

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS



ADECA Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety Division

Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Fund

**Local Law Enforcement Assistance
Grants**

Issue Date:

October 25, 2021

Proposal Due Date:

November 30, 2021

Local Law Enforcement Assistance Grant

Eligible Applicants

For this program, all applicants must be a unit of local government with a law enforcement department. Your application MUST BE SUBMITTED by your unit of local government. No applications will be accepted from local law enforcement agencies such as police departments or sheriff's offices.

A unit of local government is: a town, township, village, parish, city, county, borough, or other general purpose political subdivision of a state; or, it may also be a federally recognized Indian tribe that performs law enforcement functions (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior). Otherwise, a unit of local government may be any law enforcement district or judicial enforcement district established under applicable state law with authority to independently establish a budget and impose taxes.

Applications must be submitted in our new online grants management system. The system can be accessed through the following link:

<https://grants.alabama.gov/>

Submission Information - All applications must be received no later than 11:59 p.m., **November 30, 2021.**

Late Applications submitted after the due date will not be considered. Any items arriving to our office separate of the original application submission will not be added to the application. The Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety Division reserves the right to reject any incomplete proposals without review.

Questions pertaining to this RFP may be submitted to Brian Forster by phone at 334-353-4265 or by email at brian.forster@adeca.alabama.gov or John Rogers at 334-242-5831 or by email at john.rogers@adeca.alabama.gov.

This 'Request for Proposal' does not indicate acceptance or approval of any proposal in response to this request. No grant or contract payment can be made until a grant agreement has been fully executed. Therefore, no work shall begin on projects selected for funding until an executed grant agreement has been received. All grant awards are contingent upon state receipt of federal funds awarded. ADECA reserves the right to reject any proposal deemed unresponsive to this RFP or for other legitimate documented reasons.

Part I Funding Opportunity Description

Summary

The JAG program is the leading source of federal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. The JAG Program provides states, tribes, and local governments with critical funding necessary to support a range of program areas including law enforcement, prosecution, indigent defense, courts, crime prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, planning, evaluation, technology improvement, crime victim and witness initiatives, mental health programs, and related law enforcement and corrections programs, including behavioral programs and crisis intervention teams.

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) LETS Division manages the State Allocation of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). Each year the award includes a portion of funds that can be used to support local law enforcement agencies.

Purchases under this Request for Proposals (RFP) will be funded in whole by the local law enforcement portion of the state's award. These grants will be used by agencies to supplement agency equipment budgets.

The LETS division is seeking proposals on behalf of local law enforcement agencies who can demonstrate a substantial need for equipment upgrades and/or replacements.

PART II AWARD INFORMATION

A. Estimated Funding

Approximately \$550,000 is available for this solicitation of Local Law Enforcement Equipment Grants.

B. Award Size and Anticipated Number of Awards

The maximum amount requested for each proposal submitted under this announcement is \$24,000.

C. Period of Performance

The LETS Division anticipates awarding grants to begin January 1, 2022, and to terminate no later than June 30, 2022, for an amount not to exceed the amount requested by the Applicant or that which is negotiated between the selected Applicant and the LETS Division.

D. Method of Payment

Payments shall be made on a cost-reimbursement basis over the course of the grant.

E. Prohibited/Controlled Expenditures

No JAG funds may be expended outside of JAG purpose areas. Even within these purpose areas, however, JAG funds cannot be used directly or indirectly for security enhancements or equipment for nongovernmental entities not engaged in criminal justice or public safety. Nor may JAG funds be used directly or indirectly to provide for any of the following matters unless the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) certifies that extraordinary and exigent circumstances exist, making them essential to the maintenance of public safety and good order:

- Vehicles (other than patrol), vessels, or aircraft.
- Luxury items.
- Real estate.
- Construction projects (other than penal or correctional institutions).
- Any similar matters.

F. Cash Matching

100 percent federally funded. No required match.

Part III Program Description

The LETS Division is seeking proposals from local units of government to assist law enforcement entities located within their jurisdictions.

A unit of local government is: a town, city, county, or other general purpose political subdivision of a state; or, it may also be a federally recognized Indian tribe that performs law enforcement functions (as determined by the Secretary of

the Interior). Otherwise, a unit of local government may be any law enforcement district or judicial enforcement district established under applicable state law with authority to independently establish a budget and impose taxes.

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Must be a unit of local government with a law enforcement department.
2. Must have been compliant with the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). This will be validated by the Alabama Justice Information Commission. (AJIC)
3. Applicant must not have been eligible for a direct award from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) under the Byrne JAG program for the current year.

