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State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program Update

From Haber, Michael (ITS-CONTRACTOR) <Michael.Haber@its.ny.gov>

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To Haber, Michael (ITS-CONTRACTOR) <Michael.Haber@its.ny.gov>

Good afternoon,

The New York State Office of Information Technology Services is reaching out to provide an update on the Combined FY2022 & FY2023 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP). As previously notified, you were selected for this program after you successfully submitted an application through the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services. The shared service that you applied for through this program was Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) hardware tokens for your entity to enhance the security of your information systems through the introduction of a significantly stronger authentication level for end-users. The hardware tokens provided through this program will be **YubiKey 5C NFC FIPS Edition** keys.

This project will be administered by the New York State Office of Information Technology Services (ITS). Your primary contact for this program will be

Michael Haber
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NYS is currently awaiting final project approval from FEMA, which has been delayed due to the partial government shutdown. Once FEMA provides the necessary project approval, ITS will continue with the final steps of the procurement process to obtain the tokens and the vendor support services. Before tokens can be shipped to you, your organization will need to sign and agree to an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with ITS.

It was our intention to begin sending out the IGA's this week for your review and signature. However, in light of recent news from FEMA regarding impacts to federal grants resulting from the partial government shutdown, we anticipate a possible extension of the SLCGP implementation deadlines that are referenced in our IGA. **As a result of these potential changes, ITS will wait to send the IGA's until such deadlines have been finalized and approved by FEMA.** The timeline for FEMA approval is unknown, but we will be sure to provide the IGA's as soon as approval is received.

Below is a high-level overview of the milestones ahead for this grant program:

1. FEMA provides the necessary approval for the project and the amended implementation deadline
2. Intergovernmental agreements sent to all grant recipients
3. Signed agreements returned to ITS by grant recipients
4. Countersigned agreements provided by ITS to all grant recipients
5. ITS completes the procurement of MFA tokens and vendor support services
6. MFA tokens, with instructions, are distributed to all grant recipients

7. Weekly deployment support and technical advisory sessions provided to all recipients
8. All tokens confirmed as implemented by all recipients by the grant implementation deadline (TBD pending FEMA approval)

We will aim to provide the IGA to each of you as soon as FEMA's approvals are received. Feel free to reach out to us if you have any questions in the meantime.

Thank you for your interest in this initiative and we look forward to continuing to support your cybersecurity efforts.

Sincerely,

Michael Haber

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