



Office of the Governor

## Criminal Justice Division

Funding Announcement:

***Juvenile Justice Grant Program***

December 1, 2017

## Opportunity Snapshot

Below is a high-level overview. Full information is in the funding announcement that follows.

### Purpose

The purpose of this announcement is to support projects that prevent violence in and around schools; and to improve the juvenile justice system and develop effective education, training, prevention, diversion, treatment, and rehabilitation programs in the arena of juvenile delinquency.

### Eligible Purpose Areas

Projects must fall under one of two categories: Prevention or Intervention, or Recidivism Reduction.

### Organizational Eligibility

Applications may be submitted by state agencies, public and private institutions of higher education, independent school districts, Native American tribal governments, councils of government, non-profit corporations (including hospitals and faith-based organizations) and units of local government, which are defined as a non-statewide governmental body with the authority to establish a budget and impose taxes. Juvenile specialty courts authorized under Ch. 121 of the Texas Government Code are not eligible to apply under this announcement.

### Project Periods

Continuation projects may not exceed a 12-month period.

### Budget

The minimum allowed under this program is \$10,000 and there is no maximum funding request.

### Match

There is no match requirement under this program.

### Process

Applications under this funding announcement must be submitted in eGrants at: [eGrants.gov.texas.gov](http://eGrants.gov.texas.gov)

### Timelines

Action	Date
Funding Announcement Release	12/01/2017
Online System Opening Date	12/18/2017
Final Date to Submit an Application	02/20/2018 at 5:00PM CST
Earliest Project Start Date	10/01/2018
Latest Project Start Date	12/01/2018

### Contact Information

For more information, contact the eGrants help desk at [eGrants@gov.texas.gov](mailto:eGrants@gov.texas.gov) or (512) 463-1919.

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# Juvenile Justice Grant Program

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## Overview of Application Process

Applicants should carefully review the application process as outlined below. CJD will not consider applications that fail to adequately address the application requirements and prompts, including those that have been previously approved for funding and/or are recommended for funding by local Criminal Justice Advisory Committees.

☐ **Step 1 – Review eligibility and requirements:**

- The [Eligibility](#) section outlines who may apply, which purpose areas will be considered, and the expenses and activities eligible to be included.
- The [Program-Specific Details](#) section has information on timelines, reporting, and funding.
- The [Standard CJD Requirements](#) section addresses application and project requirements.

☐ **Step 2 – Contact your regional criminal justice planner (local and regional projects only):** The regional Council of Governments' (COG) Criminal Justice Advisory Committee will review local and regional applications first, and some COGs have additional, mandatory application procedures. Applicants should contact their COG's criminal justice planner early as possible. A directory is available at <http://txregionalcouncil.org/regional-programs/criminal-justice/cjcontacts/>.

☐ **Step 3 – Develop your project:** Before starting your application, applicants should develop a concrete understanding of their project and read CJD's *Developing a Good Project Narrative* at <http://gov.texas.gov/cjd/resources>, which details how to explain:

- **What the project will accomplish:** What problem will the project solve? Who is the targeted population to serve and/or prosecute? What does success look like and how do you measure it?
- **How the project will help:** What specifically will you do? What standards or evidence says it's an effective approach? What capabilities are needed to succeed?
- **What is required for success:** What resources (including funding) does the project require?

☐ **Step 4 - Apply in eGrants:** Compile and submit your grant application via eGrants, at <http://eGrants.gov.texas.gov>. For more instructions and information, see *How to Apply for a CJD Grant*, available at <http://gov.texas.gov/cjd/resources>.

☐ **Step 5 - Funding Decisions and Grant Acceptance:** Await the funding decision, which is provided through a grant award or other notice from CJD. If you receive an award, complete the acceptance process to access funds.

## Application Resources

CJD has published several resources to assist applicants in understanding and applying for funding, all of which can be found at <http://gov.texas.gov/cjd/resources>

- **Developing a Good Project Narrative:** Guidance on how to formulate an effective project, and how to communicate it clearly in the application's narrative prompts.
- **How to Apply for a CJD Grant:** Instructions on how to file an application in eGrants.
- **Guide to Grants:** CJD policies and guidance on common grant issues.
- **Grantee Conditions and Responsibilities:** A compendium of CJD and Homeland Security Grants Division policies for all grantees.
- **Standard Certifications and Requirements:** CJD's standard requirements that the Authorized Official must certify upon applying for a grant.
- **CJD Grant Activities and Measures:** A reference for applicants on the activities allowed for different project types and the measures associated with each.

## Eligibility

### Eligible Organizations

Applications may be submitted by state agencies, public and private institutions of higher education, independent school districts, Native American tribal governments, councils of governments, non-profit corporations (including hospitals and faith-based organizations), and units of local government, which are defined as a non-statewide governmental body with the authority to establish a budget and impose taxes.

