

Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office Criminal Justice Division Funding Announcement:

Purpose

The purpose of this announcement is to solicit applications from law enforcement agencies to equip peace officers with bullet-resistant shields.

Available Funding

State funds for these projects are authorized by a Budget Execution Order proposed by the Legislative Budget Board and ratified by Governor Abbott on June 28, 2022, pursuant to Texas Government Code, Section 317.002 and Section 317.005(b). All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law. The Public Safety Office (PSO) expects to make available \$50M for FY2023.

Eligible Organizations

Applications may be submitted by independent school districts, institutions of higher education, units of local government, the Texas Department of Public Safety and other educational institutions that operate law enforcement agencies employing peace officers under Article 2.12, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.

All applications submitted by local law enforcement agencies/offices must be submitted by a unit of government affiliated with the agency, including an authorizing resolution from that unit of government. For example, police departments must apply under their municipal government, and community supervision and corrections departments, district attorneys, and judicial districts must apply through their affiliated county government (or one of the counties, in the case of agencies that serve more than one county).

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 *eGrants User Guide to Creating an Application*, available here.

Funding Announcement: Bullet-Resistant Shield Grant Program, FY2023

Key Dates

08/17/2022
08/17/2022
09/19/2022 at 5:00PM CST
09/01/2022

Project Period

Funding Announcement: Bullet-Resistant Shield Grant Program, FY2023

Community/First Responder Agency Notifications
Mutual Aid Implementation
Solo Officer Deployment
Officer Team Deployment
Follow-On Responders (Rescue Task Force)
Incident Command - Unified Command Considerations
Incident Debriefing
Training

All officers provided with a grant-funded ballistic shield must have either attended 16 hours of ALERRT (Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training) training within the last 24 months or commit to attend within the next 24 months. ALERRT's upcoming course schedule can be found here: https://alerrt.org/Upcoming.

Funding is available through the Public Safety Office to offset travel expenditures associated with attending ALERRT Training. Please refer to the <u>ALERRT Travel Assistance Funding Announcement</u> for more information on how to apply for these funds.

Eligibility Requirements

- 1. Local units of governments must comply with the Cybersecurity Training requirements described in Section 772.012 and Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code. Local governments determined to not be in compliance with the cybersecurity requirements required by Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code are ineligible for OOG grant funds until the second anniversary of the date the local government is determined ineligible. Government entities must annually certify their compliance with the training requirements using the Certification for State and Local Governments. A copy of the Training Certification must be uploaded to your eGrants application. For more information or to access available training programs, visit the Texas Department of Information Resources Statewide Cybersecurity Awareness Training page.
- 2. Entities receiving funds from PSO 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.
 - Counties applying for grant awards from the Office of the Governor must commit that the county will report at least 90% of convictions within five business days to the Criminal Justice Information System at the Department of Public Safety.
- 3. Eligible applicants operating a law enforcement agency must be current on reporting complete UCR data and the Texas specific reporting mandated by 411.042 TGC, to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for inclusion in the annual Crime in Texas (CIT) publication. 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 by the deadline(s) established by DPS. Due to the importance of timely reporting, applicants are required to submit complete and accurate UCR data, as well as the Texas-

Funding Announcement: Bullet-Resistant Shield Grant Program, FY2023

- mandated reporting, on a no less than monthly basis and respond promptly to requests from DPS related to the data submitted.
- 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

Selection Process

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

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.

The Office of the Governor will consider these 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, 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, the Office of the Governor may revise projects to address a more limited focus.

Contact Information

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