

**EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL  
Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)  
Drug Courts Application Solicitation  
15PBJA-21-GG-00251-MUMU**

**CFDA 16.738**

**Background**

- The Division of Public Safety Planning has limited funds available to support area Drug Court programs from the U. S. Department of Justice (DOJ). An **application packet** is available online, including a **data sheet** and **checklist**. All applicants must complete and return the application, data sheet, FY 2021 Certifications and Assurances by the Chief Executive, SAM registration and checklist no later than **Wednesday, June 1, 2022**.

Applications must address the following in an abstract: (1) Describe and document the problems facing the drug court programs and the need for assistance under this program; (2) Address cases involving substance abusing parents and children who are involved in the court system; (3) Address cases involving parents who are in danger of losing custody of their children due to the parent's inability to deal with their alcohol and drug addictions; and (4) how the court will infuse substance abuse treatment and counseling that will benefit persons enrolled in the youth and family drug court programs . **Applications that are incomplete will not be considered for funding.**

**Program Purpose Areas**

The purpose of this funding is to provide drug court programs with the funds to underwrite projects to assist certified drug court programs with the most pressing needs of their agency. These funds can be used for a wide variety of purposes including salaries, fringe benefits, training, equipment, travel, and supplies. Funding is based on the amount of state allocation available for this funding category.

**Targeted Areas**

Funds can be used in the following targeted areas:

- Drug Court Personnel Support
- Training
- Operating Expense (Drug Testing kits)
- Treatment

## **Ten (10) Key Components of Drug Courts**

In the formation stage of drug courts, the Office of Justice Drug Courts Program developed ten key components to which each drug court follows to be eligible for federal funding. The ten key components provide an outline of drug court philosophy and requirements. **The following components must be addressed within the application submitted to the Division of Public Safety Planning:**

### **1. Drug Court integrates alcohol and other drug treatment services with justice system case processing.**

Drug court promotes recovery through a coordinated response to offenders dependent on alcohol and other drugs. Realization of these goals requires a team approach including cooperation and collaboration among judges, prosecutors, defense counsel, probation authorities, law enforcement, treatment providers and other community agencies.

### **2. Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights.**

To facilitate an individual's progress in treatment, the prosecutor and defense counsel must shed their traditional adversarial courtroom relationship and work together as a team. Once a defendant is accepted into drug court, the team's focus is on the participant's recovery and law-abiding behavior, not on the merits of the underlying criminal offense.

### **3. Eligible participants are identified early and promptly placed in drug court.**

An arrest can be a traumatic event in a person's life. It creates an immediate crisis and can force substance-abusing behavior into the open, making denial difficult. The period immediately after an arrest provides a critical window of opportunity for intervention and introduces the value of substance abuse treatment. Judicial action, taken immediately after the arrest, capitalizes on the crisis nature of both the arrest and the booking process.

### **4. Drug court provides access to a continuum of alcohol, drug and other related treatment and rehabilitation services.**

In drug court, the process begins in the courtroom and continues throughout the participant's drug court involvement. While primarily concerned with criminal activity and substance abuse, the drug court team also needs to address other issues such as mental illness, medical problems, homelessness, educational deficits, and unemployment. If these issues are ignored, they could impact the participant's program compliance and success in treatment. Research has demonstrated that coerced treatment is effective.

**5. Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other drug testing, including evenings and weekends.**

Frequent and random court-ordered drug testing is an essential tool for the participant to remain clean and sober. An accurate testing system is the most objective and efficient way to establish a framework for accountability and to gauge each participant's progress. Drug testing makes the participant an active and involved part of the treatment process rather than a passive recipient of services.

**6. A coordinated strategy governs drug court responses to participants' compliance.**

Many participants exhibit a pattern of positive urine tests within the first months following admission. When this occurs, immediate sanctions are applied. Because addiction takes a long time to develop, and many factors contribute to chemical dependency, it is rare that an individual stops using when treatment begins. Although drug court professionals recognize that relapse may be part of recovery, continued use is not condoned and a coordinated strategy, including a continuum of responses to each relapse or other issues of non-compliance is essential. Drug courts must reward cooperation as well as response to non-compliance. Small rewards, such as praise from the Drug Court Commissioner, increased privileges, and lessened restrictions, have an important effect on a participant's sense of purpose and accomplishment.

**7. Ongoing judicial interaction with each drug court participant is essential.**

The Drug Court Commissioner is a member of the drug court team. Drug Court Commissioners conduct drug court sessions and staffing, monitor and review the participant's progress in drug court, encourage and reward appropriate behavior, and discourage and sanction inappropriate behavior. Ongoing judicial supervision communicates to participants, often for the first time, that someone in authority cares about their progress and program success.

