



TEXAS
JUVENILE JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT

Memorandum

To: Juvenile Probation Chiefs
From: Shandra Carter, Executive Director
Date: June 29, 2023
RE: Discretionary State Aid Grant

The Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) is pleased to announce a new Discretionary State Aid Grant opportunity. We are currently seeking applications for detention projects, with priority given to felony referrals.

Residential / Detention Projects are evidence-based, juvenile probation services provided in an out of home placement setting that improve a juvenile probation department's ability to treat youth locally, improve outcomes, and decrease the likelihood of commitment to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD).

Time Line:

June 29, 2023	Applications distributed to eligible departments
July 26, 2023	Applications are due to TJJD
August 16, 2023	Notices of award given to applicants

Informational questions are welcome at any time prior to application submission. Questions regarding application and grant specifications may be directed to Tonya Gonzalez at tonya.gonzalez@tjtd.texas.gov. Questions regarding programmatic issues or treatment services may be directed to Susan Palacios at susan.palacios@tjtd.texas.gov. Questions regarding target population data and logic model formulation may be directed to research@tjtd.texas.gov. Please allow a minimum of two weeks for the research department to provide any requested data.

Basic Project Parameters

- Awards are distributed and reported under the Discretionary State Aid grant program. All terms and conditions of the State Financial Assistance Contract and General Grant Requirements documents apply. Approved funding will be added, budgeted, expended and tracked in the Grant Portal (FLUXX) in the category of Discretionary State Aid: Detention. Additional funding years may be approved contingent on program performance relative to the established criteria.

- Grant funds will be awarded to programs focused on identified target populations of need, with specific recidivism reduction goals and utilizing research-based practices.
- There must be a single grant application for each project. Similarly, reporting through the grant period will require a separate report for each project.
- Performance criteria for grant projects are:
 - Detention Expansion Project
 - Number of new beds brought online;
 - Number of additional service days:
 - Felony referrals;
 - Misdemeanor referrals;
 - Number of juveniles entering service;
 - Average daily population of new beds brought online;
 - Average length of stay of the new beds brought online; and
 - Number of juveniles placed in service from same region.
- Grants will be awarded through a competitive application process, with no limit to the number of requests for funding that will be considered. Requests will be evaluated based on alignment with grant program requirements and identified strategic focus, potential juvenile justice system impact and funding availability.
- Financial and data reporting will occur under Discretionary State Aid: Detention, and TJJJ will issue program naming conventions and data entry protocols within two weeks of awarding grant funds. Departments will be required to report program-defined output and grant-defined performance measures annually.
- Funding will be subject to the same auditing requirements as all other state aid grant funds, as well as definitions of allowable and unallowable expenditures. Refunds will be due to TJJJ if expenditures are determined to be unallowable under the terms of the State Aid and Financial Assistance and General Grant Requirements contract.

Application Components

- Departments must submit application and logic model forms by the application due date to receive consideration.
- Applicants must describe the target population for the proposed project and the manner in which the population was identified.
- Applicants must describe the proposed residential project in detail, including:
 - specific program interventions, curricula to be used, and intensity and frequency of services to be provided;

- how the proposed services are consistent with data-driven and research-based practice for the target population. Applicants may include attachments demonstrating that a proposed program or service is research-driven;
 - the way in which a youth's risk and treatment needs will be identified, how program interventions address identified needs, and how the program will be responsive to individual youth strengths and needs,
 - the expected level of licensure and/or training of the service providers, and
 - organizational structure in place to support implementation of program approaches and interventions with fidelity.
- Applicants must clearly describe how project success will be measured, including specific project-defined output and grant-defined outcome measures and how data to report on these measures will be collected, maintained, and reported.
 - Applicants must provide a cost analysis that gives the total project cost and an itemization of the cost categories included in the analysis.
 - Local financial or in-kind matching funds are not required, but may be considered in the review process alongside other requested information.

Application Submission

- Applications may be submitted to TJJJ electronically in the Grants Portal (FLUXX).
- Applications received after July 26, 2023 will not be considered.