



From Need to Funding: Find the Right Grant and How to Write a Successful Proposal

From the Perspective of Grant Reviewers

Objectives



Identify the key components of identifying the need



Identify and evaluate grant funding opportunities



Develop the foundational elements of a grant proposal,



Apply grant writing best practices (hands on)

General Grant Terms

NOFO – Notice of Funding Opportunity

FOA – Funding Opportunity Announcement

RFA – Request for Applications

RFP – Request for Proposals

RFQ – Request for Qualifications

LOI – Letter of Intent

NOI – Notice of Intent

SOW – Statement of Work

PWS – Performance Work Statement

SOO – Statement of Objectives

MOU – Memorandum of Understanding

MOA – Memorandum of Agreement

BAA – Broad Agency Announcement

Bullying Prevention Grant



Notice of Funding Opportunity Bullying Prevention Training

Application Due Date: *April 24, 2026*

Issued By
The Nevada Department of Education
Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment^{LDB}
(OSRLE)

Funding Period:	July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027
Funds Available:	\$ 15,000.00
Source of Funding:	State of Nevada General Fund
Type of Grant:	<i>Competitive</i>
Submission:	<i>Email</i>

Parts of Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Eligible Applicants

This request for a new funding application is open to all Nevada public school districts and charter schools.

Goals and Priorities

This request for funding must be used for one of the following activities:

1. The establishment of programs to create a school environment that is free from bullying, cyberbullying and discrimination based on race.
2. Providing training on the policies adopted by the district to prevent bullying, cyberbullying, and discrimination based on race.
3. The development and implementation of procedures that allow students and staff to discuss bullying, cyberbullying, and discrimination based on race and the policies surrounding bullying, cyberbullying and discrimination based on race.

Think • Talk • Share

Building a Strong Need Statement

THINK

- Identify one priority school safety need
- What is the issue?
 - What evidence supports it?
 - Why now?
- Create a project title

TALK

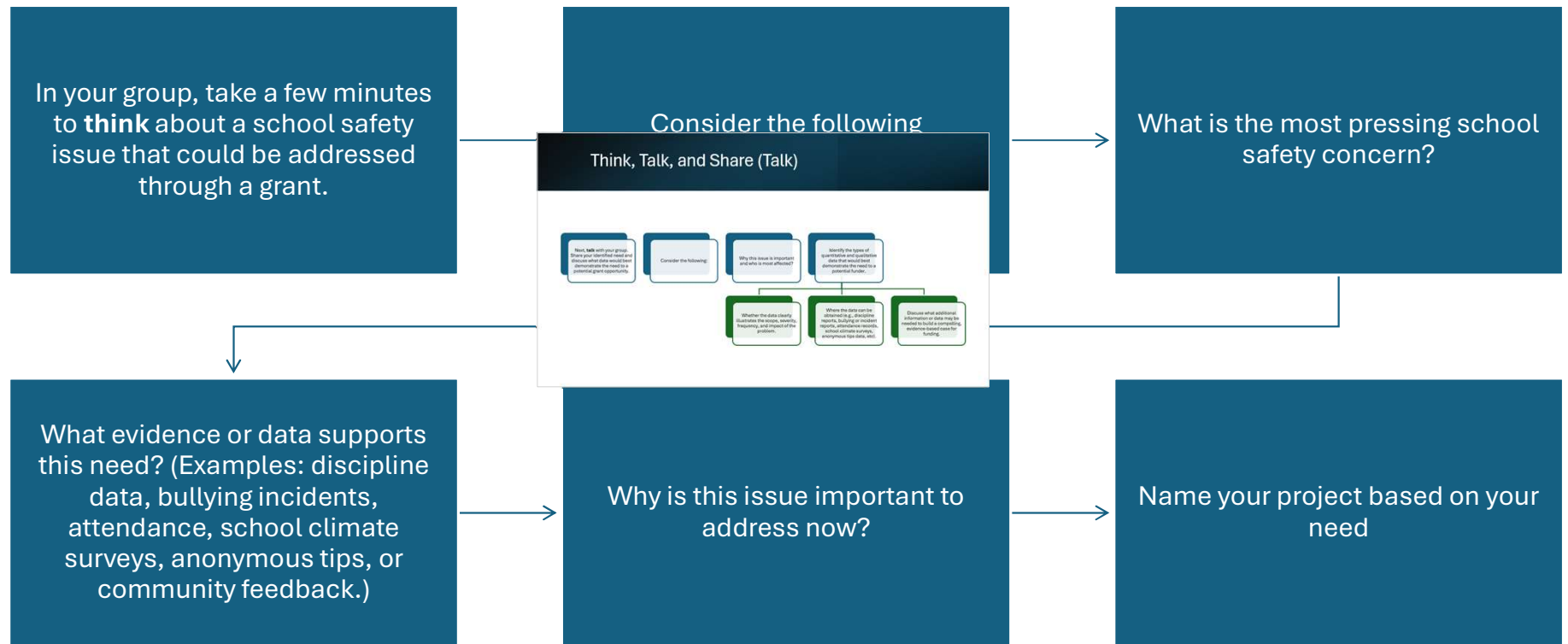
- Discuss your ideas
- Who is affected?
 - What data best demonstrates the need?
- Where can the data be found?
- What additional information is needed?

