

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
Office of Grants and Research**



**Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program
Availability of Grant Funds
State Agencies**

Applications Due: Friday, August 16, 2024

**Maura T. Healey
Governor**

**Terrence M. Reidy
Secretary**

**Kimberley Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor**

**Kevin J. Stanton
Executive Director**

Introduction

The Office of Grants and Research (OGR) will make approximately \$2,300,000 from the **Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (Byrne SCIP)** federal grant award available for State Agencies to competitively solicit funding to prevent or reduce gun violence, with the possibility of a continuation award.

As authorized by the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act of 2022, Byrne SCIP provides formula funds to implement state crisis intervention court proceedings and related programs or initiatives including, but not limited to, extreme risk protection order (ERPO) programs that work to keep guns out of the hands of those who pose a threat to themselves or others, mental health courts, drug courts, veterans treatment courts, and related gun violence reduction programs/initiatives.

An ERPO is a common-sense, effective measure to empower family members, health care providers, school officials, or law enforcement officers to petition a court to temporarily prevent a person from accessing firearms if they are found to be a danger to themselves or others. For more information about Massachusetts ERPO, visit the webpage here: <https://www.mass.gov/extreme-risk-protection-orders>.

Applicant Eligibility

Only a Massachusetts state agency may apply.

A state agency must be the primary applicant; however the applicant may subaward grant funds to community partners to support the reduction of gun violence in their communities.

Only one (1) application per state agency is permitted for submission.

Funding

Applicants may apply for up to \$150,000 in funding.

Duration

Awards will be approximately 12 months long with the possibility of a continuation award.

I. Important Highlights

Key Dates

Solicitation Posted: June 27, 2024
Bidders Conference: Thursday, July 18, 2024
Deadline for AGF Questions: Friday, August 2, 2024
Applications Due: Friday, August 16, 2024, by 4:00 pm.
Anticipated Award Announcements: October 2024
Grant Award Period: October 2024 – September 30, 2025

Bidders Conference

OGR will be hosting a Bidders Conference that will include an overview of this AGF and provide an opportunity for participants to ask questions on **Thursday, July 18, 2024 at 10:00am.**

Although interested applicants are encouraged to join us either at the conference, participation is strictly voluntary and **NOT** mandatory to be considered for a grant award.

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 212 128 979 06

Passcode: SVQ4gY

Dial in by phone

[+1 857-327-9245,,548810543#](#) United States, Boston

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 548 810 543#

Questions and Answers

OGR will accept written questions pertaining to this AGF through Friday, August 2, 2024

Questions must be submitted via email to: james.houghton@mass.gov Written responses will be posted on our website by Monday, August 9, 2024 at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/byrne-state-crisis-intervention-program-for-state-agencies>. OGR will not respond to questions about this opportunity after **Friday, August 9, 2024.**

Purpose

The purpose of this AGF is to provide funding for state agencies to prevent or reduce acts of **gun violence** through the implementation of evidence-based strategies and promising programming.

This grant emphasizes addressing individuals currently at risk of gun violence, with a specific focus on prevention and intervention rather than supporting enforcement projects or responsive or investigative programs.

Evaluation, Data Collection, and Required Cooperation

Subrecipients will be required to cooperate with BJA and its training and technical assistance provider to ensure that projects funded under this program are designed to protect the constitutional rights of individuals. Recipients will also be required to cooperate with the statutorily required evaluation activities as part of the terms and conditions of the award. OGR will use a portion of the grant funds to competitively solicit a statewide research partner to assist OGR with required data collection and reporting efforts as required by the federal government. The selected statewide research partner will also provide technical assistance to our local and state subrecipients to ensure the Commonwealth is supporting grant funded projects that will have the greatest impact preventing or reducing gun violence.

Applicants may also budget and allocate grant funding to support a local research partner or analyst to meet specific gun-related research and programmatic requirements to determine: 1. The effectiveness of the crisis intervention program or ERPO initiative in preventing gun violence and gun-related suicide 2. Measures that have been taken to safeguard the constitutional rights of an individual subject to a crisis intervention program or ERPO initiative.

