



**MISSISSIPPI JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**

[WWW.MSJJAC.ORG](http://WWW.MSJJAC.ORG)

Alfred Martin, Ph.D., Chairman

Jaqueline Dedeaux, Vice Chair

Katrina Phillips, Secretary

February 23, 2024

TO: All Applicants

FR: Alfred Martin, Jr., Ph.D.

RE: RFP Announcement

It gives me great pleasure to announce this Request for Funding (RFP) for Title II funds from the Juvenile Justice delinquency Prevention Act. As you review the application, let me strongly encourage you to pay attention to the program purpose areas for funding. I am listing them below.

- **Alternatives to Detention**
- **Delinquency Prevention**
- **Mental Health Services**
- **Mentoring Counseling**
- **Positive Youth Development**

If you are unsure which program area your program falls under, feel free to give us a call or email. Also, if you have any questions at all, do not hesitate to let us know. It is our sincere desire to make sure that we are here to support you in any way possible when preparing your application.

All questions should go to Office Director Sharon Nguyen with the Office of Justice Programs at [snguyen@dps.ms.gov](mailto:snguyen@dps.ms.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Alfred L. Martin, Ph.D.".

**Alfred Martin, Jr., Ph. D.  
MSJJAC (SAG) - State Chair (MS)**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**for**

**TITLE II  
FORMULA GRANTS PROGRAM**

**under the**

**JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION  
ACT**

**CFDA # 16.540**

**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
Division of Public Safety Planning  
Office of Justice Programs  
152 Watford Parkway Drive  
Canton, MS 39046  
Phone: (601) 391-4889**

**Contact Person :  
Sharon D. Nguyen, OJP Office Director**

**Application Deadline Date: 04/30/2024**

## **SECTION 1: BACKGROUND**

### **A. AUTHORITY**

The OJJDP FY 2020 Title II Formula Grants Program provides funding to support state and local efforts to plan, establish, operate, coordinate, and evaluate policies and projects, directly or through grants and contracts with public and private agencies, for the development of more effective education, training, research, prevention, diversion, treatment, and rehabilitation programs, as well as justice system improvement efforts. The Formula Grants Program is authorized under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, at 34 U.S.C. §§ 11131–11133.

### **B. PURPOSE**

#### **1. Alternatives to Detention**

These are community-based and home-based alternatives to incarceration and institutionalization including for youth who need temporary placement such as crisis intervention, shelter, and after-care and for youth who need residential placement such as a continuum of foster care or group home alternatives that provide access to a comprehensive array of services.

#### **2. Deinstitutionalization of Status and Non-offenders**

Programs, research, or other initiatives to eliminate or prevent the placement of accused or adjudicated status offenders and nonoffenders in secure facilities, pursuant to Section 223(a)(11) of the JJDP Act.

#### **3. Compliance Monitoring**

Programs, research, staff support, or other activities performed primarily to enhance or maintain a state's ability to adequately monitor jails, detention facilities, and other facilities to assure compliance with sections 223(a)(11), (12), (13), and (22) of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act.

#### **4. 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, healthcare agencies, and private nonprofit agencies offering youth services.

## 5. Racial and Ethnic Disparities

Programs, research, or other initiatives primarily to address the disproportionate number of youth members of minority groups who come into contact with the juvenile justice system, pursuant to Section 223(a)(22) of the JJDP Act.

OJJDP is required to set clear program goals and collect performance measure data to demonstrate achievement of those goals. All recipients of OJJDP funding are required to collect and report performance data that demonstrate the results of funded activities.

Performance measures are a specific value or characteristic that measure the output or outcome of a grantee's activities and services in demonstrating accomplishment of the goals and objectives of OJJDP's programs.

### SECTION 2: ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

*The Title II Request for Proposals will give priority to jurisdictions with high indications of providing alternative services to juvenile offenders as an alternative to confinement.*

According to the National Institute of Corrections, many types of traumatic experiences occur in the lives of children and adolescents from all walks of life. Often, the after-effects of these experiences is persistent, post-traumatic stress reactions, which play a role in the legal and behavioral problems that bring youth in contact with law enforcement and the juvenile justice system.

Using a trauma-informed approach, juvenile justice systems can improve outcomes for justice-involved youth. Trauma-informed approaches can assist youth with trauma services that can reduce the impact of traumatic stress; improve general conditions of confinement; and prevent the harmful and inadvertent "re-traumatization" of youth.

