



Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office Criminal Justice Division Funding Announcement: *Juvenile Justice & Truancy Prevention Grant Program, FY2024*

Purpose

The purpose of this announcement is to solicit applications for projects that prevent violence in and around school; and to improve the juvenile justice system by providing mental health services, truancy prevention and intervention through community-based and school programs

Following the tragic school shooting in Santa Fe, there has been a robust statewide effort to prioritize the safety of all Texas students. The Governor's Public Safety Office (PSO) is highlighting the need to prevent security threats in advance through prevention and intervention with at-risk youth. Projects geared towards school safety will be given priority under this announcement.

Available Funding

State funds are authorized under the Texas General Appropriations Act, Article I, Trusteed Programs within the Office of the Governor, Strategy B.1.1 as well as Rider 21. All awards are subject to the availability of funds and the amount is based on a regional model and any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

Eligible Organizations

Applications may be submitted by independent school districts, Native American tribes, 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 community supervision and corrections departments, district attorneys, and judicial districts must apply through their affiliated county government (or one of the counties, in the case of agencies that serve more than one county).

Juvenile specialty courts authorized under Chapter 121 of the Texas Government Code are not eligible to apply under this announcement.

Application Process

Applicants must access the PSO's eGrants grant management website at <https://eGrants.gov.texas.gov> to register and apply for funding. For more instructions and information, see *eGrants User Guide to Creating an Application*, available [here](#).

1. For eligible local and regional projects:
 - a. Applicants must contact their applicable regional council of governments (COG) regarding their application.
 - b. Each of Texas' 24 COGs holds its own application planning workshops, workgroups, and/or subcommittees and facilitates application prioritization for certain programs within its region. Failure to comply with regional requirements imposed by the COG may render an application ineligible.
2. State agencies, and other organizations proposing projects with a statewide impact, may submit applications directly to PSO.

Key Dates

Action	Date
Funding Announcement Release	12/12/2022
Online System Opening Date	12/12/2022
Final Date to Submit and Certify an Application	02/09/2023 at 5:00pm CST
Earliest Project Start Date	09/01/2023

Project Period

Projects must begin on or after 09/01/2023 and may not exceed a 12 month project period.

Funding Levels

Minimum: \$10,000

Maximum: None

Match Requirement: None

Standards

Grantees must comply with standards applicable to this fund source cited in the Texas Grant Management Standards ([TxGMS](#)), [Federal Uniform Grant Guidance](#), and all statutes, requirements, and guidelines applicable to this funding.

Eligible Purpose Areas

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.

School Programs. Education programs or supportive services in traditional public schools and detention/corrections education settings to encourage youth to remain in school; or alternative learning programs to support transition to work and self-sufficiency, and to enhance coordination between correctional programs and youth's local education programs to ensure the instruction they receive outside school is aligned with that provided in their schools, and that any identified learning problems are communicated.

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.

Truancy Prevention - Education programs and/or related services designed to prevent truancy including prevention services for children considered at-risk of entering the juvenile justice system and intervention services for juveniles engaged in misconduct.

Juvenile Case Managers - Individuals designated to provide services in court cases involving juvenile offenders including assisting the court in administering the court's juvenile docket and supervising the court's orders in juvenile cases. May also provide prevention services to a child considered at-risk of entering the juvenile justice system and intervention services to juveniles engaged in misconduct before cases are filed.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Local units of governments must comply with the Cybersecurity Training requirements described in Section 772.012 and Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code. Local governments determined to not be in compliance with the cybersecurity requirements required by Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code are ineligible for OOG grant funds until the second anniversary of the date the local government is determined ineligible. Government entities must annually certify their compliance with the training requirements using the [Cybersecurity Training Certification for State and Local Governments](#). A copy of the Training Certification must be uploaded to your eGrants application. For more information or to access available training programs, visit the Texas Department of Information Resources [Statewide Cybersecurity Awareness Training](#) page.
2. Entities receiving funds from PSO must be located in a county that has an average of 90% or above on both adult and juvenile dispositions entered into the computerized criminal history database maintained by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) as directed in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 66. The disposition completeness percentage is defined as the percentage of arrest charges a county reports to DPS for which a disposition has been subsequently reported and entered into the computerized criminal history system.

