



Office of the Governor

Criminal Justice Division

Funding Opportunity:

Specialty Courts Training and Technical Assistance Program

December 19, 2016

Opportunity Snapshot

Below is a high-level overview of many of the elements of this opportunity. The funding announcement that follows provides full information.

Purpose

The purpose of this announcement is to solicit applications to establish a training and technical assistance (T&TA) resource center for specialty courts in the State of Texas. The award will be a cooperative agreement between the recipient and CJD. The recipient will work closely with CJD to implement the agreement, and will be required to obtain CJD approval for implementation of major elements.

The T&TA infrastructure will assist specialty courts to achieve operational excellence and program success. Developing the T&TA infrastructure will include defining goals, assessing needs, picking the right tools, developing a T&TA plan, allocating T&TA resources to individual courts, and continuously refining the methods used to provide assistance. The recipient will be responsible for the primary research, planning, and coordination of the training and technical assistance program, but the funded project will not include the actual delivery of substantive training or technical assistance. The recipient will work with CJD to identify those needs and organize delivery of services. This project will be conducted in four phases.

Expected Award

CJD anticipates that there will be only one award under this program and the recipient will fulfill all program requirements.

Process

Applicants will respond to this funding announcement by completing an application in eGrants at (<https://eGrants.gov.texas.gov>).

Budget

Applicants must provide their best estimate of the actual costs of the delivering the project from phase 1 through phase 3. Cost-effectiveness will be a key selection element.

Match

There is no match requirement for this funding opportunity.

Project Period

The project's expected start date is May 1, 2017, but CJD may move it slightly earlier or later, based on CJD's needs and the selected recipient's capabilities. The initial project period will be for one year, with up to four option years possible for potential renewal without additional competition.

Organizational Eligibility

Applications may be submitted by non-profit agencies with statewide reach and colleges or universities with a proven track record of providing effective training to judicial or relevant law enforcement personnel.

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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Specialty Court Training & Technical Assistance Infrastructure Program

The goal of the Criminal Justice Division (CJD) is to improve public safety and support victims of crime by filling system gaps and promoting innovative solutions to common problems. CJD is accepting applications to establish a training and technical assistance (T&TA) resource center for specialty courts in the State of Texas.

CJD currently awards grant funds to approximately half of the 175 specialty courts in Texas and would like to help support the success of all specialty courts across the State. The T&TA resource center will:

1. Provide a centralized location for relevant resources to specialty court programs;
2. Act as a referral clearinghouse for training and technical assistance to specialty court programs;
3. Support the Specialty Courts Advisory Council (SCAC) in identifying promising and best practices;
4. Help CJD and the SCAC identify gaps between needs and available resources; and
5. Support the SCAC and specialty court programs in compliance with the best practices adopted by the Texas Judicial Council.

This program will have multiple phases, with activities and deliverables associated with each phase. See Program-Specific Requirements under Step 2 for more information.

If you are interested in applying for a grant under this program, follow the four-step process outlined below.

- **Step One - Review the Process:** Get familiar with the funding announcement and the process used for this particular program.
- **Step Two - Consider the Requirements:** Consider the eligibility requirements as well as what will be required of successful applicants.
- **Step Three - Apply in eGrants.** Compile and submit your grant application. To understand how to apply online or to register for the system go to <https://egrants.gov.texas.gov/>.
- **Step Four – 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.

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 5:00 PM CST
Expected Start Date	May 1, 2017
Expected End Date (before potential renewal)	April 30, 2018

Submission Requirements & Method

Requirements. Each application should address all the program requirements.

Method. Applicants must submit and certify their applications through eGrants (<https://egrants.gov.texas.gov/>) by the deadline listed above.

Step 2: Consider the Requirements

Organizational Eligibility

Applications may be submitted by non-profit agencies with a statewide reach and colleges or universities that have a proven track record of planning and/or delivering effective training and technical assistance for the judiciary or similar criminal justice entities.

Funding and Project Period Limits

Project Period. The project's expected start date is May 1, 2017, but CJD may slightly adjust this date, based on CJD's needs and the selected recipient's capabilities. The initial project period will be for one year, with up to four option years possible for potential renewal without additional competition.

Available Funding. CJD intends to make only one award under this program, and will determine an appropriate funding level needed to carry out project activities based off applications received.