Massachusetts Byrne SCIP Advisory Board Priority Areas

In accordance with the federal grant requirements, a SCIP Advisory Board was formed to create a strategic plan and guide this solicitation. The 14 member Massachusetts SCIP Advisory Board is composed of state and local partners and includes but is not limited to representatives from law enforcement, community nonprofit organizations, prosecution, behavioral health providers, victim services, and private sector stakeholders.

When determining which priority area and project to be implemented best meets the needs of your agency and community, please keep in mind the following statement from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) when formulating your application:

“BJA understands related programs or initiatives to mean those programs/initiatives that have a direct connection to crisis intervention, which is focused on identifying risk and intervening before harm occurs. **Programs/activities exclusively focused on response to crime in progress or already committed would not be considered crisis intervention.** Related programs or initiatives can include certain court-based programs, programs that deflect individuals to behavioral health services, and gun safety programs”.

Members of the Board participated in several meetings, during which they provided guidance and critical feedback in the development of the strategic plan to ensure these federal dollars will address and support the most critical gun-related needs of this Commonwealth. The Board has recommended the following funding parameters and priority areas.

Applicants may apply for up to **\$150,000** in funding to implement 12-month projects relevant to one or more of the Byrne SCIP Priority Areas that will provide services to any and all members of their respective community such as veterans, parents, children, first responders, members of the faith-based community, healthcare personnel, school employees and any other persons identified as needing these types of services.

ERPO Support: This priority area focuses on the need for education and training to inform the public as well as public safety stakeholders on the ERPO law in order to enhance access to ERPO programs and increase reporting. Such improvements will be supported by funding public awareness campaigns, educational training, and available resources via dissemination of best practices, including:

- Training for judiciary and court staff, family members, and first responders on ERPO proceedings;

- Outreach to community members, stakeholders, municipal leaders, law enforcement agencies, and those engaging with at-risk individuals to raise public awareness about the value and public safety benefits of ERPO laws and programs, and promote the importance of effective implementation and enforcement, as well as program development and enhancement;
- Development and distribution of ERPO fact sheets, brochures, webinars, television, or radio engagement (e.g., advertisements, spotlights, etc.), and social media outreach (e.g., YouTube, Facebook, X, etc.) in order to execute the communication, education, and public awareness strategy;
- Publication of best practices regarding ERPO programs.

Related Court-based Programming:

- Implementing or expanding domestic violence courts focused on those at risk for gun related violence.
- Embed social workers in prosecutor, public defender and/or courts agencies to provide screening, assessment, and referral to services for people in crisis, such as court-based navigators.
- Prosecutor, pretrial, or court diversion programs.

Referrals to Community-based Services for People in Crisis:

- Pre-arrest law enforcement and first responder deflection.
- Suicide and crisis prevention and referral to services.
- De-escalation training for law enforcement, first responders and other justice practitioners.
- Embedding social workers with law enforcement and co-responder programs.
- Related law enforcement-based programs, training, and technology, focused on crisis intervention for those at risk to themselves or others.

Funding for Law Enforcement Crisis Intervention Programs or Initiatives:

- Development and or delivery of specialized training, including crisis response and intervention training (CRIT), and overtime for officers to attend such training.
- Special projects as part of your Community Policing Philosophy.
- Training for school resource officers on identifying youth at risk for firearm violence.
- Supplies, equipment, technology, and training to safely secure, store, track, and return relinquished guns, such as gun locks and storage for individuals and businesses and software or other technologies to track relinquished guns.
- Gun safety training for community members.
- Suicide and crisis prevention and referral to services.
- Data collection, analysis, and strategic planning to address community gun violence.
- Personnel, supplies, and other related costs for crisis intervention officers or co-responders.

Additional Programs or Initiatives That are Allowable Under the Priority Areas:

- Expanding after-school programming to include older youth (12–15-year-olds, for example) and offering robust STEM and workforce development programming.
- Expanding current after-school programming to include stronger mental health and wellness/social learning programs for at-risk youth.
- Contracting with community-based organizations to focus on youth mentoring,

mitigating disruptions to education and violence response coordination.