SHARE

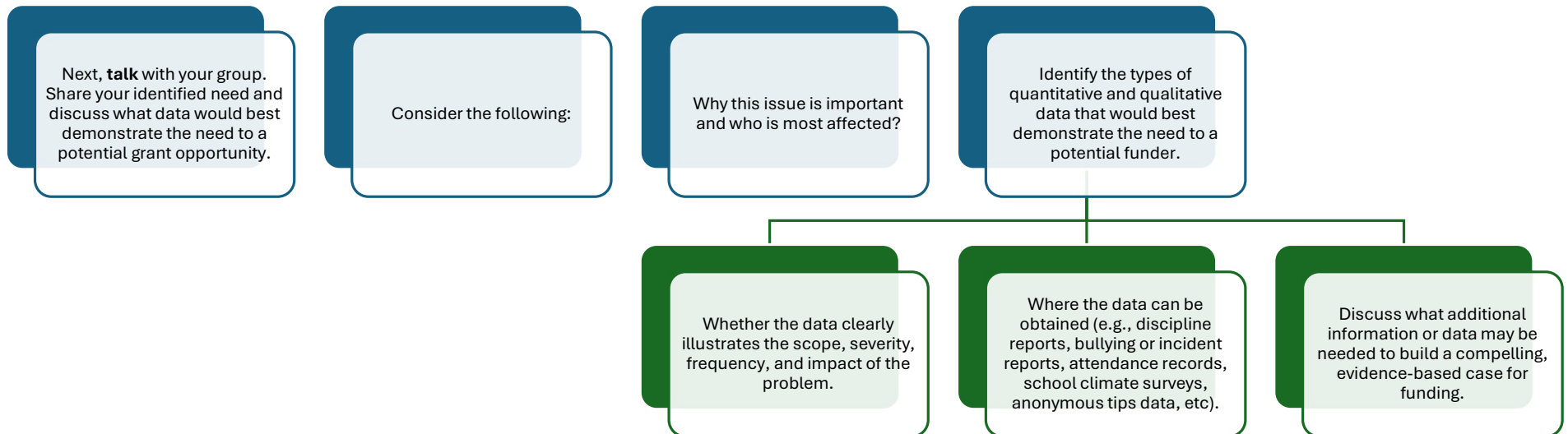
- One priority need
- One compelling data point
 - Explain why that evidence would convince a reviewer

Remember: Strong grant proposals begin with a clearly defined need supported by credible evidence.