Match Requirement

There is no match requirement under this program.

Eligible Expenses

Grant funds are restricted to personnel, supplies, materials, subcontracts, equipment, and travel needed to provide the training and technical assistance resource center.

Ineligible Costs and Activities

Applicants may not use awarded funds to support the services, activities, and costs in the *Guide to Grants* found at https://egrants.gov.texas.gov/FileDirectory/Guide_to_Grants_v8.pdf.

Reporting Requirements

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

Supported Specialty Court Types

The T&TA infrastructure should support each of the specialty court types authorized under state law:

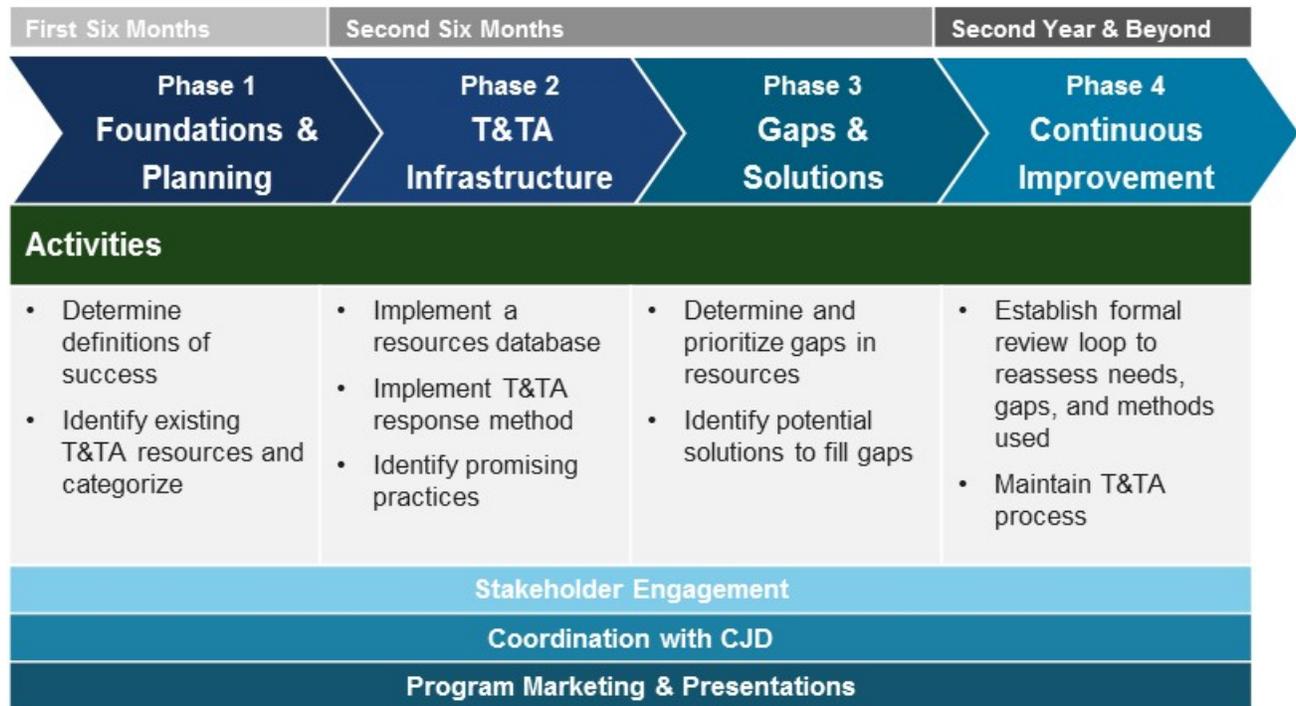
- Drug Courts (adult and juvenile),
- Family Drug Courts,
- Veterans Treatment Courts,
- Mental Health Courts,
- Commercially Sexually Exploited Persons Courts, and
- “Problem solving courts” that combine elements of more than one type due to co-occurring issues in participants.