- Employing individuals designated as Peacekeepers and Neighborhood Change Agents to conduct street outreach, conflict mediations, social media responses and responses to gun violence.
- The implementation of community-led violence intervention programming that uses a public health approach.
- Virtual reality training simulator for police officers to train in a controlled environment for an array of difficult scenarios including de-escalation, intervention techniques for individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis, cooperative/uncooperative subjects and shoot/don't shoot situations.
- Crisis Intervention Training (CIT)—implementing and/or expanding current CIT programs and associated training.
- Providing CIT to better support officers, first responders and dispatch personnel as they respond to crises that arise on the job.
- Establish a community resource professional role dedicated to developing programs related to gun-related violence prevention, especially related to identification and training around suicide and substance misuse risk factors.
- Implementing and expanding co-responder models: Co-responders have behavioral health training, as well as crisis intervention and de-escalation training, and are deployed at the same time as law enforcement.

For additional examples of evidenced-based programs, please visit the [database](#) and sort by “Gun/Community Violence”:

[Model Programs Guide](#) | [All MPG Programs](#) | [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention \(ojp.gov\)](#)

Kindly be aware that accepted SCIP grant applications will prioritize intervention programs for individuals presently at risk of gun violence. It is advisable to propose programs that proactively deter gun violence incidents, including those that facilitate intervention coordination. Additionally, suggesting initiatives involving equipment and technology to connect data and support ERPO programs is encouraged.

Allowable Cost Categories

Allowable Costs	Definitions and Documentation Requirements
Personnel	Costs associated with agency personnel. List position, percentage of time charged to grant, and annual salary. Include a brief description of the duties/activities to be completed supported by grant funding.
Overtime	Overtime is limited to sworn law enforcement personnel only. Indicate overtime rate for each officer charged to the grant and the number of overtime hours. Refer to OGR Overtime Policy below.

Fringe Benefits	<p>Eligible costs include the employer share of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life insurance • Health insurance • Social security costs • Pension costs • Unemployment insurance costs • Workers compensation insurance <p>Direct fringe benefits can be either actual costs or rate per employee calculated by the fiscal or human resource unit in your organization. Actual known costs must be itemized by type and include rate computation. Upload a copy of approved rate agreement in the application response.</p>
Indirect Costs	<p>Federally negotiated and approved rate for costs that are not readily assignable to a particular project, but are necessary to the operation, maintenance of the organization and performance of the project. Include copy of federally approved rate with the proposal. Applicants must upload a copy of federally approved rate with the proposal.</p>
Consultants/Contract	<p>Consultant or Contractor fees associated with the equipment/technology purchased (e.g., installation; training). Provide a description of the product/services to be procured by contract and an estimate of the cost. Applicants should use a competitive process for procurements compliant with the organization's own procurement policy.</p> <p>The maximum rate for consultants is \$650 for an eight hour day or \$81.25 per hour. Any request for compensation over \$650 per day requires prior written approval by EOPSS. This rate is the exception not the rule.</p>
Travel	<p>Travel directly related to the purpose of the grant. In-state travel costs associated with the grant shall include mileage rates not to exceed \$0.62 per mile, as well as the actual costs of tolls and parking. Note that no grant funds may be spent for out-of-state conference fees, out-of-state travel or out-of-state lodging without prior written approval from OGR.</p>
Equipment/Technology	<p>Tangible non-expendable personal property having a useful life of more than one year; cost based on classification of equipment.</p>

Supplies	Supplies directly correlated to the equipment purchased/ program implementation (e.g., ink or paper for a printer, batteries for communication device, training materials, expendable items, etc.)
Other Costs	List items (e.g., rent, telephone) by major type and the basis of the computation.

Unallowable Costs

For this AGF, funds **cannot** be used directly or indirectly for security enhancements or equipment for nongovernmental municipal entities not engaged in criminal justice or public safety (e.g., nonprofit organizations, community centers, etc.).

The funds allocated are not intended for investigative or responsive purposes and will not support enforcement programs. This grant emphasizes addressing individuals currently at risk of gun violence, with a specific focus on prevention and intervention rather than supporting responsive or investigative programs. All funded programs must have a direct nexus to reducing and/or preventing gun violence.

Based on these parameters, the Byrne SCIP funds may **not** be used for any of the following (this is not an all-inclusive list as other items may be deemed unallowable during the review process):

- Active Shooter Training.
- Enforcement programs.
- Gun detection technology.
- Gun buy-back programs.
- Metal detectors.
- Riot/ballistic Gear.
- NIBRS data collection.

