



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Tips and Tricks for Applying for Federal Funding to Support Crisis and Diversion Programs

February 22, 2024



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Leveraging Federal Funding for Your Behavioral Health Justice Initiative
3. Tips for a Successful Grant Application
4. Additional resources and technical assistance opportunities
5. Q&A

Office of Forensic Coordination

Improve forensic service coordination and prevent and reduce justice involvement for people with mental illness (MI) and substance use disorders (SUD) **through statewide and cross-agency initiatives** that improve coordination and collaboration among state and local leaders.



State and Local Planning



Policy and Staffing for the Joint Committee on Access to Forensic Services



Training and Technical Assistance



Research and Data Analysis



Engagement, Education, and Coordination

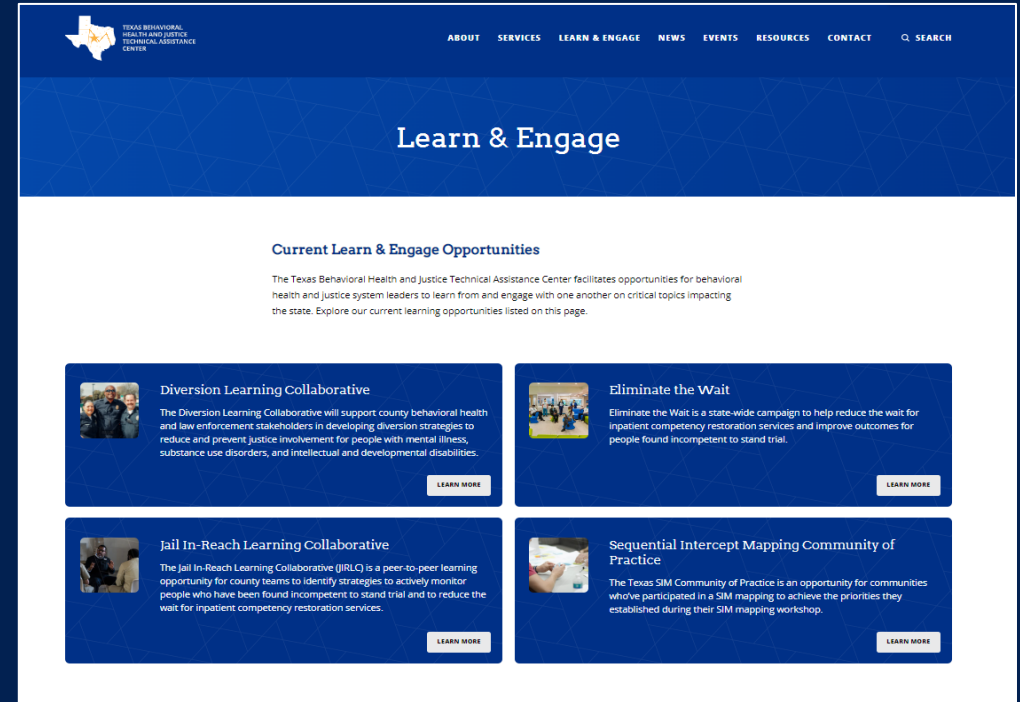


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Texas Behavioral Health and Justice Technical Assistance Center



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www.TXBHJustice.org



Justice Center

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

Leveraging Federal Funding for your Behavioral Health- Criminal Justice Initiative

Joey Hayashi, Policy Analyst, Behavioral Health, CSG Justice Center

Katie Holihen, Senior Policy Analyst, Behavioral Health, CSG Justice Center

The Council of State Governments Justice Center

We are a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that combines the power of a membership association, serving state officials in all three branches of government, with policy and research expertise to develop strategies that increase public safety and strengthen communities.

Federal Funding Overview

Katie Holihen, Senior Policy Analyst, Behavioral Health, CSG Justice Center

Myths about Federal Grants

- Extremely competitive
- Won't fund programs without a track record
- Won't fund programs that have been around for a while
- Only work for communities with capacity to run them (e.g., administratively onerous)

Federal Funding for Cross-Systems Initiatives

Braided funding is a necessary part of behavioral health and criminal justice interventions, and **federal funding** is a critical and often under- or inefficiently utilized part of this equation.

Federal funding can support BH-CJ initiatives at various phases:



Training and Technical Assistance (TTA)

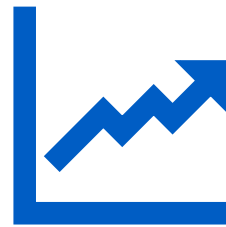
Federal funding is typically paired with a TTA provider who can:

- Provide guidance on grants administration
- Advise on best and promising practices
- Make peer connections
- Support with implementation planning

Key Strategies for Funding and Sustaining Local Criminal Justice-Behavioral Health Initiatives



Plan for sustainability
from the start

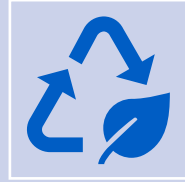


Demonstrate impact



Partner broadly

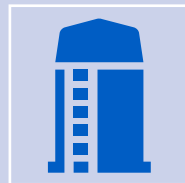
What do we mean by sustainability?



Sustainability is when the change becomes the norm.



Strategies become cemented in local policy and practice.



Strategies move from stand-alone programs to comprehensive systems.

Plan for Sustainability from the Start

- Build a sustainability plan into grant applications and initial program design.
- Begin efforts to secure future funding as early as possible.
- Consider convening a sustainability committee consisting of stakeholders invested in the long-term financial health of your work.

Demonstrate Impact

- Demonstrating that your initiative is making a difference can make it easier to obtain additional grant funding and effectively advocate for using tax dollars.
- Be sure to identify discrete efforts that show a program's effectiveness both quantitatively and qualitatively.
- If possible, try to track key metrics and stories from program inception.

Partner Broadly

- Diverse partners can help leverage additional funding sources to fill gaps and expand an initiative's impact.
- Ensures more stakeholders are invested in the program's success.
- Take advantage of state-local feedback loops.



TAP IN CENTER
AT ST. LOUIS COUNTY LIBRARY

For help with your St. Louis County criminal case

St. Louis County's Tap In Center

- Housed at the local library, the **Tap In Center** is a place where people can meet with attorneys, receive help with court navigation, and "tap in" to local services.
- Library partnership opened a whole new realm of funding sources.
- Project Manager position, initially supported by MacArthur SJC, was absorbed by the library.

St. Louis County Library, "Tap In Center at St. Louis County Library," accessed March 28, 2022, <https://www.slcl.org/tap-in-center>.