Program-Specific Requirements

The T&TA resource center will:

1. Provide a one-stop shop for specialty courts in Texas to find the materials, resources, and assistance they need to be as effective as possible.
2. Act as a referral clearinghouse for specialty court programs in Texas to access needed assistance, such as program reviews or experts.
3. Support the Specialty Courts Advisory Council (SCAC) in identifying promising practices to be shared with programs and ultimately to identify best practices that the committee can recommend to the Texas Judicial Council. Practices adopted by the Judicial Council will then be binding upon specialty court programs in Texas.
4. Help CJD and the SCAC identify gaps in the materials, resources, and assistance available to the programs.
5. Support the SCAC and specialty court programs as they focus on determining if programs are in compliance with the best practices adopted by the Texas Judicial Council and coming into compliance.

This program will have multiple phases, with activities and deliverables associated with each phase. See the chart below and the text following for more information on each. The recipient must receive CJD approval for each deliverable before moving on to the next phase, and must make any revisions or changes requested by CJD.



Phase 1: Foundations & Planning (first six months)

Determine the definitions of success

CJD strives to measure the impact success of all its grant programs through outcomes: the impact of the program on the target population or problem. For specialty courts, there are two linked outcomes: 1) the reduction in criminal recidivism by court participants, measured against similar populations; and 2) net savings in criminal justice expenditures, measured by comparing savings due to decreased recidivism against the costs of specialty courts. An additional success factor is adherence to best practices. Currently, the Texas Judicial Council has approved best practices for adult drug courts, which will be required as of August 31, 2019. (The Public Policy Research Institute at Texas A&M University conducted a review of drug courts to determine the current level of adherence to best practice. A copy of the report can be found at <http://gov.texas.gov/cjd/specialtycourts> .)

The recipient will review the factors above as well as all relevant materials and recommend the definitions of success for specialty court programs. These can include levels of improvement, targets, or other relevant definitions. The definitions developed may be refined or changed over time as additional information becomes available and as the programs evolve over time. The definitions may differ for each of the types of specialty courts authorized under Chapters 122-126 of the Texas Government Code. The primary goal of these definitions is to assist the recipient in identify and driving T&TA resources towards the areas that will have the greatest impact towards success.

Required outputs for approval by CJD:

- Draft written definitions of success for CJD and SCAC.
- Materials and facilitation for a SCAC meeting on adoption of definitions of success.
- Final definitions of success based on SCAC meeting and guidance from CJD.

Identify existing resources

There are a large number of resources available to the specialty courts community, but they differ in their levels of rigor and robustness for different types of court programs. For example, there is a high level of resources available for adult drug courts, but less for commercially sexually exploited persons (CSEP) programs.

The recipient will review, categorize, and assess available resources that can support the effectiveness of specialty courts. Resources can vary from static material, to planned training, to customizable trainings and consulting services. Static material could include guides, instructional videos, training curricula, recorded webinars, publications, etc. Planned training could include existing conferences, professional network offerings, and local training resources already in place and cost-effective for programs in Texas. Customizable services could include current existing offerings that provide program reviews, hands on support, or consulting service programs provided by experts.

Specifically, the recipient will:

- Conduct a broad search for all relevant resources. The recipient will not limit the search to resources developed for Texas court programs and will include resources developed in other states or countries and available at no or low cost.
- Assess these resources to determine (a) if they meet an appropriate level of rigor and (b) how closely aligned each is with the most critical definitions of success.
- Categorize and cross reference the offerings to better enable searching for specific offerings by type, method, and focus.
- Place all vetted and categorized offerings into an online tool that is fully searchable and indexed by type of court programs, methods, focuses, and other useful factors.

Required outputs for approval by CJD:

- Online resource center.

Phase 2: Training and Technical Assistance Infrastructure (second six months)

Implement resources database

After approval by CJD, the recipient will publish the resources database and perform outreach to specialty courts to market its use.

Required output for approval by CJD:

- A website that includes the online resource center.

Implement T&TA response method

Beyond the online resource center, the recipient will also serve as a resources clearinghouse for specialty courts. There are two main functions to this work:

- The recipient will provide self-assessment tools to the field that allow them to identify the areas where they may need to (1) improve their practices or (2) improve the outcomes of the program.

One such existing tool is the Adult Drug Court Best Practice Self-Assessment created by the Office of Court Administration under a grant from CJD. This tool can be found at <http://gov.texas.gov/cjd/specialtycourts> . The recipient will need to find or create other useful tools. CJD will provide outcome and output data from funded court programs to the recipient as well.

