

ARIZONA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

GRANT PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT SPECIAL PROSECUTION GRANT PROGRAM



FY 2009 COMPETITIVE GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Eligibility

**State, County, and Local Prosecutor's Offices
and
Law Enforcement Offices for Sexual Exploitation of
Children Investigation Grant**

Deadline

All applications are due by 3:00 p.m. on April 21, 2008.

For Assistance

If you have any questions about this grant solicitation or are having difficulties with the grant management system, contact Tiffany Ashworth, Grant Coordinator at (602) 364-1168, Kathy Karam, Program Manager at (602) 364-1162 or e-mail ACJC at jag@azcjc.gov.

ABOUT THE SPECIAL PROSECUTION GRANT PROGRAM

The state appropriated Special Prosecution Grant Program allows funds to be used for the enhanced prosecution of offenses related to aggravated domestic violence, obscenity, and offenses relating to criminal street gangs. In addition, grant funds can also be awarded for the investigation and prosecution of crimes related to the sexual exploitation of children.

Aggravated Domestic Violence Prosecution: Funds must be used for the prosecution of aggravated domestic violence offenders who violate state law A.R.S. §13.3601. This grant is competitive and applicants must demonstrate need by using statistical data to show the problem in their jurisdiction.

Obscenity Prosecution: Funds must be used for the prosecution of violations of the laws relating to obscenity under A.R.S. 13-3502. This grant is competitive and applicants must demonstrate need by using statistical data to show the problem in their jurisdiction.

Sexual Exploitation of Children Investigation/Prosecution: Funds must be used to investigate and prosecute laws relating to sexual exploitation of children under A.R.S. 13-3552, 3553, and 3554. This grant is competitive and applicants must demonstrate need based on statistical data that shows the problem in their jurisdiction. **This program requires a 400% local in-kind match.** Two grants will be awarded, one to a county attorney and one to a law enforcement agency, to improve the detection of such crimes. Preference will be given to a law enforcement agency and a county attorney within the same jurisdiction who will work in tandem to accomplish this goal.

Criminal Street Gang Prosecution: The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission has received legislatively appropriated funds for the purpose of enhancing prosecution of any offense relating to criminal street gangs. The monies shall be distributed to state, county, and municipal prosecution offices for the purposes of training prosecutors, providing personnel and prosecuting any offense relating to criminal street gangs. This grant is competitive and applicants must demonstrate need based on statistical data that shows the problem in their jurisdiction.

INTRODUCTION

The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission is publishing this notice to announce the availability of funds for the Special Prosecution Programs that will be distributed during FY2009. The Commission is presently making these funds available for multiple grants to be awarded directly to state, county, and local agencies for projects that will achieve the goals and objectives of the legislation.

In fiscal year 2008, 11 awards were made, with 98 percent of the awards going towards personnel, including salary and fringe benefits. The average awards ranged from \$37,500 to \$334,933. The application and instructions are available on the [Grants Management System](#) via the ACJC web site at www.azcjc.gov.

FUNDING

The anticipated amount of funds available for gang prosecution grants is \$603,200. The anticipated funds available for the aggravated domestic violence, obscenity prosecution, and sexual exploitation of children investigation/prosecution grants is \$391,000.

The Commission is presently making these funds available for multiple grants to be allocated directly to state, county, and local criminal justice agencies for projects which will achieve the goals of the legislation that created these grant programs.

All applicants must certify that matching funds are available at time of application for those programs that require a match.

All projects funded under this program will be for twelve (12) consecutive months starting July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2009.

ALLOWABLE COSTS

Funds may not be available in future years; therefore, when requests are made to fund personnel or other ongoing activities or costs, applicants are strongly encouraged to identify future potential funding sources. In addition to the identification, applicants should have a plan of sustainability to ensure the program is ongoing beyond the funding availability.

Eligible expenses include personnel, employee related expenses (ERE), overtime, travel, operating costs and costs related to contractual or consulting services. Equipment associated with project activities may be awarded on a limited basis if funding is available.