Federal Grants as the Catalyst for Change

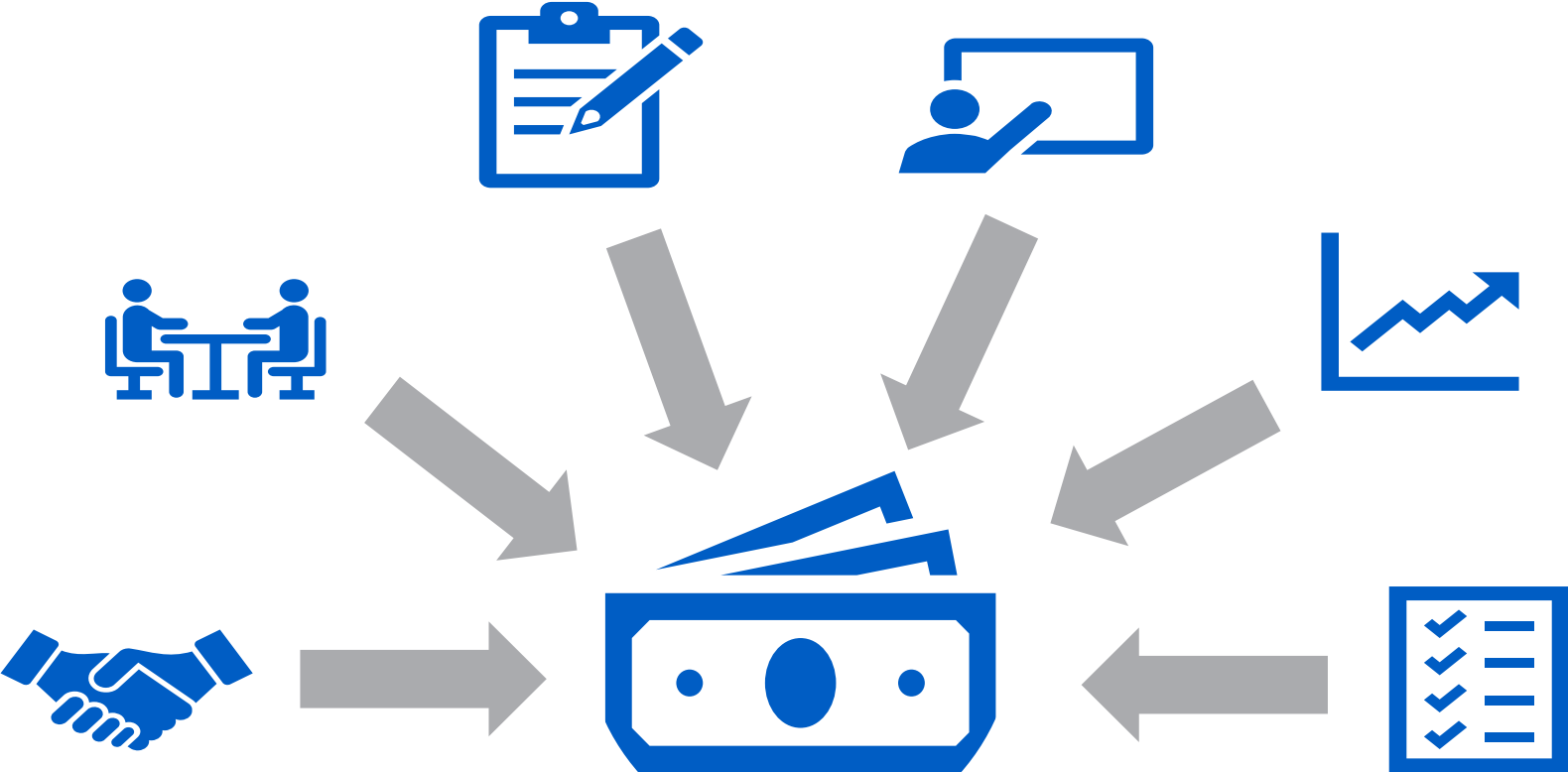
- Criminal justice, behavioral health, and housing partners often have different priorities, culture, and challenges.
- Building trust and aligning priorities among cross-system partners is **slow but rewarding work**.
- Funding partnerships can be a way to **formalize collaborations** and **establish a foundation** for future cross-systems initiatives.



Financing the Future

Joey Hayashi, Policy Analyst, Behavioral Health, CSG Justice Center

More than Just Money

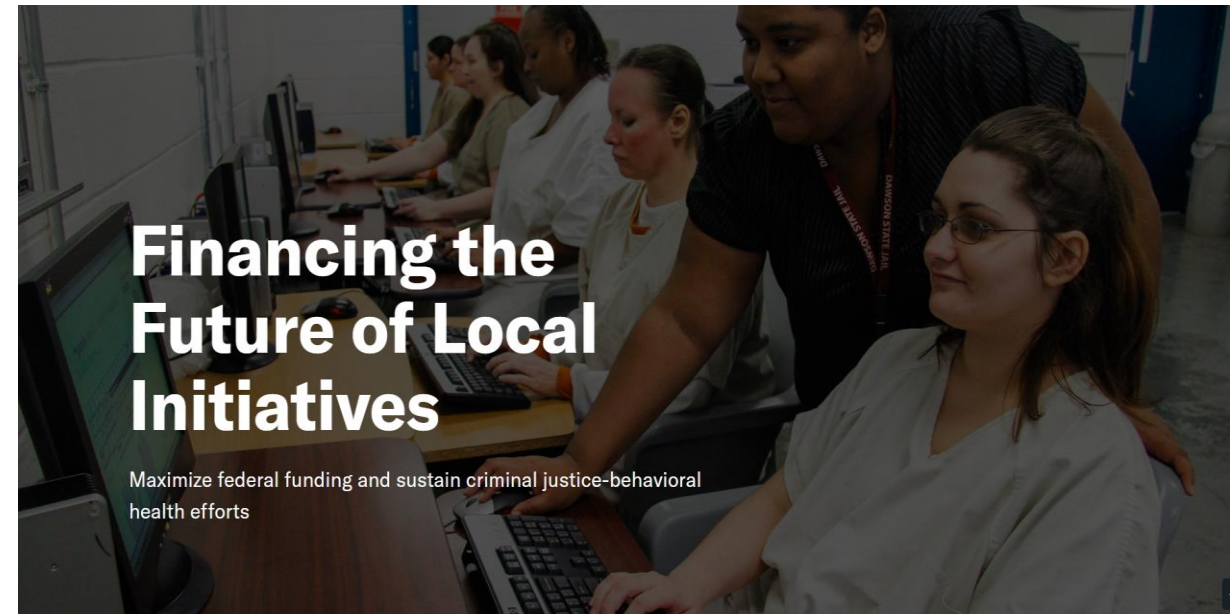


Financing the Future of Local Initiatives

The CSG Justice Center's **Financing the Future of Local Initiatives Guide** helps local leaders identify federal funding opportunities to support their work and bring an equity lens to their criminal justice-behavioral health investments and sustainability planning.