In addition,

- Prizes, rewards, entertainment, trinkets, or any type of monetary incentive.
- Client stipends.
- Gift cards.
- Food or beverage.
- Standard firearms or ammunition.
- Construction, office furniture, or other like purchases.
- Non-compliant communication devices.
- Vehicles, vessels or aircraft including drones, unmanned aerial vehicle/unmanned aircraft, aircraft system, or aerial vehicles (UA/UAS/UAV).
- Extended warranty above and beyond the cost of the item (after the contract end date).
- Luxury items.

- Body-Worn Cameras (link to federal solicitation: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/bwcpip-lea/funding>)
- Bulletproof Vests (link to Federal funds: <https://www.ojp.gov/program/bulletproof-vest-partnership/overview> and State matching funds: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/bulletproof-vest-program-bvp>)

Please note, the OGR has other available funding streams supporting the purchasing of bulletproof vests and body-worn cameras. For this reason, Byrne SCIP grant funds cannot be used for bulletproof vests and cameras. However, funds may be used for tactical vests.

*** Tactical vests vs. bulletproof vests – A bulletproof vest is a military or law enforcement vest that can stop bullets. A tactical vest is a protective vest worn by military, law enforcement, and civilians to protect against potential injuries from bullets, explosives, and other types of weapons that provides both protection and a way to carry gear when on assignment.*

II. Grant Compliance Details

Fund Disbursement

Award funds will be available in MMARS upon ISA execution. Quarterly financial and progress reports will be required.

Subrecipient Requirements

Subrecipients must abide by the grant requirements as well as all OGR Subrecipient Grant Conditions to be provided at the time of contracting.

III. Application Instructions

To provide OGR the best opportunity to fairly evaluate all requests for funding, applicants are encouraged to be clear and concise in their proposals.

The Online Application must be completed as outlined in this section. Applications submitted without a signature from an Authorized Official will be considered invalid and may not be reviewed for funding (see below for accepted forms of signature).

Section I. Applicant Information

Applicant Contact and Fiscal Information

- Indicate Applicant name, address, authorized signatory, grant point of contact, finance officer contact information, UEI number, and SAM registration confirmation.
- Indicate the exact amount of federal funds (up to \$150,000) being requested.
- Identify which Priority Area(s) your crisis intervention project will apply to.

Provide a summary of the proposal submitted to be funded through this application (250-word limit). Applicants should be clear and concise in their summary.

Non-Supplant

- Attest to non-supplanting of federal dollars for the proposed project.

Statewide Interoperability: Interoperable Communications Investment Proposal (ICIP)

- Indicate if the application submitted includes the purchase of interoperable communications* type items. If “yes,” please complete an ICIP form (Attachment B). Such equipment requests will be subject to an additional review and approval by the Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) or a representative thereof.

Authorized Signatory

- Submitted application must be digitally signed by the Authorized Official as identified on the application.

Section II. Application Narrative

The application narrative is composed of five sections: Needs Assessment, Research and Evaluation, Project Description, Implementation Plan/Timeline, and Budget Narrative.

Needs Assessment (3-page/6,000-character limit)

At a minimum, the needs assessment should address the following:

- Provide a description of the community to benefit from this application.
- Describe in detail the current, unmet gun-related **public safety and/or public health needs**. Include relevant statistical and/or anecdotal evidence whenever possible, ensuring local firearm data relevant to your community is provided. Do not use statewide/national information alone to support the development of a local-level project.
- The sources or methods used for assessing the gun problem should also be described.
- Further explain why such needs have not been previously met to justify federal grant funds are needed.
- Describe any negative effect, potential consequences, or impact against the department and/or community as a result of not having the items requested.

Helpful Hint: This will likely be a very competitive process. The peer reviewers will prioritize funding for municipalities that clearly explain, justify, and prove real need for all items being requested. Small and large communities may have great need, but often fail to provide specific data and detail proving that need actually exists within the municipality requesting the award.