- The recipient will develop and activate a clearinghouse method for helping specialty courts access the resources they need to improve by acting as a broker to arrange for support or to steer the specialty court towards the most appropriate resources. This support may also include referral to resources beyond self-assessments that can help them to determine their needs and assess their performance. As a result, the recipient will be the primary point of contact for specialty courts seeking training and/or technical assistance. The recipient will be proactive with courts but will serve only those who choose to be a part of the T&TA program or who are directly referred by CJD.

Required outputs for approval by CJD:

- Written methodology for responding to T&TA needs and requests.
- Self-assessments and other appropriate tools.

Identify promising practices

It is the responsibility of the SCAC to identify best practices for specialty courts and recommend them to the Texas Judicial Council, for adoption. Currently, the Judicial Council has adopted best practices for Adult Drug Courts. It is the position of the SCAC that the most appropriate best practices are borne from the specialty courts field but that the practices must be the result of rigorous research and review. As a result, the SCAC also wishes to identify promising practices—those methods that are tested but perhaps not yet fully evaluated or reviewed.

The recipient will support the SCAC, using the resource center database, to identify specific practices that may support types of programs other than adult drug courts, including juvenile drug courts, family drug courts, Veterans treatment courts, mental health courts, commercially sexually exploited persons (CSEP) courts, and “problem solving” courts that combine elements of more than one type to help co-occurring issues in participants.

All promising practices must be faithful to the “Essential Characteristics” defined in statute for each court program type (Secs. 122.001, 123.001, 124.001, 125.001, and 126.001, Texas Government Code). To the greatest extent possible, the promising practices should be supported by research and evidence as well as tested in the field.

Required outputs for approval by CJD:

- Draft promising practices for consideration by SCAC and CJD.
- Produce materials and facilitate SCAC meeting on adoption of promising practices.
- Final collection of promising practices based on SCAC meeting.

Phase 3: Gaps and Solutions (second six months)

Determine and prioritize gaps

The recipient will review the resources available to specialty court programs in Texas and identify gaps in those resources. The review must consider the level and rigor of resources available for each type of program, levels of evaluation or evidence, and the priorities related to successful implementation of best or promising practices.

The recipient will prioritize the gaps that are likely to have the greatest impact on successful implementation of specialty court programs and to deliver the greatest increases in success. If necessary, the recipient will work with CJD to revise data collection efforts to better assess needs and gaps.

Required outputs for approval by CJD:

- Written assessment and prioritization of resource gaps.

Identify potential solutions to fill gaps

Based on the gap assessment, the recipient will recommend a set of prioritized solutions that could fill those gaps. The recommendations must be in the form of ideas for new resources or evaluations of existing resources that CJD could encourage from the field or potentially provide funding to fill. The recipient must prioritize recommendations based on potential impact on the success factors for specialty courts and work within funding and other constraints identified by CJD. Priority must be on solutions that can deliver the greatest impact at the greatest efficiency, for example by purchasing materials that all courts could use, or peer networks.

Required outputs for approval by CJD:

- Written recommendations on potential solutions to fill identified gaps.

Phase 4: Continuous Improvement (second year and beyond)

Phase 4 will continue and refine the work of the earlier phases. Any work done on earlier phases must be performed with the viability of Phase 4 in mind. The recipient must perform at the needed level of formalization and documentation during phases 1-3 to continue the T&TA program into Phase 4 and beyond the first year of the grant. Although Phase 4 activities are not included in the initial cooperative agreement, applicants must address an approach to this phase in the initial grant application.

Establish a formal review loop to reassess needs, gaps, and methods used

The recipient will monitor the delivery of all T&TA to individual specialty courts for timeframes, scope, budget, quality, and effectiveness.

The recipient will establish an ongoing framework and schedule with CJD for the reassessment of the outcomes of Phases 1 through 3 to ensure that the T&TA delivery methods used, the resource center database, promising practices, gaps in resources, potential solutions, and other activities are continually reviewed and improved.

The recipient may consult with CJD, SCAC members, members of the specialty courts field, and other experts and may, with CJD approval, conduct surveys or other information gathering from specialty court programs in Texas.

Required outputs for approval by CJD:

- Written methodology for routine reassessment and continual improvement.

Maintain the T&TA process

The recipient will continue all activities begun in phases 1 -3 and use the assessment above to continually improve and refresh the methods, offerings, recommendations, and other products of the cooperative agreement. The program must evolve to meet the changing needs of existing and newly established specialty courts, and help them achieve greater levels of effectiveness.