Financing the Future of Local Initiatives Toolkit:

- ⑩ **Federal Funding Database**
 - **Planning Guide:** A Guide for Financial Sustainability Planning
 - **Investment Calculation Workbook**
 - **State Administering Agency Video and Tip Sheet:** How Local Entities Can Learn About and Apply for Criminal Justice Resources & Federal Funding Opportunities Through State Administering Agencies (SAA)



<https://csgjusticecenter.org/resources/funding/>

Resource: Financial Sustainability Planning Guide

A planning guide that takes leaders of local initiatives through identifying measurable goals and aligning funding to achieve those goals.

<https://csgjusticecenter.org/resources/funding/getting-started/>

GETTING STARTED

A Guide for Centering Equity in Financial Sustainability Planning
Planning Guide



Resource: Federal Funding Database

Catalog of federal funding sources that can be used for various criminal justice and behavioral health purposes

Can be used to

- Identify what types of grants are generally available,
- Find potential opportunities to obtain federal funding through your state administrative agency, and
- Plan for immediate and long-term priorities.

The screenshot displays the Federal Funding Database interface. At the top, there are three main filter categories: ISSUE AREAS, ELIGIBILITY, and KEY USAGE OPTIONS. Each category contains a list of items with checkboxes and counts. For example, under ISSUE AREAS, 'Housing and Homelessness' is selected with a count of 26. Below the filters are two buttons: 'APPLY FILTERS' and 'CLEAR ALL SEARCH RESULTS'. The main content area shows search results for 'Housing and Homelessness', with 76 opportunities found. Two results are visible: 'Second Chance Act Youth Offender Reentry Program' and 'Multi-Family Housing Direct Loans'. Each result includes details on issue areas, eligibility, key usage options, and an 'ABOUT' section. A 'PRINT RESULTS' button is located in the top right corner of the results area.

ISSUE AREAS	ELIGIBILITY	KEY USAGE OPTIONS
<input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Justice (32)	<input type="checkbox"/> CBO/Other (34)	<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative (29)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing and Homelessness (26)	<input type="checkbox"/> City (34)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hire Staff (25)
<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health (20)	<input type="checkbox"/> County (33)	<input type="checkbox"/> IT (16)
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (27)	<input type="checkbox"/> State (46)	<input type="checkbox"/> Jail-Based Treatment (7)
<input type="checkbox"/> Physical Health (12)	<input type="checkbox"/> Territory (34)	<input type="checkbox"/> Participant Incentives (4)
<input type="checkbox"/> Substance Use Disorder (38)	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal (39)	<input type="checkbox"/> Peer Supports (5)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Planning (30)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Prescription Medication (17)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate (16)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Rental (10)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Research/Evaluation (32)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Screening/Assessment (32)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Staff Training (39)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Staff Travel (13)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Supportive Housing (18)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation (8)
		<input type="checkbox"/> Workforce Development (23)

APPLY FILTERS CLEAR ALL SEARCH RESULTS

Financing the Future of Local Initiatives

Getting Started

Federal Funding Opportunities

Sustainability in Action

RESULTS: 76 OPPORTUNITIES
FILTERS APPLIED: HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

PRINT RESULTS

Second Chance Act Youth Offender Reentry Program

ISSUE AREA(S): Criminal Justice, Housing and Homelessness, Mental Health, Other, Physical Health, Substance Use Disorder

ELIGIBILITY: City, County, State, Territory, Tribal

KEY USAGE OPTIONS: Administrative, Hire Staff, IT, Jail-Based Treatment, Planning, Prescription Medication, Research/Evaluation, Screening/Assessment, Staff Training, Staff Travel, Supportive Housing, Transportation, Workforce Development

ABOUT: Encourages collaboration among state agencies, local government, and community- and faith-based organizations to address the challenges that reentry and recidiv...

READ MORE

Multi-Family Housing Direct Loans

ISSUE AREA(S): Housing and Homelessness, Mental Health, Physical Health

ELIGIBILITY: CBO/Other, City, County, State, Territory, Tribal

KEY USAGE OPTIONS: Real Estate

ABOUT: Multi-Family Housing Direct Loans provide competitive financing for affordable multi-family rental housing for people with disabilities as well as low-income an...

READ MORE

Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program

The Council of State Governments, *Getting Started: A Guide for Centering Equity in Financial Sustainability Planning* (New York: The Council of State Governments, 2022), <https://csgjusticecenter.org/resources/funding/getting-started/>.

Resource: Investment Calculation Workbook

- Designed to help jurisdictions determine ways to **effectively fund data-driven programs**
- Can be used by local communities of **all sizes and at various stages of the planning process**
- Includes six tabs that walk you through financial planning process and helps you **create a three-year budget**

GETTING STARTED

A Guidebook for Sustainability
and Scaling
Investment
Calculation Workbook

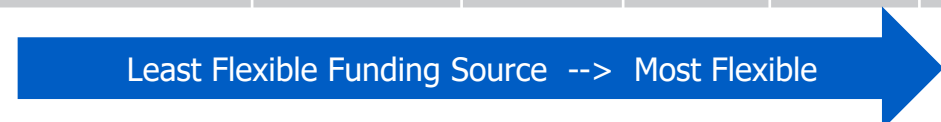
The Council of State Governments, *Getting Started: A Guide for Centering Equity in Financial Sustainability Planning* (New York: The Council of State Governments, 2022), <https://csjusticecenter.org/resources/funding/getting-started/>.

Creating a Funding Matrix

Things to remember:

- Use most restrictive funding first
- Prioritize flexible funding when no other source is available

Program or Policy Component (Shorthand)	Estimated Cost		Funding Sources			
			Medicaid	MAC/TC M	SAPT	ESG
1. Jail-Based Screening Tool and Training	FY1	\$25,000			x	
	FY2	\$0				
	FY3	\$0				
2. Pretrial Services: Intake Officers	FY1	\$350,000		x		
	FY2	\$350,000		x		
	FY3	\$350,000		x		
3. Housing Navigators	FY1	\$700,000				x
	FY2	\$700,000				x



The Council of State Governments, *Getting Started: A Guide for Centering Equity in Financial Sustainability Planning* (New York: The Council of State Governments, 2022), <https://csgjusticecenter.org/resources/funding/getting-started/>.

Resource: Executive Summary Template

Synthesis of the work produced using the **Financial Sustainability** guidebook



Resource: State Administering Agency Video and Tip Sheet

How Local Entities Can Learn About and Apply for Criminal Justice Resources

- Created by the **National Criminal Justice Association**, these tools showcase Shannon Dion, former director of the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services, sharing tips on how local entities can learn about and apply for criminal justice resources through their **State Administrative Agency (SAA)**.

