form 4

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE PAGE

STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS

I have **read** and **agree** to comply with the Standard Terms and Conditions. I certify that the contents of this application, if funded, will be followed for the implementation of the grant award described herein. *Signatures of the Superintendent, Executive Director, Agency Head, and/or Fiscal Agent on this page must match the signatures on the cover page. A representative from each partnering agency must sign the assurances. Failure to sign the above assurances will result in the rejection of the application.*

ASSURANCES

By signing below, the Subgrantee hereby certifies and assures that the school district/entity submitting this document shall comply with MDE Assurances and Certifications in accordance with state and federal regulations requirements, and MDE policy and requirements pertaining to this program. The Subgrantee certifies further that the information submitted on this is true and correct.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM

Each Applicant must disclose any personal, business, or volunteer affiliations that may give rise to a real or apparent conflict of interest. The purpose of this form is to help MDE identify the actual or potential conflict and ensure the avoidance where necessary. Please complete and sign the form below as it relates to a conflict of interest within the program activities. **(Must choose one option below)**

- I **have no** conflict of interest to report.
- I **have** the following conflict of interest(s) to report. Please describe any relationships, transactions, positions you hold (volunteer or otherwise), or circumstances that you believe could contribute to a conflict of interest:

I certify that the information set forth above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I agree that if I become aware of any information that might indicate that this disclosure is inaccurate, I will notify MDE immediately.

Superintendent/Executive Director/Fiscal Agent

Date

Title of Authorized Person

FORM 5
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF AMENDMENTS

The Question-and-Answer amendment shall be signed, if issued. The Question-and-Answer amendment will be posted on the MDE [website](#) under “Public Notice” RFP/RFQ/RFA/Invitation to Bid section. It is the sole responsibility of all interested applicants to monitor the MDE website for updates regarding any amendments to the solicitations.

Acknowledgement of Amendments

Request for Information (Q&A)

**Mississippi Community Oriented Policing Services in Schools (MCOPS) Grant
FY27 (2026-2027)**

NOTE: This amendment one is hereby made a part of the Mississippi Department of Education's Request for Proposals/Applications/Qualifications. The Vendor acknowledges receipt of said amendment and is made aware of the changes contained therein. By signing this form, the Offeror accepts the changes as part of the contract requirements.

Authorized Signature

Date

Printed Name

Form 6
COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE FOR MCOPS GRANT RECIPIENTS
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027 (SCHOOL YEAR 2026 – 2027)

The _____ School District was in receipt of the Mississippi Community Oriented Policing Services in School (MCOPS) Grant award in the amount of \$ _____ for Fiscal Year 2026 (2025-2026 school year).

OR

The _____ School District was **NOT** in receipt of the Mississippi Community Oriented Policing Services in School (MCOPS) Grant award for Fiscal Year 2026 (2025-2026 school year).

The District met all of requirements as outlined in the following sections of this Request for Applications (RFA) and therefore is eligible to apply for MCOPS Grant funding for the Fiscal Year 2027 (school year 2026-2027) through this competitive RFA process.

Section 2:

The District complies with eligibility criteria outlined in Miss. Code Ann. § 37-3-82 and Miss. Code Ann. § 37-7-323; is in good standing with the Mississippi Department of Education regarding all current and/or previous grant awards; and complies with all applicable program activities outlined on in this Request for Application.

Section 7.1:

The District complies with Use of Funds as outlined in Section 7.1 of this Request for Application.

Section 7.1:

The District met all Budget Requirements as outlined in Section 7.1 of this Request for Application.

Section 7.2:

The District met all Responsibilities of the Fiscal Agent as outlined in Section 7.2 of this Request for Application.

Superintendent's Signature

Date

Law Enforcement Representative's Signature

Date

All districts are subject to an audit to verify compliance with all requirements of this Request for Application.

Form 7 SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER TRAINING LOG

Please use this form for **EACH** Officer included in the MCOPS grant application. There will only be one (1) District application, but there may be multiple Officer information worksheets.

Officer's Name: _____

Training hours must fall within the time frame of **January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026**

The School Resource Officer Training Log submitted with the application due at 2:00 p.m., CST, on **Monday, March 30, 2026**, shall include all training hours obtained by SROs through the date of submission. All training should be documented by attaching a class certificate.

All awarded Grantees for school year 2026-2027 will be required to submit a **revised** SRO signed training log if they did not have the required hours **upon submission** of the grant. Failure to submit a revised **Form 7** by **5:00 p.m., CST, Friday, January 29, 2027**, will result in the district being non-compliant with the specifications of the MCOPS grant, and the districts will not be awarded funding for the next grant period.

Previous MCOPS Grantees (SROs) must have **at least 40 hours of required MDE approved training.**

Form 8

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER INFORMATION SHEET

Please use this form for **EACH** Law Enforcement Officer included in the MCOPS grant application. **There will only be (1) District application, but there may be multiple Law Enforcement Officer information worksheets.**

District Name: _____

Law Enforcement Officer Name: _____

Law Enforcement Standard and Training Number: _____

Law Enforcement Officer is employed by: District/Sheriff/Police Department

Law Enforcement Officer Immediate Supervisor's Name: _____

Immediate Supervisor's Contact Info: _____

Law Enforcement Officer has completed MDE/NASRO, SRO Basic Course? Yes/No

If yes, please add the date of completion: _____

Law Enforcement Officer has completed Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT) Level 1 (Active Shooter) within the last three years? Yes/No

Date of ALERRT Certificate and location of instruction: _____

Which Agency holds the Law Enforcement Certification from Mississippi Law Enforcement Standards and Training? _____

School(s) Assigned to this Law Enforcement Officer: _____

Form 9

General Budget Instructions

Budget Overview, Narrative, and Summary

All Applicants must submit a *Budget Overview, Budget and a Budget Summary with their Application.*

When determining the amount to be requested for school districts, please consider the need and the number of students to be served. All Applicants must submit a budget and sustainability plan, if applicable.