All applications submitted by local law enforcement agencies/offices must be submitted by a unit of government affiliated with the agency, including an authorizing resolution from that unit of government. For example, police departments must apply under their municipal government, and district attorneys, judicial districts, juvenile boards, and juvenile probation departments must apply through their affiliated county government (or one of the counties, in the case of agencies that serve more than one county).

### Eligible Activities and Costs

The following list of eligible and ineligible activities and costs apply generally to all projects under this announcement, unless otherwise noted in the purpose area-specific sections below. For definitions, see *CJD Grant Activities and Measures* (available at <http://gov.texas.gov/cjd/resources>)

#### Eligible:

1. Casework, non-licensed counseling, individual advocacy, or other support (including referrals to housing);
2. Counseling, therapy, or other care performed by a licensed professional;
3. Counseling or treatment for substance abuse;

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4. Equipment and technology;
5. Instruction and support for academic programs;
6. Instruction and support for employment or the workforce (including aptitude testing);
7. Instruction and support for life, social, or emotional skills;
8. Materials or curriculum development;
9. Program evaluation and assessment;
10. Research or statistical activities;
11. Training, professional development, or technical assistance received (training performed for grantee employees or volunteers, by in-house employees or outside trainers); and
12. Training, professional development, or technical assistance provided (training performed for others outside of the organization, by the grantee).

### **Ineligible:**

Projects funded under this announcement may not be used to support the unallowable services, activities, and costs listed in the Guide to Grants (available at <http://gov.texas.gov/cjd/resources>) and:

1. Emergency shelter or housing;
2. General law enforcement or public safety;
3. Legal assistance;
4. Remodeling or construction;
5. Targeted prosecution or investigation;
6. Medical services;
7. Security enhancements or equipment for non-governmental entities not engaged in criminal justice or public safety;
8. Non-law enforcement vehicles or equipment for government agencies that are for general agency use;
9. Transportation, lodging, per diem or any related costs for participants, when grant funds are used to develop and conduct training;
10. Equipment, supplies, and other direct costs associated with processing DNA evidence;
11. Law enforcement equipment that is standard department issue (not including body armor); and
12. Any other prohibition imposed by federal, state or local law or regulation.

## Eligible Purpose Areas

Under this year's funding announcement, CJD is only accepting applications for the following types of projects (indicate all that apply on the Activities tab in eGrants):

- **Child Abuse and Neglect Programs.** Programs that provide treatment to juvenile offenders who are victims of child abuse or neglect and to their families to reduce the likelihood that such youth offenders will commit subsequent violations of law.
- **Diversion.** Programs to divert youth from entering the juvenile justice system including restorative justice programs.
- **Mental Health Services.** Programs providing mental health services for youth in custody in need of such services including, but are not limited to assessment, development of individualized treatment plans, and discharge plans.
- **Aftercare/Reentry.** Community-based programs that prepare targeted youth to successfully return to their homes and communities after secure confinement. These programs focus on preparing youth offenders for release and providing a continuum of follow up post-placement services to promote successful reintegration into the community.
- **Community-Based Programs and Services.** These programs and services are those that work pre- and post-confinement with: a) parents and other family members to strengthen families to help keep youth in their homes; b) youth during confinement and their families to ensure safe return of youth home and to strengthen the families; and c) parents with limited English-speaking ability.
- **Delinquency Prevention.** Comprehensive juvenile justice and delinquency prevention programs that meet needs of youth through collaboration of the many local systems before which a youth may appear, including schools, courts, law enforcement agencies, child protection agencies, mental health agencies, welfare services, health care agencies and private nonprofit agencies offering youth services.
- **Disproportionate Minority Contact.** Programs, research, or other initiatives primarily to address situations where there are a disproportionate number of people from one or more minority groups coming into contact with the juvenile justice system.
- **Job Training.** Projects to enhance the employability of youth or prepare them for future employment. Such programs may include job readiness training, apprenticeships, and job referrals.

Applications must also designate their project as falling under one of the below three Purpose Areas:

(Recidivism Reduction)

- **Diversion and Community Supervision**
- **Re-Entry**

(Prevention or Intervention)

- **Criminal Behavior Prevention**

Applications must also contain target measures that demonstrate the scope of the project. These targets will be one measure of project success and grantees will be required to report periodic progress towards them. Each of the purpose areas and sub-categories have measures that correspond to them and specific activities. For a list of the measures and activities for this funding announcement, see *CJD Grant Activities and Measures*, available at <http://gov.texas.gov/cjd/resources>.

## Recidivism Reduction

Recidivism reduction projects have an ultimate goal of reducing crimes committed by offenders.