Key Tips

Federal funding opportunities through State Administering Agencies (SAA):
How local entities can learn about and apply for criminal justice resources
a video with Shannon Dion, former director
Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services




- 1. Do your research.** Learn where your SAA sits in state government and the federal funding streams they administer. A complete list of SAA agencies and directors can be found at: www.ncja.org/agency-directory.
- 2. Look at the current funding priorities and areas of emphasis in your state's criminal justice strategic plan**, which can usually be found on the SAA's agency website. The plan may be Byrne JAG-specific or a statewide plan.
- 3. Establish a relationship with your SAA**, or the SAA agency's grant manager or program manager for funding streams you are interested in.
- 4. Gather information from your SAA.** Learn about timelines and deadlines for applying for funding and any educational opportunities to learn more. **Be persistent!**
- 5. Seek out guidance for writing your application.** Ask your SAA if they can share redacted examples of successful and unsuccessful applications, in particular the budget narratives and project summaries.
- 6. Present SMART goals for your project** (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Results-based, Timely).
- 7. Learn as much as possible about the application evaluation process.** Is it competitive? How will it be scored? Are certain factors weighted more heavily? etc.
- 8. Seek out assistance for crafting your application, if needed.** SAAs may provide technical assistance or connect you with someone who can help.
- 9. Learn about and prepare for grant reporting requirements.** Ask for guidance, if needed.
- 10. Plan ahead for sustainable funding for when your federal award expires.** Most awards are time-limited and a sustainability plan is a great addition to an application. CSG's *Getting Started: a Guidebook for Centering Equity in Financial Sustainability* (available on CSG's [Financing the Future of Local Initiatives](#) webpage) provides a detailed, step-by-step approach for planning for sustainability with an equity lens.
- 11. Seek out guidance and advice from other grantees, if possible, and additional materials.** Some materials may be available only upon request.
- 12. Look into opportunities in state systems other than criminal justice.** If your project overlaps with other systems there may be alternative funding sources or ways to leverage resources to fund your project.

This project was created with support from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation as part of the Safety and Justice Challenge, which seeks to reduce over-incarceration by changing the way America thinks about and uses jails.



Resource: Supporting Justice, Behavioral Health, and Housing Collaborations through Federal Funding

Lists federal opportunities that can be leveraged to launch, sustain, or scale a variety of interventions and initiatives to reduce justice system contact for people with behavioral health needs.

Name	Agency	Overview	Focus	Eligibility	Common Uses
<u>Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program</u>	BJA	Grant program supporting efforts to plan, implement, and enhance adult drug courts that integrate evidence-based substance use treatment, mandatory drug testing, incentives and sanctions, and transitional services	  	State Tribal County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Case management and coordination ■ Judicial supervision ■ Sanctions and incentives services ■ Substance use treatment and testing ■ Transitional housing services ■ Housing placement services

April 2023

Supporting Justice, Behavioral Health, and Housing Collaborations through Federal Funding



OVERVIEW

Across the country, behavioral health, housing, and criminal justice leaders are banding together to address complex public health and safety challenges that no single agency, system, or sector has the resources, ability, or responsibility to solve alone. These cross-system partnerships, including those supported by the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program via the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance, seek to improve outcomes for people with behavioral health needs in the criminal justice system and prevent future justice system contact by strengthening systems of community-based care and supports and increasing access to housing. Yet lack of funding is often cited as a barrier to this important work, which may require new investments. These costs may include personnel, equipment, medications, data-sharing systems, and capital expenses such as building or adapting a facility—expenses few communities have incorporated into existing budgets.

Federal funding can be a key source to support the piloting, initial operations, or expansion of interventions that serve people with behavioral health needs in the justice system. Further, federal grants are often paired with training and technical assistance to help communities through the challenges of advancing and sustaining new collaborations. As communities work to establish collaborative responses across the various points of justice system contact, also known as intercepts,¹ they require a broad awareness of available funding that can be leveraged to launch and sustain these initiatives.

BROADENING THE FUNDING SEARCH

Local practitioners often have a narrow window into possible funding sources shaped by where they sit in intersecting systems. This is true at the system level (i.e., behavioral health, criminal justice, housing) and within independent agencies with unique priorities (e.g., law enforcement, jails, public housing authorities). As communities broaden their lenses by working across sectors to address complex problems at the intersection of public health and public safety, they also have a wider range of available federal funding opportunities.

¹Intercepts refers to points within the criminal justice system at which people with behavioral health needs can be "intercepted" and diverted into

Thank You!

Join our distribution list to receive updates and announcements:

<https://csgjusticecenter.org/resources/newsletters/>

For more information, please contact Joey Hayashi at jhayashi@csg.org



TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL GRANT APPLICATION

February 2024

Everything you need to know about me!