Allowable Purchases Under the Local Law Enforcement Assistance Grant

- Any law enforcement equipment that the agency can demonstrate will help improve or expand its law enforcement mission.
- ADECA program staff reserves the right to determine if the equipment request is in fact law enforcement related and fulfills a demonstrated need of the agency.

Submission Information:

For FY 2021, applicants will complete and submit their applications in Alabama Grants at <https://grants.alabama.gov/>.

Applicants must submit the full application(s) by 11:59 p.m., November 30, 2021, in Alabama Grants.

System Registration:

- Navigate to <https://grants.alabama.gov/>.
- Have an Authorized Official (AO) for your organization register as a new user.
- Complete and submit a registration request.
- Wait for an email confirmation granting access to the system.

- After receiving the confirmation, your AO can login to the system and designate access to your organizational account to other staff members as appropriate. (See the Grantee Admin Manual or Grantee Admin Training Video under the Alabama Grants' Training Materials section.)

Based on the organization type selected under the organization profile, a user will see any available funding opportunities under the "My Opportunities" panel of the user's dashboard.

Any application or documentation in support of an application not submitted in Alabama Grants will not be accepted for review. The Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety Division reserves the right to reject any incomplete proposals without review.

Application Review Process

Applications are carefully reviewed for completeness and to ensure that only projects with a significant chance of success are funded. All applications will be checked for completeness by ADECA staff. Complete applications will continue to the risk assessment stage. After the assessment, applications will be reviewed and scored by at least 3 program staff. Once an application is scored, all scores will be averaged and applications with acceptable scores will be considered for funding. Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final award recommendations will be made by the LETS Division, who may consider factors including, but not limited to, underserved populations, geographic diversity, strategic priorities, past performance, and available funding when recommending awards to the Director. The LETS Division is committed to ensuring a fair and open process for awarding grants.

The following factors will also be considered in the evaluation of applications:

- Prior evidence of program success (evidence-based program).
- Qualifications and duties of personnel.
- Ability to complete project in a timely manner.
- Project has a plan for self-sufficiency and sustainability beyond possible grant funding.
- Design Quality of the Application – The application is clearly written, supported by facts, and contains **measurable** objectives and performance indicators.

- Performance Indicators – The indicators match objectives and are useful measurements to assess the effectiveness of the project. The project has additional measures for evaluating project impact.
- Other Relevant Factors and Requirements - Past or current grant performance may be considered where applicable. The application must contain all relevant documentation.

Risk Assessments

Federal regulations now require grantees (ADECA) to conduct a risk assessment of each applicant before an award can be made. A risk assessment must be based on each applicant with regard to current or previous funding, unresolved audit issues, delinquent programmatic and fiscal reporting, and prior performance. Applicants with any findings may carry special conditions such as increased monitoring and/or prohibitions on drawing funds until certain requirements are met. Applicants with substantial or persistent performance or compliance issues, long-standing open audits, or open criminal investigations will likely not be considered for an award until all issues are resolved. All assessments are unique and will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Right to Reject

The LETS Division reserves the right to reject any and all proposals submitted or to request additional information from applicants. The LETS Division reserves the right to award a grant on an "all or none" basis. Any grant award will be made to the organization which, in the opinion of the LETS Division, is determined to be the best qualified and whose proposal best meets the requirements of the RFP. The LETS Division reserves the right to negotiate with any applicant. All grant awards are subject to the availability of federal funds for award.

Indirect Cost

In accordance with 2 CFR 200.331(a)(1)(xiii) and (a)(4), and 2 CFR 200.414, subrecipients of federal awards may charge indirect costs to the award unless statutorily prohibited by the federal program and in accordance with any applicable administrative caps on federal funding. ADECA will not negotiate indirect cost rates with subrecipients but will accept a federally negotiated indirect cost rate or the 10% de minimis rate of the modified total direct cost (MTDC) as defined in 2 CFR 200.68. If requesting the 10% de minimis rate, subrecipients must advise ADECA of both their eligibility and their election in writing, which must include the submission of a certification that the entity has never received a

federally approved indirect cost rate. Subrecipients are allowed to allocate and charge direct costs through cost allocation. However, in accordance with 2 CFR 200.403, costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs but not charged as both or inconsistently charged to the federal award. Once chosen, the method must be used consistently for all federal awards until such time as a negotiated rate is approved by the subrecipients' federal cognizant agency.