Projects should fall under these sub-categories:

- **Diversion and Community Supervision.** These projects prevent recidivism among non-incarcerated offenders, including those enrolled in specialty court programs. Example: A project that provides case management services and resources such as substance abuse treatment, mental health services, counseling, and job training to defer a delinquent youth from secure custody.
- **Re-entry.** These projects prevent recidivism among offenders who will – or have already – returned to the community after a sentence of incarceration. Examples: 1) A project that provides counseling and casework for juvenile offenders who are being released from state custody; 2) A project to provide job training to juvenile offenders who are currently incarcerated.

## Prevention or Intervention

Prevention or Intervention projects reduce criminal behavior and opportunities to commit crime, with the goal of reducing criminal offenses.

- **Criminal and Delinquent Behavior Prevention.** These projects work with individuals at-risk of delinquent behavior. Examples: 1) A project in a school that provides early intervention services to at-risk students to deter them from continuing or entering the juvenile justice system; 2) A community-based program that works with at-risk youth to prevent their involvement in the justice system.

## Program-Specific Details

### Timeline

Action	Date
Funding Announcement Release	12/1/2017
Online System Opening Date	12/18/2017
Final Date to Submit an Application	02/20/2018 at 5:00PM CST
Earliest Start Date	10/01/2018
Latest Start Date	12/01/2018

## Funding and Reporting Details

Category	Detail
Funds Available	Up to \$6.5 million <sup>1</sup>
Budget Minimum	\$10,000
Budget Maximum	None
Match Requirement	No match required
Project Period	May <i>not</i> exceed 12 months
Program Income Method	Deduction (if applicable)
Funding Source	Federal funding: Authorized under Sections 221–223 of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP Act) of 1974, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5631–5633. State funding: Authorized under Section 102.056 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure and Section 772.006 of the Texas Government Code, which designates CJD as the administering agency.
Financial Reporting	At least quarterly, submitted via Financial Status Reports in eGrants
Financing Method	Reimbursement-for-costs basis
Progress Reporting	Quarterly, submitted via the Public Policy Research Institute at Texas A&M University at <a href="http://cjd.tamu.edu">http://cjd.tamu.edu</a> <sup>2</sup>

1) Awards are funded through a federal government award and appropriated by Congress. All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated federal funds and any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

2) CJD may require additional reporting through a condition of funding, as needed.

## Standard CJD Requirements

When accepting an award under this funding announcement, the grantee agrees to comply with a variety of state and federal laws and regulations, including requirements related to Uniform Crime Reports, criminal history reporting, and immigration and customs enforcement requests. For more information see the following documents, available at <http://gov.texas.gov/cjd/resources>.

- *Standard Certifications and Requirements*
- *Grantee Conditions and Responsibilities*
- *Guide to Grants*

## Selection Process

**Application Screening:** CJD will screen all applications to ensure that they meet the requirements included in the funding announcement. Applications that meet those requirements will move forward to the merit review phase.

**Merit Review – Local Projects:** Projects with a local impact will be reviewed by a panel appointed by the local Council of Governments using their own criteria. The merit review panels will assess the applications for quality and rank by priority, and then report their findings to the CJD executive director.

**Merit Review – Statewide Projects:** Projects with a statewide impact will be reviewed by a panel appointed by the CJD executive director in an effort to prioritize funding. The merit review panel will assess and score each application on a 100-point scale, and then report its findings to the executive director. Scores will be based on standard criteria. For more information, see *How to Apply for a CJD Grant*, available at <http://gov.texas.gov/cjd/resources>.

**Final Decisions – All Projects:** The executive director will consider merit review rankings along with other factors and make all final funding decisions. Other factors may include cost effectiveness, overall funds availability, CJD or state government priorities and strategies, legislative directives, need, geographic distribution, balance of focuses and approaches, or other relevant factors.

CJD may not fund all applications or may only award part of the amount requested. Per Rule 3.9 of the Texas Administrative Code, all funding decisions made by the executive director are final and are not subject to appeal. The receipt of an application by CJD does not obligate CJD to fund the grant or to fund it at the amount requested.

## Announcements

After CJD makes final funding decisions, each applicant will receive either an unfunded notice or a preliminary decision notification or final grant award. Release of final grant awards for federally funded programs are always contingent on CJD's receipt of the federal grant award for that program and CJD cannot release or guarantee funding to any applicant until it has received and accepted the federal award and a determination is made that adequate funding is available.

## About CJD

Our mission at the Criminal Justice Division is to direct much needed resources to those who are committed to making Texas a safer place and those who help victims of crime to recover and feel safe again. In carrying out this mission, we are committed to helping our grantees by actively finding ways for them to accomplish their goals and by making sure that we always have our eye to identifying the approaches that work best. We envision positive and beneficial working relationships with our grantees where we provide as much assistance as is needed and where we are always ready with answers, not burdensome restrictions or requirements.

CJD will make over \$275 million in funding available to hundreds of organizations during state fiscal year 2018 for juvenile justice, delinquency prevention, victims services, law enforcement, prosecution, courts, specialty courts, prevention of child sex trafficking, and other types of projects to benefit Texans.