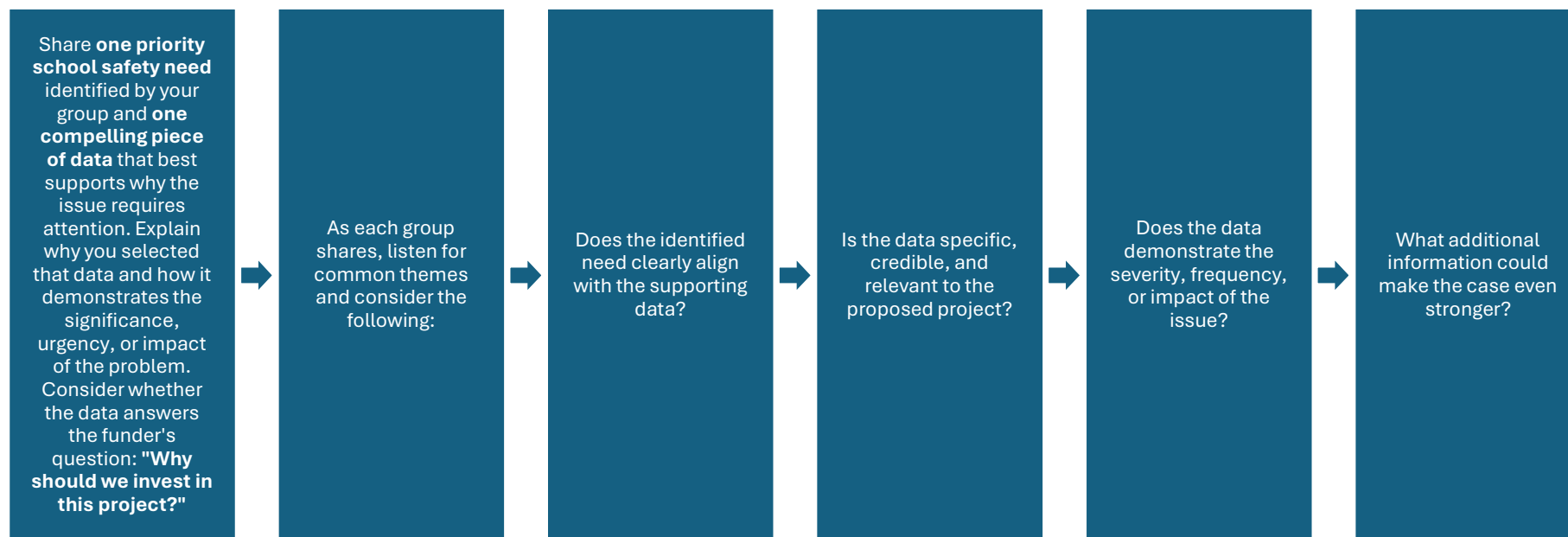
Think, Talk, and Share (Think)



Think, Talk, and Share (Talk)



Think, Talk, and Share (Share)



Now What?



Finding Grant Opportunities



State agency websites



Private funders



Professional networks

Types of Grants

Grant Type	Competitive?	Key Feature
Competitive	✓	Best proposals receive funding through a merit review.
Non-Competitive	✗	Awarded based on eligibility, not competition.
Formula	✗	Funds distributed using a statutory formula.
Discretionary	✓	Funding agency selects recipients based on priorities and review scores.
Continuation	Usually ✗	Additional funding for an existing award based on satisfactory performance.
Renewal	Sometimes ✓	New funding period for a previously funded project; may require reapplication.
Pass-Through	Varies	Funds are distributed by an intermediary, such as a state agency.
Matching	Varies	Requires the recipient to contribute a portion of project costs.
Planning	Varies	Supports project design and readiness activities.
Implementation	Varies	Supports carrying out an approved project or program.

Evaluate the Grant Funding Opportunity

Eligibility

Requirements

NOFO Priorities -Objectives

Support or supplant?