Eligible programs and services should be able to provide alternatives to detention for status offenders and survivors of commercial sexual exploitation with abilities to address the mental health and substance abuse needs of juveniles.

The Office's formula grants support state, local, and Tribal efforts to reduce and prevent delinquency, improve juvenile justice systems, and protect children from violence and abuse. Funding through formula grants is available to states and territories through the state agency designated by the governor. Juvenile Justice Specialists in each state administer the funding through subgrants to units of local government, private agencies, and American Indian jurisdictions for programs in accordance with legislative requirements.

Applications are solicited for projects with one or more of the following targeted program areas:

- Alternatives to Detention
- Delinquency Prevention
- Mental Health Services

- Mentoring Counseling
- Positive Youth Development

Targeted programs and services that will receive priority attention will include:

- State Juvenile Detention Centers
- School Districts
- Youth Court Electronic Monitoring Programs
- Home Detention Programs (with or without electronic monitoring)
- Non-Secure Shelter and/or Group Homes
- Community Based Organizations (*Must have a contract or MOA with the local youth court. It is also highly recommended that the entity has a partnership with a local mental health service for youth that may need services and/or as a referral source.*)

*Awards will be granted at an average of \$25,000, however, a larger amount will be considered if a justification is provided by the applicant.*

1. Eligible applicants are units of local government or consortiums thereof, and public and private non-profit agencies. **Private non-profit agencies must be an approved 501(c)(3) agency, possess a current Taxpayer Identification Number, and have operated federal, state, or local grant programs within the last three (3) years.**
2. Applicants must possess the fiscal and financial management capability necessary to administer federal funds adequately and appropriately.
3. **This is a cost reimbursement program.** All applicants must be financially capable of supporting programmatic expenses until reimbursed.
4. All applicants for intervention, diversion or court related programs must secure and include with the application a letter of support from the local youth court judge. The letter must express the court's support of the project, how the proposed project services will be coordinated with the youth court and include a firm commitment by the court to use the project, if funded.
5. All applicants (continuation and new) must apply each year. **Renewal is not automatic.** Renewal is contingent upon satisfactory performance and on the availability of funds. Future funding is contingent upon Congressional action. ***Formula (Title II) funds may not be used to replace eliminated or reduced funds from other sources.***
6. Faith-based organizations receiving Department of Justice (DOJ) assistance funds passed through states retain their independence and do not lose or must modify their religious identity (e.g., removing religious symbols) to receive assistance awards. Faith-based groups, however, may not use their DOJ award to fund any inherently religious activity, such as prayer or worship. Inherently religious activity is permissible, although it cannot occur during an activity funded with DOJ funds; rather, such religious activity must be

separate in time or place from the DOJ-funded program.

### **Match**

There is **NO match requirement** for this program. However, programs are encouraged to provide additional support.

## **SECTION 3: RESTRICTIONS IN THE USE OF FUNDS**

1. Non-supplanting: Formula Grant funds must be used to supplement existing funds for program activities and **NOT** replace those funds which have been appropriated for the same purpose.
2. Travel: Grantees cannot exceed travel, meals and lodging rates established by the State of Mississippi.
3. Construction: Formula Grant funds ***cannot*** be used for construction which includes the acquisition, expansion, remodeling, and alteration of existing buildings and initial equipment of any such buildings or any combination of such activities.
4. Lobbying
5. Personal services contracts cannot exceed approved federal rates without prior approval from the DPSP.
6. Salaries and fringe benefits must be utilized for **program staff only**.
7. Other unallowable costs will be disallowed in accordance with the DOJ Financial Guide.

## **SECTION 4: APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

### **A. APPLICATION REVIEW AND SELECTION**

All applications will be rated by a panel of external reviewers. The reviewers will determine the extent to which each application meets the following criteria:

### **Statement of the Problem: (20 Points)**

This part of the application provides justification of the need for the project. At a minimum, the following should be provided:

- A description of the organization, services, current programs, accomplishments, and geographical area to be served.
- A description of juvenile crime statistics in the area to be served.
- An explanation of why the problem cannot be addressed with local resources.
- Statement or statements describing the purposes for which the proposed funding will be used and why this source of funding is necessary.

