From: EGrants
To: Kent Bauer
Subject: [*EXTERNAL*] - Notice for 2019 SHSP and UASI Subrecipients
Date: Thursday, September 12, 2019 11:11:00 AM
Attachments: image001.png
2019 NCSR Questions_updated.xlsx
Exporting the NCSR Completion Certification.pdf

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Dear HSGD Stakeholders,

You are receiving this email because you are currently conditionally approved to receive grant funding under the 2019 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and/or Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant program. The 2019 Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) included a new requirement for recipients and subrecipients under the 2019 HSGP. This communication serves as formal notification of the new requirement and outlines what each subrecipient must do in order to receive 2019 SHSP or UASI funds.

Requirement

Per the 2019 HSGP notice of funding, recipients and subrecipients of FY 2019 grant awards will be required to complete the 2019 Nationwide Cybersecurity Review (NCSR), enabling agencies to benchmark and measure progress of improving their cybersecurity posture. The Chief Information Officer (CIO), Chief Information Security Officer (CISO), or equivalent for each recipient and subrecipient should complete the NCSR. If there is no CIO or CISO, the most senior cybersecurity professional should complete the assessment. The NCSR is available at no cost to the user and takes approximately 2-3 hours to complete. The 2019 NCSR will be open from October - December 2019. Although this is only a requirement for recipients and subrecipients of FY 2019 SHSP and UASI funds, all State, Local, Tribal, Territorial (SLTT) agencies with preparedness responsibilities are highly encouraged to participate and complete the 2019 NCSR to evaluate their cybersecurity posture.

Per Information Bulletin 439, the Homeland Security Grants Division (HSGD) is required to report completion of the NCSR on the Biannual Strategy Implementation Report (BSIR). HSGD will not have access to any information entered into the NCSR. Additionally, HSGD will not have the ability independently to determine which sub-recipients have completed the NCSR. In order to have the data we need for the BSIR, HSGD will require all sub-recipients to upload a copy of the NCSR completion verification to their grant record in eGrants. Any sub-recipients that do not complete the 2019 NCSR during the window will not be eligible funding under the 2019 HSGP. This will include any future awards that may be made through the reallocation of uncommitted 2019 funds.

Background information on the NCSR

The Nationwide Cybersecurity Review is a no-cost, anonymous, annual self-assessment designed to measure gaps and capabilities of state, local, tribal and territorial governments' cybersecurity programs. It is based on the National Institute of Standards and Technology Cybersecurity Framework (NIST CSF), is sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) & the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC).

The NCSR evaluates cybersecurity maturity across the nation while providing actionable feedback and metrics directly to individual respondents in State, Local, Tribal & Territorial (SLTT) governments.

Using the results of the NCSR, DHS delivers a bi-yearly anonymous summary report to Congress providing a broad picture of the cybersecurity maturity across the SLTT communities.

The window to complete the NCSR is expected to be 10/1/2019 through 12/31/2019. However, it is highly recommended that you initiate the review as early as possible in order to ensure you can complete the review prior to the deadline set by MS-ISAC. HSGD asks that all partners complete the NCSR no later than November 30, 2019, so that compliance of all subrecipients can be confirmed prior to the NCSR deadline.

Registration and Access

To register for the NCSR, go to https://www.cisecurity.org/ms-isac/services/ncsr/ and scroll down. You will find the registration form on the right side of the screen. Once an organization has registered, the user will receive their credentials from noreply@archer.rsa.com.

To access the NCSR portal, please visit the following link: https://grc.archer.rsa.com. The user will then enter their credentials and use the provided Instance Number: 20244.

Please refer to the NCSR General User Guide for step-by-step instructions for logging in and completing the assessment. Information about Additional Resources and Upcoming NCSR Webinars is provided below.

Reporting Completion

When the 2019 NCSR is completed and submitted, the individual NCSR system user will have the following report information displayed on the NCSR portal's home dashboard:

To demonstrate the grantee has complied with the 2019 NCSR requirement, the individual NCSR system user will have the ability to export the above information to a PDF.

After the PDF is downloaded and saved by the NCSR user, each agency slated to receive 2019 SHSP and/or UASI funds must upload the 2019 NCSR Completion Certification to the Office of the Governor's grant management system, eGrants. The PDF may be uploaded to each applicable 2019 SHSP and/or UASI grant record via the global document upload feature within eGrants, or alternatively, it may be uploaded to each grant record on the "Upload.Files" tab within the grant record. The Completion Certification should be uploaded to eGrants by 11/30/19 so HSGD can confirm compliance of subrecipients prior to the NCSR deadline.

If you need assistance with uploading the PDF (completion certification) to eGrants, please contact your HSGD grant manager.

For additional questions about or assistance with the NCSR, email: NCSR@cisecurity.org.

Additional Resources

Attachments:

? 2019 NCSR Questions (Excel) - This attachment contains a list of the questions MS-ISAC has provided to HSGD along with the multiple choice responses for the review. This may be helpful in preparing for the review.

? Exporting the NCSR Completion Certification (PDF) - This document provides instructions on how to export the NCSR Completion Certification from the NCSR into a PDF.

NCSR Contact Info and Training:

? If you need technical assistance with the NCSR, please contact MS-ISAC at NCSR@cisecurity.org or 518-880-0736.

? MS-ISAC will conduct a webinar on September 20, 2019 that will provide an overview of what the NCSR is and how to best utilize it. In addition, attendees will learn how to register and navigate the portal that houses the NCSR self-assessment. The links below will take you to the registration page for upcoming webinars.

? The NCSR website has additional resources posted in a section to the left of the NCSR registration form.

Upcoming NCSR Webinars:

When: Friday, September 13, 2019 @ 1:00pm Central / 2:00 pm Eastern:

Webinar: Best Practice: Policy Framework Templates

Registration Link: https://cisecurity.webex.com/cisecurity/onstage/g.php?MTID=ef1ef01f84ba9d23f4c1edff8fd06118d

When: Friday, September 20, 2019 @ 1:00pm Central / 2:00 pm Eastern:

Webinar: 2019 Nationwide Cybersecurity Review (NCSR)

Registration Link: https://cisecurity.webex.com/cisecurity/onstage/g.php?MTID=eb82c9999484c45169658037a17e2dd3c

When: Friday, November 1, 2019 @ 12:00pm Central / 1:00 PM Eastern:

ISAC Best Practice Webinar: Overview & Benefits of the Nationwide Cybersecurity Review

Registration Link: https://cisecurity.webex.com/cisecurity/onstage/g.php?MTID=e0c1e637db3ef7273ece0e6f616473a62

Below is an additional webinar you may find beneficial.

Webinar: Investing in Cybersecurity through Preparedness Grants

Webinar Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FwvAlNtriPw