**8. Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of drug court goals and gauge effectiveness.**

Coordinated management, monitoring, and evaluation systems are fundamental to the effective operation of a drug court. Drug courts strive to demonstrate tangible outcomes and cost-effectiveness; thus, there are systems in place to monitor daily activities, evaluating the quality and effectiveness of provided service, and producing longitudinal evaluations.

**9. Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective drug court planning, implementation, and operations.**

Interdisciplinary education exposes criminal justice professionals to treatment issues and treatment professionals to criminal justice issues. It also develops a shared

understanding of the values, goals and operating procedures of both the criminal justice and treatment components.

### **10. Forging partnerships among drug courts, public agencies, and community-based organizations generate local support and enhance drug court effectiveness.**

Because of its unique position in the criminal justice system, Drug Court is well suited to develop coalitions among community-based service organizations, public criminal justice agencies and treatment delivery systems. Drug Court is a partnership among organizations dedicated to a coordinated and cooperative approach to the drug addicted offender.

## **SPECIAL GRANT CONDITIONS**

### **Availability of Funds and Application Deadline**

Funds are available after completing the attached application with instruction, returning it to DPSP and receiving an executed grant award document. All applicants are expected to complete and return the application no later than **Wednesday, June 1, 2022.**

### **Grant Period**

The grant award period is tentatively from **July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023.** Any and all funds must be expended by the end of the contract period. All awards are subject to availability of appropriated funds. *Funding is not guaranteed.*

### **Certifications and Assurances by the Chief Executive of the Applicant Government**

A State or unit of local government that receives an award under the FY 2021 Byrne JAG Program will be required (by award condition) to obtain a properly executed certifications and assurances by the Chief Executive of the Applicant Government from any proposed subrecipient that is a unit of local government or a "public" institution of higher education (i.e., one that is owned, controlled, or directly funded by a State or unit of local government). The specific certification required from a unit of local government will differ from the specific certification required from a "public" institution of higher education. *(This form will be provided to your agency and must be signed by the Mayor or Board President)*

### **ELIGIBILITY**

JAG Program grants are intended for use by the State to provide funding to eligible applicants that include offices and agencies of state government and of local government, particularly for drug court programs who are in danger of losing state funding which will include losing staff or prohibiting the effective operation of the drug court.

**In order to avoid supplanting of federal funds, each Drug Court is required to submit a copy of their award letter received from the State Drug Court Advisory Committee and a budget breakdown of allowable cost along with their application.**

### **Special Grant Conditions**

- This is a one-year grant award, once funds are expended, the grant will expire.
- If you are receiving assistance from any other federal agency, there can be no duplicate purchases from such funds. In other words, funds cannot be used from separate agencies to make the same purchase.
- Expenditures incurred prior to the actual start date will not be approved. Supporting documentation must have valid and verifiable dates.
- Handwritten applications or applications submitted by facsimile (FAX) will not be accepted.
- [FY 2021 Byrne JAG – Certifications and Assurances by the Chief Executive of the Applicant Government](#) *(This form will be provided.)*

### **Non-Supplant Requirement**

Funds available under this program may not be used to supplant (replace) existing local funds. These funds must be used to supplement the level of funds from non-federal sources that would, in the absence of these funds, be made available for programs or activities funded under a similar program.

### **Monitoring**

Each successful subgrantee will receive an on-site compliance monitoring visit at least once during the grant period. Each successful subgrantee must retain records, receipts, invoices, and other documents for review during the monitoring visit. Guidelines and/or procedures listed in the original application must be adhered to and deviations from those guidelines must have prior written approval by the Division of Public Safety Planning.

### **Budget**

**The total 12-month budget allotted for the subgrantee of this RFP will be based on number of applicants.**

**A twenty-five (25%) cash match is required, however, a request for match waiver with sufficient justification will be considered. Each agency will need a letter on letterhead stating the need for a waiver, submit city or county budget that shows a deficit, board minutes that**

**states the city or county cannot afford the match, and documentation that shows the city or county poverty rate and unemployment rate.**

Organizations are required to register with the System for Award Management (SAM) using their DUNS number. Please note that applicants formerly used the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database for this purpose. SAM is a government-wide registry for vendors doing business with the federal government which requires annual renewal. The SAM centralizes information about grant recipients and also provides a central location for grant recipients to change organizational information.

**Please note that organizations must update or renew their SAM registration at least once a year to maintain an active status. Please include a copy of your SAM registration verifying an active status along with your application. To complete the SAM registration process, access the website at [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov).**

### **Application Submission Requirements**

One (1) original and one (1) copy of the application should be submitted on the official application form of the Office of Justice Programs, Division of Public Safety Planning no later than **Wednesday, June 1, 2022.**

Submit Applications to:      **Attn:** Sharon Nguyen  
Office of Justice Programs  
Division of Public Safety Planning  
1025 NorthPark Drive  
Ridgeland, Mississippi 39157

**\*If you have questions, please contact Sharon Nguyen at (601) 977-3756.**