### **Goals, Objectives, and Projected Outcomes: (20 Points)**

This part of the application focuses on what the project hopes to achieve because of this funding. At a minimum, the following should be provided:

- A brief statement of the overall goals of the project.
- Clear, concise, and measurable statements of the project's objectives that detail what the project will achieve (objectives must relate to the problem or need described in Part I).
- A description of the impact the achievement of the project's objectives will have on the problem to be addressed.
- Outcome measures for the project.

### **Implementation: (25 Points)**

This part of the application provides a comprehensive description of the services, activities and programs that will be used to accomplish the objectives of the project. The classic way of addressing the project's implementation is to describe what will be done, when it will be done, why it is being done, how it will be done and who will do it. At a minimum, the following should be provided:

- A description of the activities to be performed to achieve the project's objectives.
- Timeframes for implementing proposed project activities.
- A description of coordination, if any, will be done with other entities.
- Organizational charts, job descriptions and resumes.
- Levels of output that will be used to accomplish the project's goals and objectives.

### **Budget and Budget Narrative: (15 Points)**

This section provides a description of the proposed expenditures for the project. It must thoroughly identify all project expenditures and a valuation basis for each set of expenditures. At a minimum, the following should be provided:

- Identification of items, units to be purchased, and cost of each unit.

### **Evaluation Plan: (15 Points)**

This section of the application tells what methods will be used to measure the success of the project in achieving its goals and objectives. The plan needs to be detailed and clear. A general statement will not be sufficient.

The proposed project must be able to report on the following performance measures – number of program youth served; number and percent of program youth who offend during the reporting period; number and percent of program youth who re-offend; number and percent of program youth completing program requirements. Reporting metrics apply to the purpose area funded.

### **Sustainability Plan (5 Points)**

Federal funds often fund projects for a limited period. All applicants should submit a sustainability plan as part of its application. A sustainability plan describes the commitment and capacity to continue the project if it is successful and federal funds are no longer available.

## **B. APPLICATION REVIEW**

The Mississippi Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee-State Advisory Group (MSJJAC-SAG) and the DPSP will review all proposals and application materials. The MSJJAC-SAG will make recommendations to the State for final selection. Following review of all proposals, applicants will be notified in writing as soon as possible as to the status of the request.

## **C. PRE-APPLICATION QUESTION AND ANSWER OPPORTUNITY**

The Mississippi Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee-State Advisory Group (MSJJAC-SAG) and the DPSP will provide an opportunity for applicants to learn of the purpose of this RFP and ask questions regarding eligibility and funding. Applicants can submit RFP questions to [MSJJAC-SAGinfo@dps.ms.gov](mailto:MSJJAC-SAGinfo@dps.ms.gov) by Tuesday, March 12, 2024. Responses will be made available on the DPSP website by Tuesday, March 19, 2024. For additional information, please contact Sharon D. Nguyen at 601-391-4886.

## **D. APPLICATION SUBMISSION & DEADLINE**

The original Application properly executed by the Authorized Official (e.g., President of the Board of Supervisors, Mayor, or Executive Director) and **three (3) copies (a total of 4)** must be submitted to the DPSP **no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 30, 2024.** *Applications may be single spaced using no smaller than 12-point type on single-side pages.* **Applications cannot be submitted by facsimile or email. Please be advised that it is the applicant's responsibility to see that the application is physically received by this office by the deadline.** Applications received after the deadline will be



retained for up to one year and may be reviewed at the convenience of the DPSP should additional funding become available. The DPSP-OJP and MSJJAC reserve the right to reject applications.

Applications may be returned by DPSP, with no action taken, for the following:

1. **Late Submission:** All applications must be received by 5:00 P.M., by the due date specified, **April 30, 2024**. Late submissions will **NOT** be accepted. \*NOTE: **Faxed and/or emailed applications will not be considered for funding.**
2. **Incomplete Applications:** Applications will be considered incomplete if any of the elements are missing or incomplete.

Mail or return applications to:  
Sharon D. Nguyen  
Division of Public Safety Planning  
Office of Justice Programs  
P. O. Box 1633  
Canton, Mississippi 39046

All inquiries and/or requests for sub-grant application packets or general questions should be directed to Sharon D. Nguyen at (601) 391-4886 or [snguyen@dps.ms.gov](mailto:snguyen@dps.ms.gov).