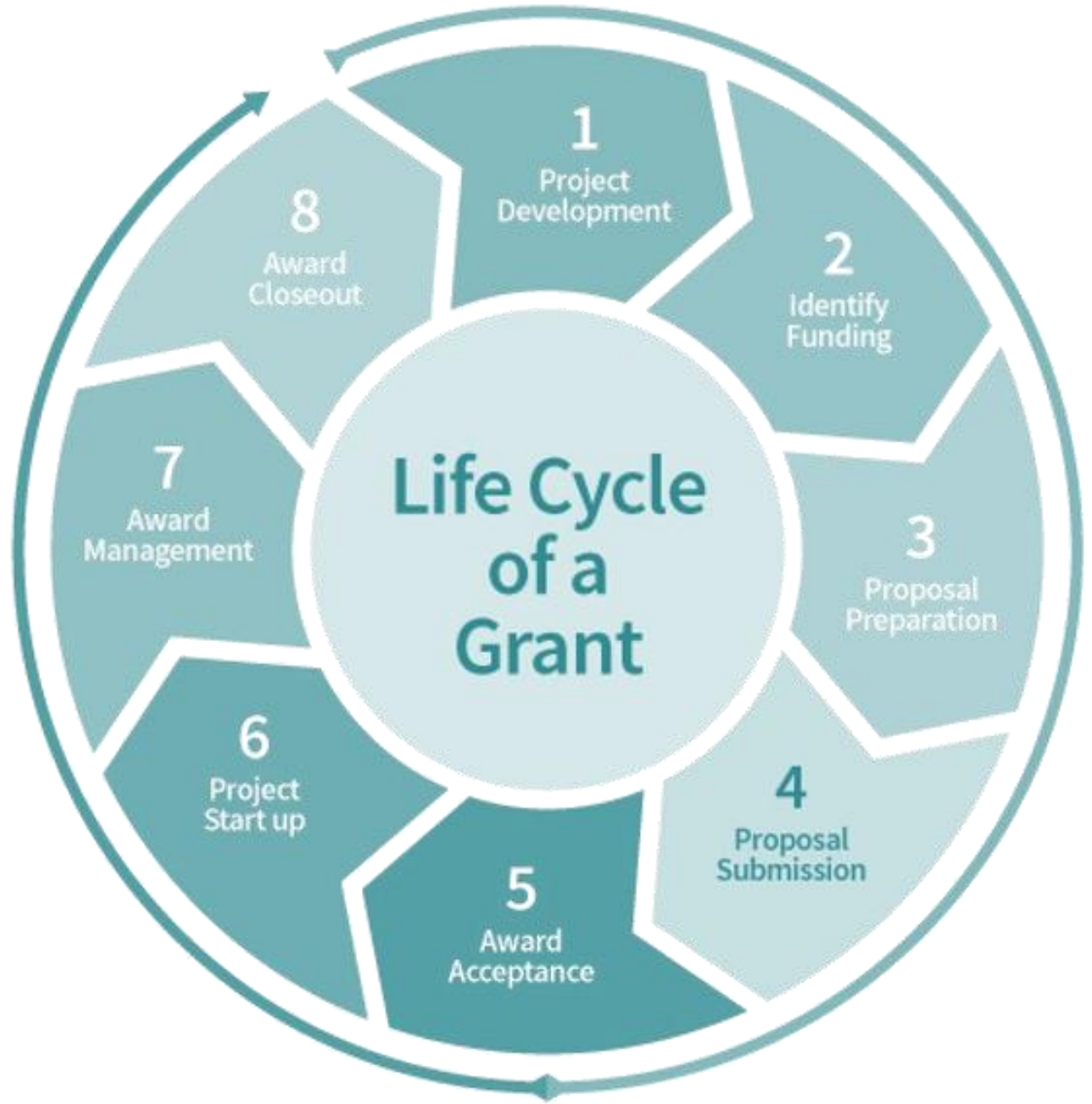
- ❖ I worked for 14 years in a large suburban county where I wrote several federal grants (primarily BJA, SAMHSA, and OJJDP grants).
- ❖ I continued grant writing after I moved to a national consulting company.
- ❖ I served as a Senior Policy Advisor for 7 years for the Bureau of Justice Assistance, where I wrote grant solicitations, oversaw the peer review process for my policy area, read hundreds of grants, and made funding recommendations.
- ❖ I teach grant writing and mentor new grant writers all over the country. I manage the Funding Toolkit for the State Justice Institute and co-manage a national monthly meet-up for grant writers who work with court systems.



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- ❖ Planning for grant season
- ❖ How to find federal grant solicitations that match your need
- ❖ How to assess whether a solicitation meets your needs
- ❖ Grant solicitations you should know about
- ❖ Maximizing your score in peer review

Post-Award



Pre-Award



PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

- **START NOW.** Determine funding priorities for 2024 by March 15th.
- Begin developing budgets now.
- Build your partnerships before grant season begins.





WHAT IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU NEED?

- ☑ Take advantage of all the free technical assistance opportunities that exist – many have funding awards associated with them.



Places for technical assistance

https://www.cossup.org/Content/Documents/Funding/Reaching_Rural_Advancing_Collaborative_Solutions.pdf

<https://opioidresponsenetwork.org/>



Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)

Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP)

Reaching Rural: Advancing Collaborative Solutions

Strengthening Cross-sector Partnerships to Respond to the Impact of Substance Use in Rural Communities

Initiative Overview and Application

Introduction

The United States is experiencing a crisis of drug overdose deaths. While no corner of the country has gone untouched by the overdose crisis, it has hit rural America particularly hard. In July 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) noted that drug overdose death rates continue to rise in rural and urban areas. In eight states—California, Connecticut, Maryland, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Vermont, and Virginia—the rate of drug overdose

Use Program (COSSUP). COSSUP provides funding and training and technical assistance (TTA) to state, local, tribal, and territorial partners to support a comprehensive response to illicit substance use and misuse; reduce overdose deaths; promote public safety; and support access to prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services in the community and justice system.

About The Opportunity



WHERE DO I FIND FEDERAL GRANTS?

[Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)

But don't overwhelm yourself with too many things in your inbox!



THE ORDER IN WHICH I READ A SOLICITATION

- Eligibility (am I eligible?)
- Allowable uses (what can I use the funding for?)
- How many awards are being made?**
- How much is each grant award?
- How is the application scored?



Rulo Strategies free funding guide:
<https://www.rulostrategies.com/federal-funding-updates>

FEDERAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCIES AND PARTNERS

The week of 06/05/23

To receive updates to this document throughout the grant season, please join our [mailing list](#).



RULO STRATEGIES LLC

Reality Check Exercise



- Most people learn about a grant opportunity when they have 4 weeks (or less) to apply.
- Unless you are an experienced grant writer, this puts you at a disadvantage before considering applying.
- You don't have to wait for solicitations to be released if the opportunity is released annually.
- Start your research now.

Top Solicitations You Should Know and Understand

Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) (BJA)

Justice and Mental Health Collaboration (JMHCP) (BJA)


Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program (BJA)

Suggested Order in Which to Read Solicitations

- When is the application due?
- Who is eligible to apply? Am I eligible, or can I form a partnership to make me eligible?
- What is the federal or state goal for the funding?
- What are the allowable uses (what can I use the funding for?)
- **How many awards are being made?**
- How much is each grant award?
- How is the application scored?

OMB No. 1121-0329
Expires 12/31/2023

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Bureau of Justice Assistance



BJA FY23 Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program

Assistance Listing Number # 16.745

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-BJA-2023-171522

Solicitation Release Date: January 26, 2023 7:45 AM ET

Step 1: Application Grants.gov Deadline: March 21, 2023 8:59 PM ET

Step 2: Application JustGrants Deadline: March 28, 2023 8:59 PM ET

Overview

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) seeks applications for funding programs that support cross-system collaboration to improve public safety responses and outcomes for individuals with mental health disorders (MHDs) or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders (MHSUDs). This program furthers the DOJ's mission by strengthening public safety and increasing community trust.

This solicitation is one of two solicitations available as part of the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program funding in FY 2023. For law enforcement-focused projects, see the separate law enforcement-focused solicitation entitled "[Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program](#)."