Questionnaire/Assessment Criteria

Evaluation Rubric

Award Size

Grant Period of Performance

Cost matching

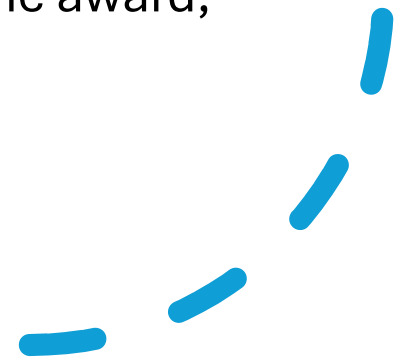
Required Documents/Attachments

Timeline (Due date of the application submission, performance period)

How to apply (technical assistance/ webinar)

Developing the Foundational Elements of a Grant Proposal

- Compelling Problem Statement
- Goals/Objective/Priorities
- Scope of Work (realistic implementation, support or supplant?)
- Questions/Criteria
- Evaluation/Rubric
- Data (Qualitative, quantitative)
- Budget Proposal
 - Direct, indirect, coding, size of the award, cost matching? Etc.)
- Implementation Timeline
- Sustainability



The Reviewers' Perspective

What Makes a Proposal Stand Out?

- Alignment with the Funding Priorities/Goals
- A compelling Statement of the Problem
- A clearly Defined Goals
 - SMART
- Strong and Realistic Project Design (Scope of Work)
- Organizational capacity
- Budget, justified by the budget narrative
- Project Evaluation Plan
- Plan for Sustainability
- Cross Collaboration among Agencies, Stakeholders, etc.
- Compliance with the Funding Requirements (timeline, number of pages, font and style)
- Overall Quality

Foundations of a Proposal

DO

Follow instructions as provided

Target approved grant priorities

Align with the funder's mission

Use the proper forms

DON'T

Don't alter the requested structure

Don't submit a generic template

Writing with Clarity and Impact

DO

Use clear, active language

Write for a generalized audience

DON'T

Don't use dense jargon

Don't make unsubstantiated claims

Realism and Transparency

DO

Be realistic

Show future sustainability plans

DON'T

Don't guess budget numbers

Don't hide organizational weaknesses

Don't beg

The Final Review

DO

Use clear, data-driven evidence

Proofread

Use AI as a tool

DON'T

Don't submit at the last minute

Use AI to write your proposal

Do's and Dont's Summary

Do	Don't
Follow the instructions as provided	Don't alter the requested structure
Target the approved grant priorities	Don't submit a generic template
Align with the funder's mission	Don't guess budget numbers
Use clear, data driven evidence	Don't submit at the last minute
Write for a generalized audience	Don't hide organizational weaknesses
Use Clear Active Language	Don't use dense jargon
Be realistic	Don't Make unsubstantiated claims
Show future sustainability plans	Don't beg
Proofread	

Hands-On Activity: Problem Statements

Group Breakout Exercise

1. Review the BPTG NOFO criteria in your packet.
2. Identify a critical school safety need.
3. Select one compelling piece of local data.
4. Use the formula on the right to draft your statement.

The 3-Sentence Formula

Sentence 1: *[Target Population]* in our community is currently experiencing *[Specific Issue]*.

Sentence 2: This is evidenced by recent data showing *[Insert Metric / Percentage]*.

Sentence 3: If left unaddressed without intervention, this will result in *[Severe Outcome]*.

Phase 1: Setting S.M.A.R.T. Objectives

S

Specific

Target precise growth areas

M

Measurable

Establish clear math metrics

A

Achievable

Keep project scope realistic

R

Relevant

Align directly to NDE priorities

T

Time-Bound

Set clear, firm deadlines

Real-World Application Example:

"By June 2027, participating schools will reduce disciplinary referrals for bullying by 15% using our grant funded program."

Phase 2: Critical Budget Mistakes to Avoid

1. Uncoordinated Activities

Never request funds for hardware, software, or personnel items completely omitted from your project narrative text.

2. Missing Justifications

Avoid asking for exact dollar allocations without clearly detailing the specific reasons why the resource is required.

3. Unrealistic Expectations

Keep financial funding requests tightly aligned to local implementation limits and team organizational capacities.

4. Unsupported Calculations

Always detail baseline mathematical calculations explicitly for staff wages, fringe percentages, and vendor quotes.

Ready to Submit?

