

# The STOP School Violence Act of 2018

## What Does It Mean for School Security Funding?

The **FY2018 Omnibus Bill** was a massive piece of legislation, featuring \$1.3 trillion in funding for all kinds of federal initiatives. Programs that received funding included military programs, civil service programs, social programs and education programs.



While the bill was bitterly debated in Congress, there was an element of it that had bipartisan support: the **Students, Teachers and Officers Preventing School Violence Act of 2018**, also known as the STOP School Violence Act.

### ABOUT THE STOP SCHOOL VIOLENCE ACT OF 2018

With the tragic incident at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida still fresh in their minds, legislators introduced H.R. 4909, the STOP School Violence Act of 2018. This act was added to the Omnibus Bill in Title V.

The Act appropriates **\$75 million in FY18 funds** to be made available as grant funds for school safety initiatives. The funds are split between two offices: the **Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)** and the **Bureau of Justice Assistance**.

Each office is able to disperse funds to facilitate worthy school security initiatives, with each office having specific eligibility criteria that grant proposals must meet.

#### BJA Grant Funding

#### Criteria

**\$50  
Million**  
FY18

**\$67  
Million**  
Per Year  
FY19-F28

"Training personnel and students to prevent violence... development and operation of anonymous reporting systems... any other measure that may provide a significant improvement in violence prevention."

#### COPS Grant Funding

#### Criteria

**\$25  
Million**  
FY18

**\$33  
Million**  
Per Year  
FY19-F28

"Placement and use of metal detectors, locks and other deterrent measures...technology for expedited notification of local law enforcement during an emergency...training for local law enforcement officers."

Open solicitations and application instructions can be found on the [COPS](#) and [BJA](#) websites. When applying for a grant, it is always a good idea to seek the services of a grant writing professional.