Additionally, to further assist people with co-occurring MHSUDs, the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program, the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners Program, and the Improving Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Outcomes for Adults in Reentry are three other BJA programs that support the provision of behavioral health treatment and services. Not all entities are eligible for all programs. Applicants are encouraged to review each solicitation in its entirety to determine their eligibility, if it fits their proposals, and if taking advantage of another funding opportunity could further enhance a comprehensive approach to supporting individuals with mental health and/or substance use treatment and recovery support needs that have come in contact with the justice system. Additional details on the three programs can be found on the [BJA List of Programs page](#).

This solicitation incorporates guidance provided in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) which provides additional information for applicants to prepare and submit applications to OJP for funding. **If this solicitation expressly modifies any provision in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation as to that**

Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP): Eligibility and Funding Amounts

Eligibility: City or township governments, County governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), State governments, Other

Funding amount per award in FY 2023: \$1 million for most rural communities – up to \$1.6 million for 36 months

Number of awards made in FY 2023: 72

FY 2023 application: <https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/O-BJA-2023-171527.pdf>

Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP): Goal

For local governments:

- Encourage and support the development of comprehensive, locally, or tribally driven responses to the use and misuse of opioids, stimulants, and other substances that expand access to treatment and recovery support services across the criminal justice system.
- Support law enforcement and first responder deflection as well as pretrial prosecutor and court diversion programs for persons with substance use disorders.
- Promote education and prevention activities.
- Address the needs of children impacted by substance use.

Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP): Eligible Uses

Applications can also concentrate on one of these activities so long as the proposed budget is appropriate and justified.

- Identifiable and accessible prescription drug take-back programs for unused, controlled substances found in the home and used by hospitals, long-term care, and other facilities.
- Law enforcement and other first responder deflection and diversion programs. A variety of multidisciplinary overdose prevention, response, and diversion and referral models (including mobile crisis units and co-responder models), led by law enforcement and other first responders, have emerged in communities throughout the Nation.
- Comprehensive, real-time, regional information collection, analysis, and dissemination that promote the use of data for both real-time and comprehensive planning and response to overdoses and emerging drug trends.

Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP): Eligible Uses

- Naloxone for law enforcement, first responders, jail staff, and other justice system practitioners.
- Substance use education and prevention programs to connect law enforcement agencies with K-12 students.
- Pre-booking or post-booking treatment alternative-to-incarceration programs, such as pretrial, prosecutor, and court diversion or intervention programs, that serve individuals at high risk for overdose or substance use disorder.
- Court programming to prioritize and expedite treatment and recovery services for individuals at high risk for overdose, as well as services for children and youth impacted by their parents' or other family members' substance use.

Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP): Eligible Uses

- Evidence-based substance use disorder treatment related to opioids, stimulants, and other drugs, such as medication-assisted treatment, contingency management, and motivational interviewing, as well as harm reduction activities and recovery support service engagement with the pre-trial and post-trial populations in and leaving local or regional jails or secure residential treatment facilities.
- Coordination should demonstrate a comprehensive approach to services, delivering both place-based care and teleservices.
- Transitional or recovery housing and recovery support services, including peer recovery. **Note: No more than 30 percent of total grant funds may be used for transitional or recovery housing.**

Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP): Eligible Uses

- Embedding social workers, peers, and/or persons with lived experience at any intercept of the Sequential Intercept Model to assist persons with justice involvement and their families in navigating the justice system and to increase their connection to treatment and recovery support services. This includes law enforcement, pretrial and probation agencies, prosecutor-led programs, legal defense agencies, child welfare agencies, courts, and jails to support community re-entry.

JMHCP: Eligibility and Funding Amounts

Eligibility: City or township governments, County governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), Public and State controlled institutions of higher education, Special district governments, State governments, Other

Funding amount per award in FY 2023: Up to \$550,000 for 36 months

Number of awards made in FY 2023: 30 awards

FY 2023 application: <https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/O-BJA-2023-171522.pdf>

JMHCP: Goal

JMHCP specifically funds collaborative programs to reduce criminal justice involvement and improve outcomes for individuals with MHDs or MHSUDs who have come into contact with the CJ system or are leaving a custodial setting.

JMHCP: Eligible Uses

- Enhance, expand, and operate mental health drop-off crisis stabilization treatment centers that provide 24/7 support for law enforcement, criminal justice agencies, and people who come in contact with the CJ system. These centers can provide but are not limited to, the following services: screening and assessment, crisis care, residential treatment, assisted outpatient mental health treatment, primary healthcare services, telehealth, competency restoration, community transition, and other supports such as connections to housing.
- Increase the community's workforce capacity for certified mental health peer support specialists and increase the availability of wraparound services to support people with MHDs or MHSUDs.

JMHCP: Eligible Uses

- Build or expand capacity to identify, treat, and support the recovery of individuals at the intersection of justice and mental health at the state, tribal, and local levels.
- Build or expand existing justice and mental health collaboration programs across people and places at any point in the criminal justice system—such as jails, courts, and prosecutors—as well as community supervision and/or capacity building for criminal justice professionals to target individuals with MHDs (including people with TBI and PTSD) or MHSUDs at risk of recidivism.

Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program: Eligibility and Funding Amounts

Eligibility: City or township governments, County governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), Public and State controlled institutions of higher education, Special district governments, State governments, Other

Funding amount per award in FY 2023: Up to \$550,000 for 36 months

Number of awards made in FY 2023: 30 awards

FY 2023 application: <https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/O-BJA-2023-171520.pdf>

Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program – Eligible Uses: Goal

The Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program is specifically designated to support law enforcement and behavioral health cross-system collaboration and to improve public health and safety responses to and outcomes for individuals with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs who come into contact with the criminal justice system. BJA is seeking applicants to design or enhance a law enforcement-behavioral health response to people with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs who come into contact with law enforcement.

Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program – Eligible Uses

Design and implement a crisis response program based on current best practice to assist law enforcement officers to improve encounters with individuals who have MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs. These could include any of the following:

- Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT)
- Co-Responder Teams
- Law Enforcement-based Case Management Services
- Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)
- Mobile Crisis Teams
- Crisis Resolution and Home Treatment Teams
- EMS and Ambulance-based Responses

Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program – Eligible Uses

- Plan and deliver a crisis response program, through coordination between law enforcement and a mental health agency, that includes services to improve or enhance the response.
- Pay salaries, as well as expenses such as training (overtime) and coordination activities, to design and implement a police-mental health collaboration program (PMHC).
- Engage residents through outreach and education to improve public health and public safety.
- Build positive community relations and trust through public communication strategies.
- Enhance officer knowledge and skills in responding to community members with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs.

Final Tips

Look up who was funded last year. It gives you a really good idea if you align with the types of agencies that have won in the past.