Priority in budget allocation will be given to budget categories of personnel salaries, employer related expenses (ERE) or fringe benefits and overtime to further support the activities in the reduction of drug, gang, and violent crimes throughout Arizona.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF FUNDS

Grant funds shall not be used for land acquisition or construction projects.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Applicants are required to submit quarterly financial and progress reports to the Commission and cooperate fully in any evaluation efforts required. Reporting requirements also include quarterly progress reports on the goal and objectives identified in your grant application.

Funds will be disbursed to agencies on a reimbursement basis, upon submission of reports showing expenditures.

SCORING PROCESS

Applications will be reviewed and scored by a team of at least four qualified individuals, including one outside evaluator. Each grant application will be scored based on how the proposed project fits into [state legislation](#).

ACJC staff will prepare and present the proposed allocation plan(s) to the Drug, Gang, and Violent Crime Committee of the Commission for review in May 2008. The Committee will present a recommendation regarding the allocation plan(s) to the Criminal Justice Commission for review and final action also in May 2008. The proposed allocation plan(s) will be made available to all applicants in the meeting agenda.

Funds will be disbursed to agencies in accordance with the Commission's final approved allocation plan for the grant period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, pending funding availability.

The proposed allocation plan(s) will be based on the following criteria:

1. Project fall within state legislation. **(pass/fail)**;
2. Submission of application on time. **(pass/fail)**;
3. Problem statement identifies the need for services in the community and is supported by statistical data that supports the identified problem;
4. The program adequately addresses the problem in the community;
5. Coordinated efforts with other criminal justice agencies and community organizations;
6. Program's ability to meet the overall goals of the program, including measurable, realistic, and achievable project objectives;
7. Mechanisms established to evaluate the project (performance measures) identified and are appropriate;
8. Budget costs are reasonable and allowable. Matching funds are included in the budget request;
9. Appropriate internal controls are in place to adequately administer the award; and
10. Projects previously funded have met the requirements of the grant including timely reporting with no reportable deficiencies during site visits.

Staff may provide additional information to help the Commission make funding decisions. This information may include but is not limited to achievement of past goals and objectives or outcomes.

Applications will be scored using the scorecard shown. **APPLICANTS MUST SCORE AT LEAST 70 POINTS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR FUNDING. HOWEVER, A MINIMUM SCORE OF 70 POINTS DOES NOT GUARANTEE AN AWARD DUE TO THE LIMITED FUNDING AVAILABLE.**

Scorecard – Special Prosecution Grant Application

Applicant Agency: _____

1. Is the project eligible under state legislation? **Yes/No**
 2. Was the application received on time? **Yes/No**
 3. If Yes, is the application complete with the requested information included? **Yes/No**
- If the answer to either question is “No,” the application is disqualified and should not be scored further.

Scorecard				
Category	Description	Valuation	Maximum Possible Score	Actual Score
Problem Statement	The problem statement identifies the need for services in the community and is supported by statistical data that supports the identified problem.	Judgment	15	
Project Description	The project adequately addresses the problem in the community.	Judgment	15	
Collaborative Efforts	The project coordinates efforts with other criminal justice agencies and community organizations.	Judgment	10	
Goals And Objectives	The measurable outcomes selected are appropriate for the project, and numbers and percentages provided are reasonable and achievable.	Judgment	20	
Evaluation Plan	Mechanisms to evaluate the project (performance measures) are identified and are appropriate.	Factual	10	
Budget	Budget costs are reasonable and allowable. Matching funds are included in the budget request.	Factual and Judgment	10	
Internal Controls	The applicant has appropriate internal controls to adequately administer the award.	Judgment	5	
Performance History	Projects previously funded have met the requirements of the grant including timely, accurate submission of reports and no reportable deficiencies during site visits.	Factual	15	
Total:			100	

APPEAL PROCESS

Applicants may pursue a two-step appeal process if their application is denied. If an application is not included for funding in the initial proposal, the applicant may verbally appeal to the Committee. At that point, the Committee will do one of the following; accept the staff proposal and recommend the proposal to the Commission, make changes and recommend the revised proposal to the Commission, or table the proposal for further study. If an application is not recommended for funding by the Committee, the applicant may verbally appeal to the Commission. The Commission can approve the recommendation of the Committee, make changes to the Committee proposal, or table the proposal for further study. The vote of the Commission is the final step of the process and no further appeals will be granted.