# **Md. Public Safety Code Ann. § 14-104.2**

Current through all legislation from the 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

***Michie’s™ Annotated Code of Maryland* > *Public Safety (Titles 1 — 15)* > *Title 14. Emergency Management. (Subts. 1 — 13)* > *Subtitle 1. Maryland Emergency Management Act. (§§ 14-101 — 14-117)***

**§ 14-104.2. Local Cybersecurity Support Fund — Purpose — Funding — Eligibility for assistance.**

**(a)**

**(1)** In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

**(2)** “Fund” means the Local Cybersecurity Support Fund.

**(3)** “Local government” includes local school systems, local school boards, and local health departments.

**(b)**

**(1)** There is a Local Cybersecurity Support Fund.

**(2)** The purpose of the Fund is to:

**(i)** provide financial assistance to local governments to improve cybersecurity preparedness, including:

**1.** updating current devices and networks with the most up-to-date cybersecurity protections;

**2.** supporting the purchase of new hardware, software, devices, and firewalls to improve cybersecurity preparedness;

**3.** recruiting and hiring information technology staff focused on cybersecurity;

**4.** paying outside vendors for cybersecurity staff training;

**5.** conducting cybersecurity vulnerability assessments;

**6.** addressing high-risk cybersecurity vulnerabilities identified by vulnerability assessments;

**7.** implementing and maintaining integrators and other similar intelligence sharing infrastructure that enable connection with the Information Sharing and Analysis Center in the Department of Information Technology; and

**8.** supporting the security of local wastewater treatment plants, including bicounty, county, and municipal plants, by acquiring or implementing cybersecurity-related upgrades to the plants; and

**(ii)** assist local governments applying for federal cybersecurity preparedness grants.

**(3)** The Secretary shall administer the Fund.

**(4)**

**(i)** The Fund is a special, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to § 7-302 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

**(ii)** The State Treasurer shall hold the Fund separately, and the Comptroller shall account for the Fund.

**(5)** The Fund consists of:

**(i)** money appropriated in the State budget to the Fund;

**(ii)** interest earnings; and

**(iii)** any other money from any other source accepted for the benefit of the Fund.

**(6)** The Fund may be used only:

**(i)** to provide financial assistance to local governments to improve cybersecurity preparedness, including:

**1.** updating current devices and networks with the most up-to-date cybersecurity protections;

**2.** supporting the purchase of new hardware, software, devices, and firewalls to improve cybersecurity preparedness;

**3.** recruiting and hiring information technology staff focused on cybersecurity;

**4.** paying outside vendors for cybersecurity staff training;

**5.** conducting cybersecurity vulnerability assessments;

**6.** addressing high-risk cybersecurity vulnerabilities identified by vulnerability assessments;

**7.** implementing or maintaining integrators and other similar intelligence sharing infrastructure that enable connection with the Information Sharing and Analysis Center in the Department of Information Technology; and

**8.** supporting the security of local wastewater treatment plants, including bicounty, county, and municipal plants, by acquiring or implementing cybersecurity-related upgrades to the plants;

**(ii)** to assist local governments applying for federal cybersecurity preparedness grants; and

**(iii)** for administrative expenses associated with providing the assistance described under item (i) of this paragraph.

**(7)**

**(i)** The State Treasurer shall invest the money of the Fund in the same manner as other State money may be invested.

**(ii)** Any interest earnings of the Fund shall be credited to the Fund.

**(8)** Expenditures from the Fund may be made only in accordance with the State budget.

**(c)** To be eligible to receive assistance from the Fund, a local government shall:

**(1)** provide proof to the Department of Information Technology that the local government conducted a cybersecurity preparedness assessment in the previous 12 months; or

**(2)** within 12 months undergo a cybersecurity preparedness assessment provided by, in accordance with the preference of the local government:

**(i)** the Department of Information Technology at a cost to the local government that does not exceed the cost to the Department of Information Technology of providing the assessment; or

**(ii)** a vendor authorized by the Department of Information Technology to complete cybersecurity preparedness assessments.

**History**

2022, ch. 243, § 1.

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