



Office of the Governor

Criminal Justice Division

Funding Announcement:

Crime Stoppers Assistance Fund

December 19, 2016

Opportunity Snapshot

The State of Texas wants to encourage and fund local Crime Stoppers organizations. This is an overview of elements of the opportunity. Complete information is in the funding announcement.

Purpose

This announcement supports certified Texas Crime Stoppers organizations during the state fiscal year 2018 grant cycle.

Funds Available

It is anticipated that up to \$300,000 will be funded in this announcement.

Process

Applicants can respond to the funding announcement by completing an application in eGrants (<http://eGrants.gov.texas.gov>). Priority will be given to state agencies, annual Crime Stoppers conference and Campus Crime Stoppers conference hosts, local organizations, campus organizations and local organizations with campus umbrella or safe school campus programs.

Budget

The minimum request can be for \$2,500. Certified Crime Stoppers organizations may request \$10,000 maximum. Certified organizations with campus umbrella or safe school programs may request \$15,000 maximum.

Grant funds will be awarded to assist with reasonable costs associated with hosting the annual Texas Crime Stoppers conference or annual Texas Campus Crime Stoppers conference.

Match

No match is required for this grant program.

Project Periods

A funded project may not exceed a 12-month period.

Organizational Eligibility

Applications may be submitted by organizations defined in Section 414.001(2) of the Texas Government Code as certified by the Texas Crime Stoppers Council. These organizations are certified to receive repayments under Articles 37.073 and 42.152 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, or payments from a defendant under Article 42.12 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.

Contact Information

If additional information is needed, contact the eGrants help desk at eGrants@gov.texas.gov or (512) 463-1919.

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Crime Stoppers Assistance Fund

The goal of the Criminal Justice Division (CJD) is to provide funding to improve public safety, support victims of crime and promote innovative solutions to common problems. Crime Stoppers Assistance funding supports the efforts of communities to solve crimes and assists Texas Crime Stoppers with the planning and conducting of 16-hour training conferences.

To apply for a grant, please use this four-step process:

- **Step One - Review the Process:** Become familiar with the funding announcement and the process used for this particular program.
- **Step Two - Consider the Requirements:** Consider the eligibility requirements and what will be required of successful applicants.
- **Step Three - Apply in eGrants.** Prepare and submit the grant application. To apply online or to register, please visit eGrants.gov.texas.gov.
- **Step Four – Funding Decisions and Grant Acceptance.** The funding decision is provided through a grant award or notice from CJD. If funding is awarded, please complete the acceptance process to access funds.

Step 1: Review the Process

Timeline

Action	Date
Funding Announcement Release	December 19, 2016
Online System Opening Date	December 19, 2016
Final Date to Submit an Application	February 20, 2017 at 5PM CST
Earliest Start Date	September 1, 2017
Latest Start Date	November 1, 2017

Submission Method

Applications must be submitted and authorized, utilizing eGrants (eGrants.gov.texas.gov), by the listed deadline.

Step 2: Consider the Requirements

Organizational Eligibility

Applications may be submitted by Crime Stoppers organizations defined by Section 414.001(2) of the Texas Government Code that are certified by the Texas Crime Stoppers Council to receive repayments under Articles 37.073 and 42.152 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, or payments from a defendant under Article 42.12 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure. Section 414.001(2) of the Texas Government Code defines a “crime stoppers organization” as:

1) a private, nonprofit organization that is operated on a local or statewide level, that accepts and expends donations for rewards to persons who report to the organization information about criminal activity and that forwards the information to the appropriate law enforcement agency; or

2) a public organization that is operated on a local or statewide level, that pays rewards to persons who report to the organization information about criminal activity, and that forwards the information to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Additionally, to be eligible, a Crime Stoppers organization must have submitted the 2016 Probation Fee and Repayment Report (PFRR) to Texas Crime Stoppers by January 31, 2017. Required Quarterly Statistical Reports must be current and up to date.

Funding and Project Period Limits

Funding Limits. The minimum award is \$2,500. Certified Crime Stoppers organizations may request \$10,000 maximum. Certified organizations with campus umbrella or safe school programs may request \$15,000 maximum, with a minimum \$5000 budgeted for the campus program.

Crime Stoppers organizations, approved by the Texas Crime Stoppers Council to host annual conferences, may apply for up to \$30,000 to fund reasonable costs associated with hosting a Crime Stoppers conference or Campus Crime Stoppers conference.

Project Period. Funded projects must begin on or after September 1, 2017, and expire on or before August 31, 2018. A funded project may not exceed a 1-year grant period.

Available Funding. It is anticipated that up to \$300,000 will be funded in this announcement. The number of awards will depend on the available funds.

Source of Funding. State funding is authorized for these projects under Article 102.013, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, which designates CJD as the funds administering agency. The funding is a biennial appropriation by the Texas Legislature from funds collected through court costs and fees.

Match Requirement

There is no match required.

Eligible Expenses

Funds awarded to certified Crime Stoppers organizations are restricted to travel and training costs to attend Texas Crime Stoppers Council approved training and conferences, contractual and professional services, supplies (including equipment under \$5,000.00), and indirect costs up to \$400.00 for Directors and Officers Liability Insurance .

Grant funds will be awarded to assist with reasonable costs associated with hosting the annual Texas Crime Stoppers conference or annual Texas Campus Crime Stoppers conference.