MANAGE WORKSPACE

 ED-GRANT-26-056 - PKG00292946
School Safety Enhancement
Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

Created

Fill Out Forms

Complete and Notify AOR

Submit

Agency Received

«Back

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Application Filing Name: NV School Safety [\[Edit Name\]](#)
Workspace ID: WS01716082
AOR Status: Workspace has AOR
Workspace Owner: Christine M McGill

Workspace Status: In Progress
Last Submitted Date: ---
SAM Expiration Date: Jan 06, 2027

Opening Date: May 27, 2026
Closing Date: Jul 28, 2026
UEI: YS25ACDZ1YN3

- FORMS
- VIEW APPLICATION
- ATTACHMENTS
- PARTICIPANTS
- ACTIVITY
- DETAILS

Workspace Actions:

Check Application

Complete and Notify AOR

Delete

Application Package Forms - Users are encouraged to follow [antivirus best practices](#) when Downloading Instructions and Forms:

[Download Instructions »](#)

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Include in Package	Form Name (Click to Edit)	Requirement	Form Status	Last Updated Date/Time	Locked By	Actions
☒	Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) [V4.0]	Mandatory	In Progress [Locked]	Jul 21, 2026 06:03:27 PM EDT	Bryan Walker	Unlock Download Upload Reuse Webform
☒	Grants.gov Lobbying Form [V1.1] READ-ONLY	Mandatory	Passed	---	---	Lock Download Upload Reuse Webform
☒	Other Attachments Form [V1.2]	Mandatory	Passed [Locked]	Jul 20, 2026 05:41:25 PM EDT	Greg Severance	Unlock Download Upload Reuse Webform
☒	Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A) [V1.0]	Mandatory	Passed [Locked]	Jul 21, 2026 01:41:48 PM EDT	Bryan Walker	Unlock Download Upload Reuse Webform
☒	Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424B) [V1.1] READ-ONLY	Mandatory	Passed	---	---	Lock Download Upload Reuse Webform
☒	Project/Performance Site Location(s) [V4.0]	Mandatory	In Progress [Locked]	---	Greg Severance	Unlock Download Upload Reuse Webform
☒	Project Narrative Attachment Form [V1.2]	Mandatory	In Progress [Locked]	Jul 20, 2026 02:37:37 PM EDT	Greg Severance	Unlock Download Upload Reuse Webform
☒	Project Abstract Summary [V2.0]	Mandatory	In Progress [Locked]	---	Greg Severance	Unlock Download Upload Reuse Webform
☒	Budget Narrative Attachment Form [V1.2]	Mandatory	In Progress [Locked]	---	Greg Severance	Unlock Download Upload Reuse Webform
☒	ED SF424 Supplement [V4.1]	Mandatory	In Progress [Locked]	---	Greg Severance	Unlock Download Upload Reuse Webform
☐	Protection of Human Subjects [V2.0]	Optional	---	---	---	Lock Download Upload Reuse Webform
☐	Key Contacts [V2.0]	Optional	---	---	---	Lock Download Upload Reuse Webform
☐	Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) [V2.0]	Optional	---	---	---	Lock Download Upload Reuse Webform



What Happens Next?

1. Evaluation

Anticipate formal merit panel reviews and compliance scoring ranges.

2. Acceptance

Carefully verify legal award performance conditions before signature.

3. Execution

You are legally bound to carry out the exact project scope submitted.

4. Tracking

Log expenditures, maintain documentation, and submit your reports.

Staying Compliant



Keep Organized Files — Systematically preserve all project notes, vendor invoices, and tracking logs.



Track Deadlines — Program early calendar reminders for intermediate or closing target report metrics.



Monitor Budget Regularly — Audit balance variances monthly to address operational spending deviations early.

Questions & Answers

Thank you for attending! Please feel free to ask any questions.

Contact the NDE-OSRLE School Safety Team

Jeremy Silva

Email:
jeremy.silva@doe.nv.gov

LaNesha Battle

Email:
lanesha.battle@doe.nv.gov

Lexi Kovalovich

Email:
lexi.kovalovich@doe.nv.gov