- **RCORP Overdose Response:** <https://www.hrsa.gov/rural-health/opioid-response/overdose-response/fy2023-awards>
- **All BJA and OJJDP awards:** <https://charts.ojp.usdoj.gov/t/public/views/OJPAwardsDashboard/AwardsBySolicitations?%3Aembed=y&%3Aiid=1&%3AisGuestRedirectFromVizportal=y>



THE SECRET OF WINNING GRANTS

- Nothing matters but the scoring.
- Scoring well = answering each and every question.
- Don't waste time on things that don't matter within a particular solicitation (e.g., letters from your political delegation).

e. Program Planning	8 Points Total
1. Staffing Strategy	4 Points
2. Program Implementation (See Section IV.B.3.e)	4 Points
f. Supportive Services and Post-Program Follow-up (See Section IV.B.3.f)	8 Points Total
g. Partners	12 Points Total
1. Partnerships	6 Points
2. Employer Engagement Strategies (See Section IV.B.3.g)	6 Points
h. Budget, Budget Narrative, and Match Narrative (See Section IV.B.3.h)	4 Points Total
i. Past Performance Category A	34 Points Total
1. Performance Outcomes	24 Points
2. Enrollment	4 Points
3. Spending Rate Analysis	2 Points
4. Organizational, Administrative, and Fiscal Capacity (See Section IV.B.3.i)	4 Points
j. Past Performance Category B	34 Points Total
1. Size and Scope	4 Points
2. Performance Outcomes	16 Points
3. Organizational, Administrative, and Fiscal Capacity (See Section IV.B.3.j)	14 Points
k. Priority Consideration – Investing in America (See Section IV.B.3.k)	2 Points
Total	102





THE SECRET OF WINNING GRANTS

Section	% of Score	Page allocation (out of 10 pages)
Section A: Population of Focus and Statement of Need	10%	Up to 1 page
Section B: Proposed Implementation Approach	30%	Up to 5 pages
Section C: Proposed Evidence-Based Service/practice	25%	Up to 2 pages
Section D: Staff and Organizational Experience	15%	Up to 1 page
Section E: Data Collection and Performance Management	20%	Up to 1 page
Budget	0%	Not included in limit

- Understand the page restrictions (check if this is single or double spaced!) Allocate pages based on the scoring.
- Helpful hint: Table do not need to be double spaced. Use tables!



PREPARE PROPOSAL

- Follow the directions.
- Make the questions in the solicitation your outline and fill in the blanks.

Statement of the Problem

This section accounts for 20 percent of your overall score.

Describe the nature and scope of the substance abuse problem for veterans in the jurisdiction. Include data on race, ethnicity, age, gender, arrest volume (i.e., specifics of the general arrestee population, including the percentage screened for drug court and what percentage of those are admitted into drug court), and crime patterns for adult defendants.

Explain the problems with the current court's response to cases involving substance abuse; identify how and to what extent the proposed program will address the current arrest volume; and describe how the current number of treatment slots meets the needs of anticipated referrals.

Describe the proposed veteran target population, including criminogenic risk level (high, medium, low), substance abuse treatment need, and the average jail or prison sentence that potential participants face, if any.

Provide the target number of people for whom services will be provided under this program during the grant award period (36 months).



MULTI-PART QUESTIONS = DANGER

Original Question:

Describe who will serve as the project coordinator, the project coordinator's project-related duties, the amount of time this position will dedicate to the project per week, and which agency will house the project coordinator. If the project coordinator will be hired after the award, please provide a job description.

- Outline Format -



Describe who will serve as the project coordinator.

(insert answer)



Describe the project coordinator's project-related duties.

(insert answer)



Describe the amount of time this position will dedicate to the project per week.

(insert answer)



Identify which agency will house the project coordinator.

(insert answer)



Provide a job description.

(insert answer)



PREPARE PROPOSAL

- ☑ Format your proposal to make the review process easy.
- ☑ Turn the questions in the solicitations into headers.

This breaks up text and makes scoring very easy. It also helps you identify questions you may otherwise skip.

<i>Graduation requirements and expulsion criteria</i>	To graduate, participants must complete their case plan objectives. Achievements are recognized and celebrated at a graduation ceremony hosted by the judge and VTC team. Continued non-compliance with court requirements may result in termination <u>from</u> the program. All team members, including the defense attorney and prosecutor, are present when termination discussions take place. All decisions regarding termination <u>from the program</u> are made by the judge.
<i>Restitution costs and fees required</i>	The costs associated with treatment and recovery support services are reviewed during the assessment process, and there is a process to waive these fees based on indigency. Restitution, if owed, is established as part of the plea agreement.

→

Mechanism that prioritizes court resources and services for individuals with high criminogenic risk and treatment need, including persons with repeat criminal justice involvement and substance abuse.

The ORAS is a validated risk screener and assessment tool used to determine each participant's risk level and needs, prioritize court resources, identify supervision and reporting levels, and establish treatment plans. The ORAS is administered at referral/intake and readministered throughout the program to monitor progress or changes in needs. Participants must have an identified substance abuse disorder or co-occurring disorder to participate in the VTC.

→

Training on the drug court model. Describe current efforts and planning documenting that the jurisdiction is ready to enhance its VTC.

When the VTC began in 2009, it operated as an extension of the drug court program, so little training was initially received. In 2016, the judicial leadership of the VTC program changed, and the team received formal training and participated in a site visit to a mentor court through Justice For Vets. The team visited the Duval County Veterans Treatment Court in Jacksonville, Florida and participated in a Veterans Court training in 2019.



THINGS THAT DRIVE REVIEWERS CRAZY

- ✓ Reordering the questions because you believe it improves the flow.
- ✓ Providing extra information that isn't required.
- ✓ Having items in your budget that are not explained in your narrative.
- ✓ Skipping questions.