Ineligible Costs and Activities

Grant funds may not be used to support these services, activities, and costs:

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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. Fundraising;
5. Membership dues for individuals;
6. Promotional gifts;
7. Construction, renovation, or remodeling
8. Medical services;
9. Any other prohibition imposed by federal, state or local law or regulation;
10. Entertainment, including amusement, diversion, social activities, and any associated costs (i.e. tickets to shows and sports events, meals, lodging, rentals, transportation, and gratuities) unless there is a clear programmatic purpose and the costs are approved in advance by CJD;

Reporting Requirements

Financial and Progress Reports. At the end of each quarter of the state fiscal year, grantees are required to submit a financial status report via eGrants and a progress report via <https://cjd.tamu.edu/> in the format required by CJD.

Probation Fee and Repayment Report. Certified programs, including those that receive grants from CJD, must submit the annual PFRR report. Timely submission of the report is a requirement of funding. Late reports may result in payments being withheld.

Quarterly Statistic Reports. Certified programs, including those that receive grants from CJD, must submit a Quarterly Statistical Report via <https://cjd.tamu.edu/> no later than January 31, April 30, July 31, and October 31 of each calendar year. Timely submission of the reports is a requirement of funding. Late reports may result in payments being withheld

Program-Specific Requirements

Eligible Activities. Crime Stoppers organizations must focus on reducing crime through the operation of a tip management system which receives information from individuals about criminal activities and fugitives. The system must guarantee anonymity, must forward the information to the appropriate law enforcement agency and pay rewards.

Standard CJD Requirements

CJD Regulations. Grantees must comply with the standards which are cited in the Texas Administrative Code (1 TAC Chapter 3) and all statutes and requirements which are applicable to the funding source

Uniform Crime Reports. Eligible applicants operating a law enforcement agency must be current 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.

Criminal History Reporting. The county (or counties) which the are serviced by the applicant must have a 90% average on adult and juvenile criminal history dispositions reported to the Texas Department of Public Safety for calendar years 2011 through 2015.

Step 3: Apply via eGrants

Basics

To apply to CJD for a grant, please complete these standard requirements:

- 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>).
- Applicants must have, or register for, an account in eGrants (<https://eGrants.gov.texas.gov>).

Project Narrative

All Crime Stoppers organizations must complete the “Project Abstract” and “Project Approach & Activities” sections. All other fields may be marked N/A. A reader should be able to understand how the funds will be used to benefit the organization and/or umbrella campus program.

Project Abstract. Provide a brief summary of the proposed project. For the public and policy makers, the abstract is an overview project plan and the intended use of funding. The summary should easy to understand by a person who is not familiar with Crime Stoppers. (Limit to 1500 characters.)

Problem Statement. N/A for Crime Stoppers organizations.

Supporting Data. N/A for Crime Stoppers organizations.

Project Approach & Activities. Provide a summary of the activities intended for the project and how the activities benefit the organization. If applicable, provide a summary of how funds and activities will be used to support an umbrella campus program.

Performance Management. N/A for Crime Stoppers organizations.

Target Group. N/A for Crime Stoppers organizations.

Evidence-Based Best Practices: Optional for Crime Stoppers organizations.

Step 4: Funding Decisions and Grant Acceptance

Selection Criteria

Application Review – All Applications: CJD will screen all applications to ensure that they meet the program-specific requirements included in the funding announcements. CJD staff will then review applications for quality, demonstrated capabilities and capacity to execute the project proposal, and reasonableness of budget, and make recommendations to the executive director.

Funding Decisions - Local Crime Stoppers Organizations: The CJD executive director will review the recommendations of CJD staff and make final funding decisions. The executive director may take factors into consideration including the relative need of applicants based on annual Probation Fee and Repayment Reports, how applications fit into the CJD's overall strategy, the need to fairly distribute funds across geographic regions and population sizes, and other factors including economic factors. The CJD executive director may also give funding preference will be given to:

- Organizations hosting an annual Crime Stoppers training conference;
- Organizations hosting an annual Campus Crime Stoppers training conference;
- Campus-based organizations and local organizations with campus umbrella or safe school campus programs;
- Projects that support participation in the annual conferences;
- Projects that support information systems such as answering services, tip management software, phone service, or web hosting services; and
- Projects utilizing evidence-based practices developed using rigorous evaluations and real-world data.

Funding Decisions - Statewide Crime Stoppers Projects: The CJD executive director will review the recommendations of CJD staff and make final funding decisions. The executive director may take factors into consideration including the relative need of applicants based on annual Probation Fee and Repayment Reports, how applications fit into the CJD's overall strategy, the need to fairly distribute funds across geographic regions and population sizes, and other factors including economic factors.

Funding Decisions Are Final: The CJD executive director will make all funding decisions. If the interest in grant funds exceeds available funding, 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

When the funding decisions are made by CJD, each applicant will receive either an unfunded notice, a preliminary decision notification or final grant award. The award will provide the conditions and requirements of the grant. The release of final grant awards is always contingent upon available Crime Stoppers Assistance Funds. CJD will not release or guarantee funding to an applicant until the award is received, the acceptance is processed and 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 is making over \$250 million in funding available to hundreds of organizations during state fiscal year 2016 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.