Counties applying for grant awards from the Office of the Governor must commit that the county will report at least 90% of convictions within five business days to the Criminal Justice Information System at the Department of Public Safety.

3. Eligible applicants operating a law enforcement agency must be current on reporting complete UCR data and the Texas specific reporting mandated by 411.042 TGC, to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for inclusion in the annual Crime in Texas (CIT) publication. To be considered eligible for funding, applicants must have submitted a full twelve months of accurate data to DPS for the most recent calendar year by the deadline(s) established by DPS. Due to the importance of timely

reporting, applicants are required to submit complete and accurate UCR data, as well as the Texas-mandated reporting, on a no less than monthly basis and respond promptly to requests from DPS related to the data submitted.

4. Local units of government, including cities, counties and other general purpose political subdivisions, as appropriate, and institutions of higher education that operate a law enforcement agency, must comply with all aspects of the programs and procedures utilized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”) to: (1) notify DHS of all information requested by DHS related to illegal aliens in Agency’s custody; and (2) detain such illegal aliens in accordance with requests by DHS. Additionally, counties and municipalities may NOT have in effect, purport to have in effect, or make themselves subject to or bound by, any law, rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that would: (1) require or authorize the public disclosure of federal law enforcement information in order to conceal, harbor, or shield from detection fugitives from justice or aliens illegally in the United States; or (2) impede federal officers from exercising authority under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), § 1226(c), § 1231(a), § 1357(a), § 1366(1), or § 1366(3). Lastly, eligible applicants must comply with all provisions, policies, and penalties found in Chapter 752, Subchapter C of the Texas Government Code.

Each local unit of government, and institution of higher education that operates a law enforcement agency, must download, complete and then upload into eGrants the [CEO/Law Enforcement Certifications and Assurances Form](#) certifying compliance with federal and state immigration enforcement requirements. This Form is required for each application submitted to OOG and is active until August 31, 2024 or the end of the grant period, whichever is later.

5. In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 420.034, any facility or entity that collects evidence for sexual assault or other sex offenses or investigates or prosecutes a sexual assault or other sex offense for which evidence has been collected, must participate in the statewide electronic tracking system developed and implemented by the Texas Department of Public Safety. Visit DPS’s [Sexual Assault Evidence Tracking Program](#) website for more information or to set up an account to begin participating.
6. Eligible applicants must be registered in the federal System for Award Management (SAM) database and have an UEI (Unique Entity ID) number assigned to its agency (to get registered in the SAM database and request an UEI number, go to <https://sam.gov/>). .

Failure to comply with program eligibility requirements may cause funds to be withheld and/or suspension or termination of grant funds.

Prohibitions

Grant funds may not be used to support the unallowable costs listed in the [Guide to Grants](#) or any of the following unallowable costs:

1. Construction, renovation, or remodeling;
2. Medical services;
3. Law enforcement equipment that is standard department issue;
4. Transportation, lodging, per diem or any related costs for participants, when grant funds are used to develop and conduct training; and
5. Any other prohibition imposed by federal, state or local law or regulation.

Selection Process

PSO will screen all applications to ensure that they meet the requirements included in the funding announcement.

1. For eligible local and regional projects:
 - a. Applications will be forwarded by PSO 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. PSO will accept priority listings that are approved by the COG's executive committee.
 - d. PSO will make all final funding decisions based upon eligibility, approved COG priorities, reasonableness of the project, availability of funding, and cost-effectiveness.
2. For state discretionary projects, applications will be reviewed by PSO staff members or a review group selected by the executive director. PSO will make all final funding decisions based on eligibility, reasonableness, availability of funding, and cost-effectiveness.

Contact Information

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