

Comprehensive School Safety Initiative

The *Comprehensive School Safety Initiative* is a large-scale, integrated research effort designed to increase the safety of schools nationwide. Schools and researchers will be partnering to develop knowledge about the most effective and sustainable school safety interventions and programs. All across the country, they will be creating, implementing, and applying scientific methods to innovative approaches to school safety.



The Initiative's goal is to build a firmer foundation of knowledge so that communities can start using individualized programs and applying evidence-based policies to keep kids safer both in school and on the way to and from school.

NIJ launched the Initiative in early 2014 in response to a congressional request for a broad, research-based effort to increase safety in the nation's schools. Congress appropriated \$75 million for the Initiative.

The Initiative has three broad components, each designed to produce evidence about what works and to identify best practices. The three components are:

- Understand school safety issues, existing models and data.
- Sponsor independent and innovative research.
- Test the effects of interventions via pilot projects.

NIJ has announced two solicitations:

1. **[“Investigator-Initiated Research: The Comprehensive School Safety Initiative”](#)**

This is an open call for proposals. With this solicitation, NIJ is calling for rigorous, scientific studies that address key safety issues for K-12 schools and

Institutions of Higher Education. A total of \$15 million will be awarded. Applications will be accepted until May 20, 2014.

Get a copy of the solicitation, FAQs, and the Dear Colleague Letter at NIJ.gov, keywords: "Current Funding."

2. **"Developing Knowledge About What Makes Schools Safe"**

This is a call for proposals to create pilot projects that test the effectiveness of intervention. The solicitation is open to all local and state education agencies and public charter schools. Applicants must partner with researchers to identify, test, and evaluate interventions and approaches intended to enhance school safety. A total of \$47 million will be awarded. Applications will be accepted until July 10, 2014, but start the application process well before the deadline.

Get a copy of the solicitation, FAQs, and the Dear Colleague Letter at NIJ.gov, keyword: "Current Funding."

Get answers to your questions about the solicitations during a webinar on May 13 at 1 p.m. Register at <https://www.etches.com/NIJ>.

To learn more about NIJ's Comprehensive School Safety Initiative and view funding opportunities, visit NIJ.gov, keywords: "Comprehensive School Safety Initiative"



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