Required outputs for approval by CJD:

- Routinely updated online database presented for review at least annually
- Revised gap analysis and recommended solutions at least annually
- Updated recommendations to update promising and best practices as needed, but at least annually.

Stakeholder Engagement

CJD expects the recipient to leverage the expertise of stakeholders in the specialty courts field throughout the cooperative agreement term. This stakeholder engagement includes working with the SCAC, conducting surveys or other methods of getting feedback from the field, working with related state and national associations, and others. Stakeholder engagement must be coordinated with CJD at a high level through approval of a strategy and other key documents and elements, as per CJD's instructions.

Required outputs for approval by CJD:

- Stakeholder engagement strategy. (Due in Phase 1)

Coordination with CJD

The funded project will be in the form of a cooperative agreement, which is a form of grant that requires a higher than usual level of coordination with the funding agency—CJD. The recipient will be responsible for the day-to-day work on the project but must provide certain outputs of the project to CJD for approval and is expected to plan meetings with CJD at appropriate intervals to discuss direction.

Required outputs for approval by CJD:

- A schedule for check in meetings or other collaboration points with CJD

Program Marketing & Presentations

The recipient must proactively increase awareness of the services and value of this project as well as the changing landscape of the specialty courts field. This effort includes education on how this project works and how it can help; emerging issues facing the field including changing best or promising practices; and other information valuable to the specialty courts and that supports the success of the recipient's efforts. Such marketing can be accomplished through a variety of methods and media, including presenting at

conferences and meetings, webinars, informational guides, email or social media bulletins, or any other useful means, as recommended by the recipient.

Required outputs for approval by CJD:

- Marketing and education strategy.

Miscellaneous Requirements

Program income. Applicant must agree to comply with all federal and state rules and regulations for program income and agrees to report all program income that is generated as a result of the project's activities. Applicant must also agree to report program income to CJD through a formal grant adjustment, to secure CJD approval prior to use of the program income, to use program income only for allowable costs, and to expend program income immediately after CJD's approval of a grant adjustment and prior to requesting reimbursement of CJD funds. For the purposes of this program, the deduction method applies; however, CJD may allow for the addition method, if it benefits the program.

Standard CJD Requirements

CJD Regulations. Grantees must comply with the standards applicable to this funding source cited in the Texas Administrative Code (1 TAC Chapter 3), OMB requirements in 2 CFR 200, and all other statutes, requirements, and guidelines applicable to this funding.

Anti-Discrimination Certification. Applicants are prohibited from discriminating against individuals, in both the delivery of services and employment practices, based on race, color, national origin, disability, religion, and sex.

Step 3: Apply via eGrants

Basics

To apply to CJD for these grants, you must complete or make sure you have already completed some standard requirements. All of the following are needed to apply within eGrants:

- 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 be registered in the federal System for Award Management (SAM) database located at <https://www.sam.gov/> and maintain an active registration throughout the grant period; and
- Applicants must have or register for an account in eGrants (<http://eGrants.gov.texas.gov>).

Project Narrative

Within eGrants, applicants will complete several narrative fields. Below is each area along with specific instructions on the minimum requirements.

Project Abstract. Provide a brief summary of the proposed project. Do not share new information here that you do not include in the questions below. This abstract is a description of your project and intended

for the public and policy makers. Be sure that the summary is easy to understand by a person not familiar with your project. (Limit to 1500 characters.)

Problem Statement. Provide a brief description of your understanding of the need for this program in Texas, including the challenges faced by specialty courts that could be addressed by a training and technical assistance program.

Supporting Data. Provide a brief understanding of your understanding of the scale of specialty courts in Texas and the issues driving this Funding Announcement.

Project Approach & Activities. Provide a complete understanding of the approach the applicant proposes to use to meet the requirements of each phase of this project, including Phases 1 through 4. This section is the core of the application and will carry the greatest weight during the merit review process.

Capacity & Capabilities. Describe the applicant organization's background as well as organizational and staff capabilities and qualifications to carry out this specific project using the methods provided above.

Performance Management. Provide an understanding of how the applicant organization will measure success for this project. What are the project's goals and objectives and what are the project's performance measures, both output and outcome? How do these goals, objectives, and measures tie to the problem that the project seeks to solve?

