Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office

Criminal Justice Division

Funding Announcement: Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE)-Ready Facilities Program

Purpose

The purpose of this announcement is to solicit applications from hospital facilities seeking to achieve or maintain a Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE)-Ready designation as defined in Chapter 323 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

Available Funding

State funds for these projects are authorized under the Texas General Appropriations Act, Article I, Rider 30 for Trusteed Programs within the Office of the Governor. All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law. CJD expects to make available $3M for FY2020.

Eligible Organizations

Applications may be submitted by general and special hospitals licensed under Chapter 241 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, a general or special hospital owned by this State, or a freestanding emergency medical care facility licensed under Chapter 254 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

Application Process

Applicants must access the PSO's eGrants grant management website at https://eGrants.gov.texas.gov to register and apply for funding. For more instructions and information, see *Developing a Good Project Narrative Guide*, available here.

Key Dates

Action	Date
Funding Announcement Release	10/01/2019
Online System Opening Date	10/01/2019
Final Date to Submit and Certify an Application	12/02/2019 at 5:00PM CST
Earliest Project Start Date	09/01/2019

Project Period

Projects must begin on or after 09/01/2019 and end on or before 09/30/2020. CJD will allow for the retroactive reimbursement of eligible costs incurred as of 09/01/2019.

Funding Levels

Minimum: None

Maximum: $50,000

Match Requirement: None

Standards

Grantees must comply with standards applicable to this fund source cited in the State Uniform Grant Management Standards (UGMS), Federal Uniform Grant Guidance, and all statutes, requirements, and guidelines applicable to this funding.

Eligible Activities and Costs

Funds may be used for costs associated with achieving or maintaining the SAFE-Ready Designation as defined in Chapter 323 of the Texas Health and Safety Code. Allowable costs include, but are not limited to:

1. Basic Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Collection Training as defined in Sec. 323.0045 of the Texas Health and Safety Code;
2. Initial and continuing education of Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners as defined in Sec. 323.001 (4-a) of the Texas Health and Safety Code;
3. Equipment and supplies (e.g. exam table, colposcopes, swab box/dryers, refrigerators for temporary storage of evidence); and
4. Salary and overtime. (limited to Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners while attending training or the backfilling of Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners whom are off-site attending training)

Eligibility Requirements

1. Entities receiving funds from CJD must be located in a county that has an average of 90% or above on both adult and juvenile dispositions entered into the computerized criminal history database maintained by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) as directed in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 66. The disposition completeness percentage is defined as the percentage of arrest charges a county reports to DPS for which a disposition has been subsequently reported and entered into the computerized criminal history system.
2. Eligible applicants operating a law enforcement agency must be current on reporting Part I violent crime data to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for inclusion in the annual Uniform Crime Report (UCR). To be considered eligible for funding, applicants must have submitted a full twelve months of accurate data to DPS for the most recent calendar year.
3. The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) has established a goal set by the Texas Legislature for all local law enforcement agencies to implement and report crime statistics data by using the requirements of the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) no later than September 1, 2019. Additionally, the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) will collect required crime statistics solely through the NIBRS starting January 1, 2021. Due to these upcoming state and federal deadlines, grantees are advised that eligibility for future grant funding may be tied to compliance with NIBRS. Financial grant assistance for transitioning to NIBRS may be available for your jurisdiction from the Criminal Justice Division (CJD).
4. Local units of government, including cities, counties and other general purpose political subdivisions, as appropriate, and institutions of higher education that operate a law enforcement agency, must comply with all aspects of the programs and procedures utilized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") to: (1) notify DHS of all information requested by DHS related to illegal aliens in Agency's custody; and (2) detain such illegal aliens in accordance with requests by DHS. Additionally, counties and municipalities may NOT have in effect, purport to have in effect, or make themselves subject to or bound by, any law, rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that

would: (1) require or authorize the public disclosure of federal law enforcement information in order to conceal, harbor, or shield from detection fugitives from justice or aliens illegally in the United States; or (2) impede federal officers from exercising authority under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), § 1226(c), § 1231(a), § 1357(a), § 1366(1), or § 1366(3). Lastly, eligible applicants must comply with all provisions, policies, and penalties found in Chapter 752, Subchapter C of the Texas Government Code.

Each local unit of government, and institution of higher education that operates a law enforcement agency, must download, complete and then upload into eGrants the CEO/Law Enforcement Certifications and Assurances Form certifying compliance with federal and state immigration enforcement requirements. This Form is required for each application submitted to OOG and is active until August 31, 2021 or the end of the grant period, whichever is later.

5. Eligible applicants must have a DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) number assigned to its agency (to request a DUNS number, go to https://fedgov.dnb.com/webform).
6. Eligible applicants must be registered in the federal System for Award Management (SAM) database located at https://sam.gov/.

Failure to comply with program eligibility requirements may cause funds to be withheld and/or suspension or termination of grant funds.

Prohibitions

Grant funds may not be used to support the unallowable costs listed in the Guide to Grants or any of the following unallowable costs:

1. Construction, renovation, or remodeling;
2. Law enforcement equipment that is standard department issue;
3. Transportation, lodging, per diem or any related costs for participants, when grant funds are used to develop and conduct training; and
4. Any other prohibition imposed by federal, state or local law or regulation.

Selection Process

Application Screening: The Office of the Governor will screen all applications to ensure that they meet the requirements included in the funding announcement.

Peer/Merit Review: The Office of the Governor will review applications to understand the overall demand for the program and for significant variations in costs per item. After this review, the Office of the Governor will determine if all eligible applications can be funded based on funds available, if there are cost-effectiveness benefits to normalizing or setting limits on the range of costs, and if other fair-share cuts may allow for broader distribution and a higher number of projects while still remaining effective.

Final Decisions: The Office of the Governor will consider rankings along with other factors and make all final funding decisions. Other factors may include cost effectiveness, overall funds availability, or state government priorities and strategies, legislative directives, need, geographic distribution, balance of focuses and approaches, or other relevant factors.

The Office of the Governor may not fund all applications or may only award part of the amount requested. In the event that funding requests exceed available funds, CJD may revise projects to address a more limited focus.

Contact Information

For more information, contact the eGrants help desk at eGrants@gov.texas.gov or (512) 463-1919.