

## Request for Applications – Justice Assistance Grant Programs

The Criminal Justice Division (CJD) of the Governor's Office is soliciting applications for projects that reduce crime and improve the criminal justice system during the state fiscal year 2014 grant cycle.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this solicitation is to reduce crime and improve the criminal justice system.

**Available Funding:** Federal funds are authorized under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG), 42 U.S.C. 3751(a). JAG funds are made available through a Congressional appropriation to the United States Department of Justice. All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated federal funds and any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

**Funding Levels:**

Minimum: \$10,000

Maximum: None

Match Requirement: None

**Standards:** Grantees must comply with the standards applicable to this funding source cited in the *Texas Administrative Code* (1 TAC Chapter 3), and all statutes, requirements, and guidelines applicable to this funding.

**Prohibitions:** Grant funds may not be used to support the following services, activities, and costs:

- 1) supplanting or use of grant funds to replace any other existing federal, state or local funds;
- 2) inherently religious activities such as prayer, worship, religious instruction, or proselytization;
- 3) lobbying;
- 4) any portion of the salary of, or any other compensation for, an elected or appointed government official;
- 5) non-law enforcement vehicles or equipment for government agencies that are for general agency use;
- 6) weapons, ammunition, explosives or military vehicles;
- 7) admission fees or tickets to any amusement park, recreational activity or sporting event;
- 8) promotional gifts;
- 9) food, meals, beverages, or other refreshments;
- 10) membership dues for individuals;
- 11) fundraising;
- 12) construction, renovation or remodeling;
- 13) medical services;
- 14) transportation, lodging, per diem or any related costs for participants, when grant funds are used to develop and conduct training; and
- 15) legal services for adult offenders.

**Eligible Applicants:**

- 1) State agencies;
- 2) Units of local government;
- 3) Independent school districts;
- 4) Native American tribes;
- 5) Public universities;
- 6) Public colleges; and
- 7) Community supervision and corrections departments.

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### Eligibility Requirements:

- 1) Projects must focus on reducing crime and improving the criminal justice system;
- 2) Eligible applicants must provide law enforcement, corrections, or judicial services;
- 3) In order for an applicant to be eligible, the county (or counties) in which the applicant is located must have a 90% average on both adult and juvenile criminal history dispositions to the Texas Department of Public Safety for calendar years 2007 through 2011. This requirement must be met by August 1, 2013;
- 4) Eligible applicants operating a law enforcement agency must be current on reporting Part I violent crime data to the Texas Department of Public Safety for inclusion in the annual Uniform Crime Report (UCR) and must have been current for the three previous years;
- 5) Eligible applicants must have a DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) number assigned to its agency (to request a DUNS number, go to <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/displayHomePage.do>); and
- 6) Eligible applicants must be registered in the federal System for Award Management (SAM) database located at <https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/> and maintain an active registration throughout the grant period.

**Project Period:** Grant-funded projects must begin on or after September 1, 2013, and expire on or before August 31, 2014. Grant-funded equipment only projects are generally awarded for a six month grant period.

**Application Process:** Applicants must access CJD's grant management website at <https://eGrants.governor.state.tx.us> to register and apply for funding.

**Preferences:** Preference will be given to projects that support one or more of the following areas:

- 1) Enhanced patrols along and near the Texas-Mexico border;
- 2) Drug and human trafficking;
- 3) Disruption of adult gangs;
- 4) Technology that promotes electronic discovery for defense counsel;
- 5) Regional information sharing systems for law enforcement;
- 6) Conversion of crime data from the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) format to the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) format; and
- 7) Cost effective programs that compliment the criminal justice system.

**Closing Date for Receipt of Applications:** All applications must be certified via CJD's grant management website on or before February 28, 2013.

### Selection Process:

- 1) For eligible local and regional projects:
  - a) Applications will be forwarded by CJD to the appropriate regional council of governments (COG).
  - b) The COG's criminal justice advisory committee will prioritize all eligible applications based on state priorities, identified community priorities, cost and program effectiveness.
  - c) CJD will accept priority listings that are approved by the COG's executive committee.
  - d) CJD will make all final funding decisions based on eligibility, COG priorities, reasonableness, availability of funding, and cost-effectiveness.
- 2) For state discretionary projects, applications will be reviewed by CJD staff members or a review group selected by the executive director. CJD will make all final funding decisions based on eligibility, reasonableness, availability of funding, and cost-effectiveness.

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**Contact Information:** If additional information is needed, contact the eGrants help desk at [eGrants@governor.state.tx.us](mailto:eGrants@governor.state.tx.us) or (512) 463-1919.