

Public Safety Office Application Process and Specialty Courts Grant Program Overview

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Public Safety Office

Organization Overview

Designated Role: The Office of the Governor's Public Safety Office (PSO) serves as Texas' designated State Administering Agency (SAA) for state appropriated funds and federal criminal justice and homeland security grants awarded to Texas intended to improve public safety.

The Public Safety Office is composed of the following divisions:

- Victim Services
- Justice Programs
- Homeland Security Terrorism Preparedness
- Border Security
- Crime Stoppers
- Child Sex Trafficking Team
- Sexual Assault Survivors' Task Force
- Grant Administration Division

Mission: Promote strategies that improve public safety, support victims of crime, prevent terrorism, and prepare communities for the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk to Texans.

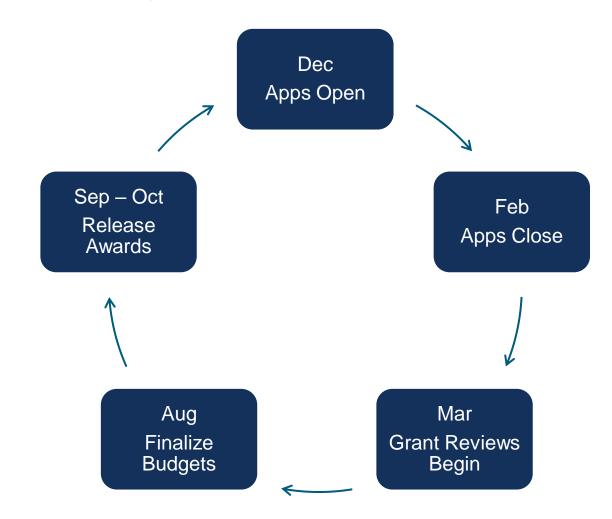


Public Safety Office

Application Process – Cycle

- We receive more than 2,000 individual applications annually.
- All applications go through an internal multi-layer review process.
- Most also receive an external peer review.

The typical grant cycle for **most programs** is as follows:





Public Safety Office

Application Process – eGrants

eGrants link: https://egrants.gov.texas.gov/Default.aspx

- Used to administer all grants made by the PSO.
- Owned and maintained by the OOG.
- Includes links to various forms, guides, FAQs, instructional videos on how to make budget revisions, complete financial status reports, and more!



► Governor's Office (OOG)

Homepage

▶ Criminal Justice Division (CJD) Homepage

▶ Homeland Security Grants Division (HSGD) Homepage

► Texas Music Office (TMO)

▶ Links to Grant Resources

★ eGrants News

- Funding Opportunities
- ▶ Guide to Grants
- Guide to Creating an Applicatio
- Financial Management Guide

The Texas Music Office (TMO) is a state-funded business promotion office and information

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"A secure and resilient Nation with the capabilities required across the whole community to prevent,

protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from the threats and hazards that pose the greatest

clearinghouse for the Texas music industry. The TMO assists more than 15,000 individual clients each year, thereby meeting its legislative mandate: "Sec. 485.004. Promotion; Duties. (a) The office shall

promote the development of the music industry in the state by informing members of that industry and

the public about the resources available in the state for music production." The TMO is the sister office to the Texas Film Commission, both of which are within the Office of the Governor's Economic

Please note the eGrants Disclaimer

Development and Tourism Division.



Justice Programs

Issue Areas

Law Enforcement Equipment

(shields, vests, body cameras, vehicles, records management systems)

Community Violence Prevention

Regional Law Enforcement Training Academies

Specialty Courts

(drug/DWI, mental health, veterans, CSEP, public safety employees, juvenile) Substance Abuse and Treatment

Juvenile Justice and Truancy Prevention

Forensic Evidence Testing

(DNA, firearms, prints, toxicology, sexual assault evidence)

Capital Murder Case
Assistance

ALERRT Travel Assistance



Overview – General Information

Purpose

The purpose of this grant program is to provide funding assistance for specialty court programs as defined in Chapters 121 through 130 of the Texas Government Code as well as the continuation of a training and technical assistance resource center. Funding may be used to provide additional personnel, equipment, supplies, professional counseling and/or substance abuse treatment, and training to support the specified specialty court programs.

Key Information

- Projects may not exceed a 12-month project period.
- Minimum Request: \$10,000
- Maximum Request: No maximum.
- All eligible applications are reviewed and scored by the Specialty Court Advisory Council.

Eligible Specialty Court Programs

- Adult Drug Courts
- Mental Health Courts
- Veterans Treatment Courts
- Commercially Sexually Exploited Persons Courts
- Family Drug Courts
- Public Safety Employees Courts
- Juvenile Courts



Overview – Program-Specific Requirements

Program-Specific Requirements

- Must perform the full, felony-level Texas Risk Assessment System (TRAS) assessment on each participant enrolled during the project period. Juvenile courts are required to perform the PACT risk assessment as mandated by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department.
- Must meet all registration requirements in the Texas Government Code, Section 121.002.
 - 1. Written notice of the program;
 - 2. Any resolution or other official declaration under which the program was established; and
 - 3. A copy of the applicable community justice plan that incorporates duties related to supervision that will be required under the program.
- Required to have completed the BeST Assessment (Best Practices Self-Assessment Tool) within the last two
 years.
- All Adult Courts: Must have implemented the NADCP Adult Drug Court Best Practice Standards (Volumes I & II).
- Family Drug Courts: Must have implemented the NADCP Family Treatment Court Best Practice Standards.



*See the Specialty Courts Grant Program Request for Applications (RFA) when released in December for additional PSO-wide eligibility requirements for applicant agencies and a list of prohibitions.

Overview – FY24 Sources of Funding

Mixed Beverage Gross Receipts and Sales Tax. The Criminal Justice Division's (CJD) Specialty Court Account receives 1 percent of the taxes collected under Subchapters B and B-1 of the Tax Code.

-Approx. \$20M

Consolidated Fees on Conviction. CJD's Specialty Court Account receives 1.0377 percent of all court costs collected under Chapter 133 of the Local Government Code.

-Approx. \$2M

Rider 33 Commercially Sexually Exploited Persons Programs. CJD receives \$1.75M per FY for the implementation of prevention and intervention programs or court programs, as defined in Chapter 126, Government Code, related to commercially sexually exploited persons.

-\$1.75M



Resources

- Specialty Courts Grant Program Funding Announcement
- Chapters 121 through 130 of the Texas Government Code
- Specialty Courts Resource Center (SCRC) operated by Sam Houston State University (http://txspecialtycourts.org/)
 - Grant Writing Webinar (Courtesy of SCRC and NDCRC)
 - Preparing Your Project Narrative Checklist
- Office of Court Administration (OCA)
- eGrants User Guide to Creating an Application





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