

HOMELAND SECURITY INFORMATION PROGRAM (HSIP) FREEDOM

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Question: What is HSIP Freedom and how does it differ from HSIP Gold?

Answer: HSIP Freedom is a subset of the HSIP Gold datasets developed and compiled by NGA over the past few years. Approximately 190 datasets were identified from HSIP Gold as license-free and distributable to state and local Homeland Security/Homeland Defense mission areas. HSIP Freedom can be shared and distributed among state and local government agencies and is being made available through the HSIN GIS Community of Interest (COI).

Question: How often is HSIP Freedom going to be updated?

Answer: The HSIP Freedom data layers will be updated on an as received basis. We are working a notification plan in cooperation with the HIFLD WG.

Question: Does an authorized recipient of HSIP Gold need to submit another request for HSIP Freedom?

Answer: No. Authorized users of HSIP Gold already have HSIP Freedom data layers as the HSIP Freedom is a subset of the HSIP Gold data holdings.

Question: Can HSIP Freedom be disseminated to members of state and local governments?

Answer: Yes, as long as they have a defined Homeland Security/Homeland Defense (HLS/HD) mission.

Question: Can HSIP Freedom be disseminated to any member of the Homeland Security Community?

Answer: Yes

Question: How does someone access the HSIP Freedom data?

Answer: HSIP Freedom can be downloaded via the Web-based portal of the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) GIS Community of Interest.

Question: How does a Homeland Security mission partner request access to the HSIN GIS Community of Interest?

Answer: Access to the HSIN GIS portal can be requested by sending an email request to HSIN.helpdesk@dhs.gov or call the help desk at 1-866-430-0162. Please ensure that HIN GIS COI is requested for processing.

Question: What constitutes authorized Homeland Security/Homeland Defense (HLS/HD) mission areas for the purpose of approving requests for granted access to HSIN GIS Community of Interest portal?

Answer: Members of acceptable mission areas include the following:

- a. Homeland Security and Homeland Defense Analysis, Planning, and Operations
- b. Critical Infrastructure Programs (National and Defense)
- c. Infrastructure Mapping, Assessments, Analysis, and Modeling
- d. National Response Framework Emergency Support Functions
- e. Fusion of Foreign Threat, Domestic Threat, Infrastructure and Information
- f. Crisis, Consequence, and Disaster Management
- g. Intelligence/Threat Analysis
- h. Antiterrorism/Force Protection (AT/FP)
- i. Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA)
- j. Man-Made and Natural Hazard Modeling and Effects Analysis
- k. Government Facilities Management
- l. Emergency Planning, Response and Recovery
- m. Training and Exercise Support related to the above mission areas

Other acceptable HLS/HD-related mission areas may exist and will be approved on a case-by-case basis. Please see requesting HSIN GIS COI access above.

Question: May an authorized recipient of HSIP Freedom re-host the data for consumption via Web service by an external organization?

Answer: Yes, however, the consolidation of the HSIP Freedom data set is deemed For Official Use Only (FOUO), thus not approved by the Department of Homeland Security to be available to the open public at this time.

Question: May a recipient of HSIP Freedom independently disclose the data to state and local government authorities?

Answer: Yes, an HSIP Freedom data recipient may disclose the data to state and local government authorities via other Web applications.

Question: May a federal contractor request HSIP Freedom?

Answer: Yes, however, the contractor will be required to have a Federal sponsor to gain access to the HSIN GIS Community of interest.

Question: May HSIP Freedom be loaded onto a non-government computer system (e.g. the non-government-owned computer system of a contractor or consultant supporting an approved Homeland Security entity)?

Answer: Yes, however the non-government computer system must be in support of the approved missions as the HSIP Freedom data is For Official Use Only.

Question: How should an authorized HSIP Freedom recipient provide feedback on the HSIP Freedom data sets?

Answer: Any HSIP Freedom recipient can provide feedback to the HSIP Freedom data by using the Feedback Mechanism provided on the Homeland Infrastructure Foundation-Level Data Working Group (HIFLD) website (<https://www.hifldwg.org>). This capability is still in the process of being structured for implementation in coordination with the HSIN GIS Community of Interest.

Question: Who do I contact for additional information regarding HSIP Freedom?

Answer: Additional questions regarding HSIP Freedom can be e-mailed to the DHS Office of Infrastructure Protection/Infrastructure Data Management Branch at IDMB@hq.dhs.gov or hifldwg@bah.com or the NGA Office of Americas Reachback Office at pm_rbo@nga.mil.