



Nonpublic School Health and Security (NSHS) Program

Fiscal Year 2027

Office of Special Fiscal Programs

September 23, 2026

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Program Description

The Nonpublic School Health and Security (NSHS) program provides funds for school nurses, other health services, and school security to nonpublic schools that enrolled BOOST Scholarship student(s) during Fiscal Year 2026 and Nonpublic Textbook Programs in fiscal year 2026. By providing necessary resources and support, the NSHS Program provides funds to ensure schools can deliver quality education while prioritizing the health and safety of their students.

The importance of school health professionals and security measures in nonpublic schools is recognized as essential for maintaining a healthy and safe learning environment. School nurses provide immediate medical attention, medication administration, and response to health emergencies, ensuring the overall well-being of students. Likewise, other health professionals such as mental health professionals also play an important role in fostering a supportive school environment conducive to learning and personal growth. The safety of schools is supported by the NSHS Program through security measures such as surveillance systems, alarm systems, and/or the presence of trained security personnel.

Authorization

Special fund appropriation in budget bill for fiscal year 2027 ([SB0282](#)), see page 205

Name of Grant Program

Nonpublic School Health and Security ([NSHS](#)) program

Purpose

To provide funds to nonpublic schools for school nurses, other health services, and for school security

Dissemination

This guide was disseminated on August 21, 2026

Deadline

[Online applications](#) are due no later than September 23, 2026.

Grant Period

July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027

Funding Amount Available

\$2.5 million

Award Amount

Base award for every eligible school: \$8,170 + a per student allocation based on the student enrollment the school reported in their fiscal year 2026 application to the Nonpublic Textbook Program

Estimated Number of Grants

153

Submission Instructions

Applications must be completed electronically through the [online application](#) no later than 11:59pm on September 23, 2026.

Program Contact

Jodi Vallaster, Ed.D.
Grant Coordinator
Office of Special Fiscal Programs
(410) 767-0976
grants.msde@maryland.gov

State Responsibilities

MSDE is responsible for providing required information, data, documentation, and technical assistance to facilitate the grantee's performance of the work. MSDE program staff will be available and make every effort to support on demand additional assistance when requested throughout the grant period. In addition, MSDE will monitor program implementation throughout the grant performance period to ensure each council is on target to meet its goals and fully expend its awarded program resources.

Eligibility

The program is limited to the 153 nonpublic schools that participated in the Nonpublic Textbook Program and had a BOOST Scholarship Program student(s) enrolled during fiscal year 2026.

Use of Funds

This program is designed to provide additional support and enhance the capacity of nonpublic schools in ensuring the well-being and safety of their students. Therefore, careful consideration should be given to utilizing NSHS funds in a manner that complements and enhances the existing infrastructure, and initiatives aimed at promoting school health and security.

School Nurses	
Funds may be used for:	Funds may not be used for:
- Salary and fringe costs for nurses for hours worked - Staff medical training courses (e.g. CPR training) - Medical supplies - AED/Defibrillators - Overdose-reversing medication¹ - Hearing and vision screening	Hourly wages for time spent off work (sick, vacation, other leave, etc.)

Other Health Care Professionals	
Funds may be used for:	Funds may not be used for:
- Salary and fringe costs for health care professionals (e.g. psychologists, counselors, social workers, occupational therapists, physical therapists, and speech language pathologists) for hours worked - Supplies and materials required to deliver the services provided by the professionals above	Hourly wages for time spent off work (sick, vacation, other leave, etc.)

¹ Nonpublic schools that are reimbursed for this medication must also follow the guidance for public schools in [Education Article §7-426](#), including the completion and submission of the [Report of Naloxone Administration form](#). This completed form must be emailed to grants.msde@maryland.gov if the medication is administered.