Allowable Expenses

Project funds must be used for activities that directly support the accomplishment of the project purpose, priorities, and expected outcomes. All expenditures must be consistent with applicable state and federal laws, regulations, and guidance.

Applicants must list all budgetary costs based upon the narrative components and program design and ensure that the budget includes a line-item description for every allowable cost necessary to carry out the goals and objectives of the proposed program. It is advisable to consult with the financial office of the applying agency prior to submitting the application.

Successful Subgrantees may use grant funds for allowable costs only during the grant award period. **Any costs occurring outside the grant award period are solely the responsibility of the Subgrantee and will not be reimbursed by the MDE.**

Instructions for Budget Forms:

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

You may request an amount equal to or less than the first year for additional years, if applicable. Pay attention to applicable program specific instructions given in the solicitation.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

Budget Overview Form A (REQUIRED)

All Applicants must complete Form A and provide an overview to support the budget that is presented as part of this solicitation. This overview must address all components listed, if applicable.

BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget Summary Form B (REQUIRED)

Applicant must complete **Form B** and provide a breakdown by the applicable budget categories shown.

BUDGET NARRATIVE

Budget Narrative Form C for Year One Only (REQUIRED)

Please pay attention to applicable program specific instructions and allowable expenditures.

1. Provide an itemized budget breakdown for each applicable budget category listed in the budget summary pages.
2. Provide the rate and base on which fringe benefits are calculated.

3. Provide other explanations or comments you deem necessary.
4. Administrative and indirect cost rates for non-profits are to be handled according to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Uniform Guidance: Cost Principles, Audit, and Administrative Requirements for Federal Awards and in accordance with the governing authority of that specific non-profit.
5. There is a 20% cap on administrative costs.
6. Enter the indirect cost rate that will be in effect during the funding period. Use the restricted rate. In addition, enter the estimated amount of the base to which the rate is applied, and the total indirect expense.

END OF PAGE

Form A

Budget Overview

Provide a brief and concise narrative on the following:

- a. Describe how the items within the budget support the goals of the MCOPS program.**

- b. Describe how the requested funds will be allocated for accomplishing tasks and activities described in the MCOPS application.**

- c. Describe how the major costs indicated on the Budget Summary will be reasonable and necessary in relation to the number of participants to be served to the scope of the MCOPS project, and its anticipated outcomes.**

FORM B
Mississippi Department of Education

FY2027

Projected Budget Summaries

BUDGET SUMMARY PAGE
Mississippi Community Oriented Policing Services in Schools
(MCOPS) Grant

Fund Number:2026-2027

Name of Institution/Applicant:

Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grants should complete all applicable columns, if applicable. Please read all instructions before completing form.

BUDGET SUMMARY – FORM B

Budget Categories	Project Year 2026-2027	Match Total
1. Personnel (Non-Administrative)		
2. Administration (Not more than # of allocation)		
3. Fringe Benefits		
4. Travel		
5. Equipment		
6. Supplies		
7. Contractual		
8. Other (Specify)		
9. Total Cost (lines 1-8)		

FORM C
BUDGET NARRATIVE
Fiscal Year 2027 (School Year 2026-2027)

Use the Budget Narrative form to provide a complete budget narrative **for year 1 of the project**. On this page, please provide a **brief but detailed** budget narrative that explains the following, if applicable: (1) the basis for estimating the costs of professional personnel salaries, administrative costs, benefits, project staff travel, materials and supplies, consultants, indirect costs, and any projected expenditures and (2) how the major cost items relate to the proposed activities and how these activities will help students achieve higher standards. This information should include a **detailed** description of the costs included, sufficient to document the **necessity and reasonableness** of **all** costs, and **clear and concise description** of the computations used to arrive at the total amounts indicated. This page may be reproduced as needed.

Applicant Name _____

CATEGORY/ACTIVITY	AMOUNT	GENERAL DESCRIPTION
1. PERSONNEL (NON-ADMINISTRATIVE) *PLEASE INCLUDE THE NUMBER OF PERSONNEL.		
2. FRINGE BENEFITS		
3. CONTRACTUAL SERVICES		
4.SUBTOTAL FOR EACH PAGE		
GRANT TOTAL		

Applicant Signature: _____ Page _____ of _____

FORM D
BUDGET NARRATIVE (Matching Funds)
Fiscal Year 2027 (School Year 2026-2027)

Use the Budget Narrative form to provide a complete budget narrative **for year 1 of the project**. On this page, please provide a **brief but detailed** budget narrative that explains the following, if applicable: (1) SRO travel for training, SRO training, SRO equipment, school safety equipment, safety materials and supplies, and indirect costs, and (2) how the major cost items relate to the proposed activities and how these activities will help students achieve higher standards. This information should include a **detailed** description of the costs included, sufficient to document the **necessity and reasonableness** of **all** costs, and **clear and concise description** of the computations used to arrive at the total amounts indicated. This page may be reproduced as needed. **Attention: Matching funds cannot be used for salaries or fringe benefits.**

Applicant Name _____

CATEGORY/ACTIVITY	AMOUNT	GENERAL DESCRIPTION
1. Travel		
2. Equipment		
3. Supplies		
4. Other (Specify)		
5. Subtotal for Each Page		
6. GRANT TOTAL		

Applicant Signature: _____ Page _____ of _____

END OF DOCUMENT