- Goals are broad statements that indicate the general intentions of the project to achieve some outcome. They do need to be measurable in and of themselves and may be abstract in nature.
- Objectives are clear, tangible, and specific statements of what the project is trying to achieve. Objectives should be expressed in the following form: To [reduce/increase/enhance/etc.] [something], by [x amount], by [dd/mm/yy date]. A project can have multiple objectives.
- Measures use data to provide verifiable, numeric information that tie to one or more objectives and indicate progress toward its achievement. Measures might include volume, time savings, cost savings, resource savings, success rates, conformance rates, timeliness, perception shifts, or other factors. (The most relevant and impactful project-specific measures must be included under the Measures tab in eGrants.)

Data Management. Provide an understanding of how the applicant organization plans to track and maintain the data needed to determine whether the project is meeting the goals, objectives, and measures stated above.

Target Group. Enter N/A

Evidence-Based Practices. Where possible, describe the research or evidence that led the applicant organization to select the methods described above and provide any relevant citations or links. Do not provide links to specialty court research but rather research that may support the methods used for the activities conducted under Phases 1 – 4.

Activities and Measures tabs

The Project Narrative contains the bulk of the significant information for this application.

Under the “CJD Purpose Area” section of the Activities tab on eGrants, applicants should assign 100% to “Court System Improvements.”

Under the “OOG-Defined Project Activity Area” section of the Activities tab on eGrants, applicants should assign 100% to “Training, Professional Development, or Technical Assistance Provided”.

On the Measures tab of eGrants, applicants should enter “0” for all prompted measures – CJD does not expect applicants to make those estimates at this time.

Step 4: Funding Decisions and Grant Acceptance

Selection Criteria

A panel, to include members of the SCAC, selected by the executive director of CJD will conduct a merit review of all eligible applications using a standard 100-point scoring method outlined below. The CJD executive director will then use these scores, along with several other possible factors to make final funding decisions.

Criteria for Merit Review

Problem Statement. The extent to which the applicant organization understands the reasons underlying the need for this Funding Opportunity. (5 points)

Supporting Data. The extent to which the applicant organization understands the scope of specialty courts in Texas in a way that supports the problem statement above. (5 points)

Project Approach & Activities. The extent to which the applicant organization provides a well-thought-out approach that is likely to be successful at carrying out the activities of phases 1 through 4 of this project, including an understanding of the state of and issues facing specialty courts in Texas. (50 points)

Capacity & Capabilities. The extent to which the applicant’s background, organizational, and staff capabilities indicate that they are qualified to carry out this specific project using the methods provided above. (20 points)

Performance Management. The extent to which the applicant demonstrates that they can manage performance in a way that supports continual improvement. (5 points)

Data Management. The extent to which the applicant’s approach to data management supports their performance management efforts. (5 points)

Evidence-Based Practices. The extent to which the applicant bases the approaches outlined under Project Approach and Activities above on methods supported by evidence, learning theories, change theories, or other relevant practices that will best support the success of this project. (10 points)

Cost Effectiveness. The extent to which the proposed activities and budget are realistic and cost effective. (The SCAC will review and assign priority scores to the top scoring applicants to be used by the CJD)

executive director in making final funding decisions. This criteria is highly important but not part of the overall 100-point merit review score.)

Final Selection

In making decisions, the CJD executive director will consider a variety of factors including the merit review scores and comments, fit with CJD's overall plan for a comprehensive, coordinated network of technical assistance providers; avoidance of redundant or duplicative services or creation of competing providers; extent of the history of the organization and its proven track record; appropriateness of the mission of the applicant organization to the content of the training or technical assistance, capabilities and experience of the staff and trainers, and the overall comparative cost effectiveness of proposals, overall strategic fit, and other potential factors. CJD will not fund projects that are redundant to or duplicative of existing training programs. 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 final grant award. CJD may notify applicants in advance of award to discuss relevant questions or issues. The award will provide the conditions and requirements of the grant. CJD's release of an award is contingent on CJD's receipt the funds under which the program is funded.