Security	
Funds may be used for:	Funds may not be used for:
- Salaries or stipends for security personnel - Owned or leased security equipment or software on a case-by-case basis - with MSDE pre-approval and vendor quotes - Low-cost non-capital school safety upgrades, with MSDE pre-approval - Staff security training courses - Camera surveillance system and installation - Visitor monitoring or management system - Fire alarm replacements or new installations - Adding security upgrades to existing features, such as adding window locking hardware to existing windows - Security system installation	- Capital improvements that would alter the structure of the building - Projects in spaces primarily used for religious instruction and worship, or non-instructional activities like administration or maintenance - Projects for improvements to or movement of temporary or portal classroom buildings - Expenditures to supplement an approved State allocation for a project - Design, construction management, project management, testing or inspection fees - Salaries or wages paid to employees for project work - Maintenance and repairs such as painting rooms, patching roofs, fixing cracked sidewalks, etc. - Firearms or weapons of self-defense - Repairs or any costs associated with non-security-based safety activities - Indirect costs

Notes:

Contracts must align with allowable fund uses and all work must be completed during the grant period (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027). Security deposits will not be reimbursed upfront, but any deposit costs can be reimbursed once the project is fully completed. To receive reimbursement, submit an invoice, proof of payment to the vendor, and proof that the project is complete (photo or letter of project completion).

Funds will be disbursed on a reimbursement basis, following the submission of a proper invoice, and supporting documentation. An invoice template can be found on the [MSDE Grant Forms](#) webpage.

FINAL INVOICES

Final invoices must be submitted no later than June 30, 2027. Supporting documentation evidencing expenditures must be attached to all invoices. Unspent balances that remain after this date will revert back to the State.

Application

Eligible nonpublic schools must first indicate interest by submitting the [NSHS Online Application](#) no later than 11:59pm September 23, 2026. In the online application, schools must:

- Select their school name from a drop-down list of eligible schools;
- Designate a point of contact for communication;
- Expressly indicate interest in participating in the NSHS program;
- Provide Employer Identification Number (EIN) and Business Name (if applicable)
- Upload an up-to-date W-9 form; and
- Agree to program assurances.

Reporting Requirements

Grantees must comply with the following reporting requirements:

Due Date	Reporting Requirement
July 31, 2027	A final report is due

Application Timeline

Date	Activity
August 21, 2026	The grant information guide will be disseminated, and the online application will open for eligible schools.
July 1, 2026	The grant period begins
September 23, 2026	The online application will close
October 2026	Participating schools will receive their Notice of Grant Award (NOGA) and assurances to sign. Before any funds can be disbursed, the school must return the signed assurances page.
October 2026 – June 2027	Schools submit invoices for reimbursement of allowable expenses incurred from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027
June 30, 2027	The grant period ends Final invoices are due no later than June 30, 2027. Unspent balances that remain after this date will revert back to the State.
July 31, 2027	A final report is due

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding the NSHS Program, please contact:

Jodi Vallaster, Ed.D.
Grant Coordinator
Office of Special Fiscal Programs
(410) 767-0976
grants.msde@maryland.gov

Non-Discrimination Statement

The Maryland State Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry/national origin, color, disability, gender identity/expression, marital status, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation in matters affecting employment or in providing access to programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. For inquiries related to Department policy, please contact:

Equity Assurance and Compliance Office
Office of the Deputy State Superintendent for Finance and Operations

Maryland State Department of Education
200 W. Baltimore Street - 2nd Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2595

410-767-0123 - voice

410-767-0431 - fax

Deaf and hard of hearing use Relay.

Customer Service Support Sessions

MSDE will hold two customer service support sessions for interested applicants. During these sessions, MSDE personnel will provide an overview of the application process and the use of funds. The sessions will be on:

Tuesday, August 25, 2026, from 9:00– 10:00am

Thursday, August 27, 2026, from 1:30 – 2:30pm

Google Meet joining info

Video call link (same for every session): meet.google.com/skf-kcms-pso

Or dial: (US) +1 484-546-5109 PIN: 217 527 573#

For more information on this program, visit the Nonpublic School Health and Security (NSHS) program [webpage](#).

APPENDICES

List of eligible school allocations

List of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)