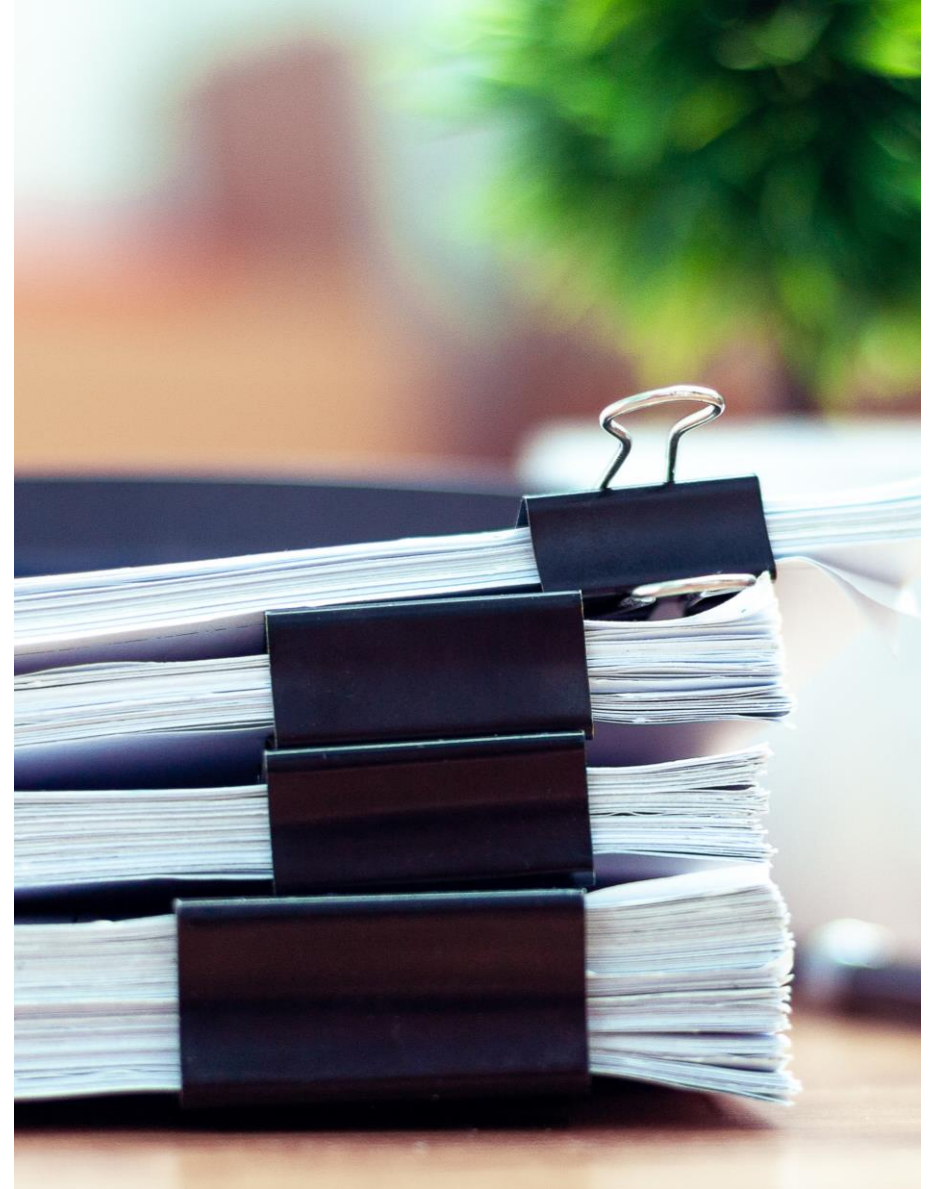
HOW TO GROW AS A GRANT WRITER

- ☑ Sign up to be a peer reviewer.
- ☑ Read publicly available applications.
- ☑ If you don't administer the grants you write, have coffee with the grant administrator and ask for feedback.



Sample applications:

<https://www.cossup.org/Program/Funding>





THANK YOU!

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Additional Funding Resources and Technical Assistance Opportunities

Catie Bialick, Director of Behavioral Health and Justice Initiatives
Office of Forensic Coordination | Texas Health and Human Services Commission

Elizabeth Conville, Technical Assistance Coordinator,
Office of Forensic Coordination | Texas Health and Human Services Commission

Navigating State Grants and Resources

Key Agency

- Texas DSHS Grant Development Center (GDC)

GDC Funding Alert Grant Database

- Search "mental health" "justice"
- Browse by subject or funding source

Sign up for "Funding Alert"

- Weekly current awareness service that lists health-related funding opportunities, grantsmanship training and other items of interest



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Philanthropic Resources



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National	State
Meadows Foundation	Hogg Foundation
Arnold Ventures	Grant Halliburton Foundation (North Texas)
MacArthur Foundation	Episcopal Health Foundation (Southeast Texas)
Pew Charitable Trust Foundation	Center for Nonprofit Management and Leadership Midwestern State University (Wichita Falls area)
Rockefeller Foundation	Amarillo Area Foundation (Amarillo area)
Ford Foundation	Center for Nonprofit Management (San Antonio area)
Charles Koch Foundation	East Texas Center for Nonprofits (East Texas)
Mindful Philanthropy	Southwest Boarder Nonprofit Resource Center (Edinburg Area)

 The University of Texas at Austin
Texas Grants Resource Center



Hogg Foundation
for Mental Health

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First Name:

Last Name:

Zip:

Referrer Name:

I'd like to subscribe to:

- Austin Area African American Behavioral Health Network Updates (periodically)
- Hogg Newsletter: Insights, Funding and Event Announcements (every 2 months)
- Into the Fold: A Podcast on Issues in Mental Health (1-2/month)
- Mental Health Headlines: Digest of News in Texas and Beyond (weekly)

SUBSCRIBE

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Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant Funding 101

Includes:

- ✓ Elements of a successful proposal
- ✓ How to write the proposal abstract
- ✓ How to write the budget narrative and worksheet



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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
CENTER

Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant Funding 101

This guide was developed by the Health and Human Services Commission's Office of Forensic Coordination to support Texas communities in applying for discretionary criminal justice and behavioral health grant programs administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Department of Justice. The guide has been adapted from the Office of Justice Programs' (OJP) Grants 101 and Grant Application Resource Guide, as well as public examples of previously successful applications. It's critical to always reference the full application requirements when applying for the a funding opportunity as components may change over time.

Based on past funding opportunities, relevant grant programs that may be available in 2024 include the [Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program](#), [Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program \(JMHC\)](#), and [Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program](#). Other grant programs may be available, and this guide can support you in developing applications for those as well. It's recommended to subscribe to [BJA's email listserv](#) to stay informed of grant funding opportunities.

KEY INSIGHTS

- ✓ **Start early!** To apply, you must have valid registration in multiple systems. Registration and renewal can take up to 10 business days to complete. Use the [Department of Justice Application Submission Checklist](#) to prepare.
- ✓ **Follow the application exactly and make sure you respond to every element specified in the solicitation.** Successful grant applications follow the solicitation instructions and elements "to a T".
- ✓ **Attend the Funding Webinar** for the grant program you would like to apply for. Ask questions!
- ✓ **Watch BJA's Grant Application Education Series**, available under "Previously Held Webinars" on [BJA's Funding Webinar webpage](#).
- ✓ **Use OJP's Grants 101 and Grant Application Resources.** You can find resources to support you in writing your BJA application on OJP's webpages:
 - [Overview of OJP Grants and Funding](#)
 - [BJA PowerPoint: The Federal Funding Process: The First Steps to Applying, How to Prepare Now, & Other Considerations](#)



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Questions

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Thank you!

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