

CRS Report for Congress

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FY2008 Appropriations for State and Local Homeland Security

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Summary

The Administration's FY2008 budget request could provide approximately \$2.02 billion for state and local homeland security assistance programs — \$985 million less than Congress appropriated for these programs in FY2007 (P.L. 109-295). Major proposed changes include the following: (1) the Administration does not request funding for Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP); instead it requests that \$62.5 million of the \$250 million requested for State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP) and \$200 million of the \$800 million requested for UASI be used for law enforcement terrorism prevention activities; (2) the Administration requests that Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) and Citizen Corps Program (CCP) be the only state and local programs funded using Section 1014 of the USA PATRIOT Act (P.L. 107-56), which guarantees each state a minimum of 0.75% of total appropriations for domestic preparedness programs; and (3) the Administration proposes that SHSGP be a discretionary program, but guarantees each state a minimum of 0.25% of total appropriations for SHSGP. This report will be updated when congressional actions warrant.

This report is an overview of the Administration's FY2008 budget request for the following 11 homeland security programs designed to provide assistance to state and local first responders — firefighters, emergency medical personnel, emergency managers, and law enforcement officers:

- State Homeland Security Grant Program (SHSGP),
- Law Enforcement Terrorist Prevention Program (LETPP),
- Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI),
- Port Security Program,
- Transit Security Program,
- Intercity Bus Security Program,
- Trucking Security Program,
- Buffer Zone Protection,
- Assistance to Firefighters (FIRE),
- Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG), and
- Citizen Corps Program (CCP).

The programs, which are intended to help state and local recipients enhance their preparedness for terrorist attacks and catastrophic events, are administered by the Office for Grants and Training (G&T) in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).¹

The Administration's budget request includes structural proposals for some of these programs. First, the Administration does not request funding for LETPP; instead it requests that \$62.5 million of the \$250 million requested for SHSGP and \$200 million of the \$800 million requested for UASI be used for law enforcement terrorism prevention activities.² This could result in states being allocated \$187.5 million (versus \$525 million in FY2007) for SHSGP activities, and high-threat, high-density urban areas being allocated \$600 million (versus \$770 million in FY2007) for UASI activities. Second, the Administration requests that EMPG and CCP be the only state and local programs funded using Section 1014 of the USA PATRIOT Act (P.L. 107-56), which guarantees each state a minimum of 0.75% of total appropriations for domestic preparedness programs.³ Third, the Administration proposes that SHSGP be a discretionary program, but guarantees each state a minimum of 0.25% of total appropriations for SHSGP.⁴

Table 1 compares the FY2007 appropriations and the Administration's FY2008 budget request for these programs.

¹ Programs not covered include general assistance programs that are authorized for a broad range of public safety activities, such as Justice Assistance Grants and Community Oriented Policing Services. Nor does this report track appropriations for bioterrorism preparedness and National Guard funding.

² U.S. Office of Management and Budget, *Fiscal Year 2008 Budget of the United States Government* (Washington: GPO, Feb. 2007), Appendix, p. 480.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

**Table 1. State and Local Homeland Security Assistance Programs:
FY2007 Appropriations and FY2008 Budget Authority Request**
(amounts in millions)

Program	FY2007 Appropriation	FY2008 Budget Request
State Homeland Security Grant Program	\$525	\$250 ^a
Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program	\$375	—
Urban Area Security Initiative	\$770	\$800 ^b
Port Security Program	\$210	\$210
Transit Security Program	\$175	\$175
Intercity Bus Security Program	\$12	\$12
Trucking Security Program	\$12	\$9
Buffer Zone Protection	\$50	\$50
Assistance to Firefighters	\$662	\$300
Emergency Management Performance Grants	\$200	\$200
Citizen Corps Program	\$15	\$15
Total	\$3,006	\$2,021

Source: P.L. 109-295 (FY2007 DHS appropriations) and U.S. Office of Management and Budget, *Fiscal Year 2008 Budget of the United States Government* (Washington: GPO, Feb. 2007), Appendix, pp. 480-482.

- a. Of the \$250 million requested for SHSGP, \$62.5 million is to be allocated for law enforcement terrorism prevention activities.
- b. Of the \$800 million requested for UASI, \$200 million is to be allocated for law enforcement terrorism prevention activities.

For additional homeland security assistance programs administered by G&T not shown in **Table 1**, the Administration requested the following:

- National Exercise Program — \$50 million;
- State and Local Training Program — \$95 million; and
- Technical Assistance and Evaluation — \$25 million.⁵

⁵ Ibid.