Appendix: Specialty Court Essential Characteristics

Family Court Drug Court Program Essential Characteristics (Sec. 122.001, Gov't. Code)

1. The integration of substance abuse treatment services in the processing of civil cases in the child welfare system with the goal of family reunification;
2. The use of a comprehensive case management approach involving Department of Family and Protective Services caseworkers, court-appointed case managers, and court-appointed special advocates to rehabilitate a parent who has had a child removed from the parent's care by the department because of suspected child abuse or neglect and who is suspected of substance abuse;
3. Early identification and prompt placement of eligible parents who volunteer to participate in the program;
4. Comprehensive substance abuse needs assessment and referral to an appropriate substance abuse treatment agency;
5. A progressive treatment approach with specific requirements that a parent must meet to advance to the next phase of the program;
6. Monitoring of abstinence through periodic alcohol or other drug testing;
7. Ongoing judicial interaction with program participants;
8. Monitoring and evaluation of program goals and effectiveness;
9. Continuing interdisciplinary education to promote effective program planning, implementation, and operations; and
10. Development of partnerships with public agencies and community organizations.

Drug Court Program Essential Characteristics (Sec. 123.001, Gov't. Code)

1. The integration of alcohol and other drug treatment services in the processing of cases in the judicial system;
2. The use of a nonadversarial approach involving prosecutors and defense attorneys to promote public safety and to protect the due process rights of program participants;
3. Early identification and prompt placement of eligible participants in the program;
4. Access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitative services;
5. Monitoring of abstinence through weekly alcohol and other drug testing;
6. A coordinated strategy to govern program responses to participants' compliance;
7. Ongoing judicial interaction with program participants;
8. Monitoring and evaluation of program goals and effectiveness;
9. Continuing interdisciplinary education to promote effective program planning, implementation, and operations; and
10. Development of partnerships with public agencies and community organizations.

Veterans Treatment Court Program Essential Characteristics (Sec. 124.001, Gov't. Code)

1. The integration of services in the processing of cases in the judicial system;
2. The use of a nonadversarial approach involving prosecutors and defense attorneys to promote public safety and to protect the due process rights of program participants;
3. Early identification and prompt placement of eligible participants in the program;
4. Access to a continuum of alcohol, controlled substance, mental health, and other related treatment and rehabilitative services;
5. Careful monitoring of treatment and services provided to program participants;
6. A coordinated strategy to govern program responses to participants' compliance;
7. Ongoing judicial interaction with program participants;
8. Monitoring and evaluation of program goals and effectiveness;
9. Continuing interdisciplinary education to promote effective program planning, implementation, and operations;
10. Development of partnerships with public agencies and community organizations, including the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; and
11. Inclusion of a participant's family members who agree to be involved in the treatment and services provided to the participant under the program.

Mental Health Court Program (Sec. 125.001, Gov't. Code)

1. The integration of mental illness treatment services and mental retardation services in the processing of cases in the judicial system;
2. The use of a nonadversarial approach involving prosecutors and defense attorneys to promote public safety and to protect the due process rights of program participants;
3. Early identification and prompt placement of eligible participants in the program;
4. Access to mental illness treatment services and mental retardation services;
5. Ongoing judicial interaction with program participants;
6. Diversion of potentially mentally ill or mentally retarded defendants to needed services as an alternative to subjecting those defendants to the criminal justice system;
7. Monitoring and evaluation of program goals and effectiveness;
8. Continuing interdisciplinary education to promote effective program planning, implementation, and operations; and
9. Development of partnerships with public agencies and community organizations, including local mental retardation authorities.

Commercially Sexually Exploited Persons Court Program Essential Characteristics (Sec. 126.001, Gov't. Code):

1. The integration of services in the processing of cases in the judicial system;
2. The use of a nonadversarial approach involving prosecutors and defense attorneys to promote public safety, to reduce the demand for the commercial sex trade and trafficking of persons by educating offenders, and to protect the due process rights of program participants;
3. Early identification and prompt placement of eligible participants in the program;
4. Access to information, counseling, and services relating to sex addiction, sexually transmitted diseases, mental health, and substance abuse;
5. A coordinated strategy to govern program responses to participant compliance;
6. Monitoring and evaluation of program goals and effectiveness;
7. Continuing interdisciplinary education to promote effective program planning, implementation, and operations; and
8. Development of partnerships with public agencies and community organizations.

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 makes over \$250 million in funding available to hundreds of organizations during state fiscal year 2017 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.