Project Description (3-page/6,000-character limit)

Applicants must thoroughly describe the gun crisis intervention project to be implemented, clearly describing the activities and services to be provided and expected outcomes. **All proposed activities and services must have a gun-violence prevention or gun-violence reduction nexus with a focus on intervention. General anti-violence programs will not be funded through this solicitation.**

At a minimum, the following should be addressed in this section:

- Clearly describe the programs, services, and/or activities being proposed.
- Discuss how the proposed gun crisis intervention initiative directly correlates to the Needs Assessment provided.
- Describe the experience and expertise of personnel involved in the project and their responsibilities.
- Discuss how the proposed equipment/technology/supply purchase(s) directly correlate to the gun-related Needs Assessment provided and how these purchases are essential to the overall goal of the project. If there are no proposed equipment/technology/supply purchase(s), please state “N/A-no proposed equipment/technology/supply purchase(s)”.
- Cite any local procurement rules/regulations that must be complied with to purchase the items or services described. If known, include information about the vendor that will be utilized for the project and/or describe the process utilized to select a vendor/contractor. If not applicable, please indicate that in your application.
- Describe the expected benefit (outcome) for the individuals to be served and/or community as a whole as a result of receiving a grant award. Award recipients will be required to submit specific outcomes and details on how proposed outcomes will be met. Include any other information that may be important or relevant for reviewers when evaluating the funding request.
- Describe the intervention focus of the proposed program, how it is addressing those currently at risk of gun violence.

Research and Evaluation

A SCIP Statewide Research Partner will also be selected to work directly with recipients of the Byrne SCIP grant. Grant recipients will be expected to share data by tracking progress and reporting performance and outcomes with the selected Research Partner throughout the grant period. By entering into an agreement with OGR, successful awardees consent to sharing data with OGR’s selected Research Partner. At a minimum, the following should be addressed in this section:

- Describe the applicant’s process for collecting data and implementing strategies that are proven effective.
- Describe how the applicant will collaborate with the SCIP Statewide Research partner to meet the obligation to share data by tracking progress and reporting performance and outcomes with the selected Research Partner throughout the grant period. For instance, will there be a point person for this collaboration? Will you hire a research analyst or leverage existing staff talent, etc.

Implementation Plan, Timeline and Person Responsible (1-page limit)

Please discuss your management and implementation plan for this award. This should include how you will ensure the effective implementation and oversight of the project, methods of procurement of any equipment and/or technology, a timeline with key activities and milestones, and identification of key partnerships or stakeholders who will play a role in the implementation of this award. Complete the template grid provided by identifying the necessary steps to be implemented over the approximate 12-month project period. Include the following:

- Brief summary of project management and implementation plan, including how you will ensure effective implementation and oversight of the project and identification of key partnerships or stakeholders and their role in the implementation of the award.
- List of major tasks/activities to be conducted, including a bidding process for contracts and/or equipment purchases;
- Anticipated beginning/end date for major activities;
- Anticipated outcome of each major activity; and
- Person responsible for conducting/overseeing the stated task/activity.

Budget Narrative

The Budget Narrative should outline the budget requested and itemize the proposed purchases per budget category. For each cost category that has an associated funding request in the Budget Excel Worksheet, applicants should provide an overall description and justification for that cost category. The cost category narratives should describe what the budget entails, why the items in that category are needed, and how the budgeted amount was determined. Please include any hires under personnel, a particular training, supplies needed, vendor information or process for selecting a vendor, where applicable. Applicants should submit a budget for *up to* approximately 12 months. **It is extremely important that all proposed costs are clearly defined in order for the reviewers to ensure the costs are allowable and relevant to the gun violence prevention crisis intervention project.**

For example, stating that Agency A is requesting \$20,000 in equipment costs to implement their project is not sufficient. Applicants must state the amount that will be spent on each item within each budget category, and justify the cost and need. Applicants be vague such as “supplies to operate program-\$10,000”. Each item that makes up the \$10,000 must be listed.

Section III. Budget Excel Worksheet

Applicants must also complete a **Budget Excel Worksheet** (refer to **Attachment A**). Please be sure to complete both the Summary tab and Details tab in the Excel spreadsheet and submit it with your application response. Applicants must use the template provided and submit the document in Excel format; please do not convert the document to PDF or other format.

*Interoperable Communications requested under the Byrne SCIP Grant must directly relate to the purpose of this grant and may not be used for law enforcement purposes. Grantees that are using Byrne SCIP funds to support emergency communications activities (including the purchase of interoperable communications equipment and technology such as voice-over-internet protocol bridging or gateway devices, or equipment to support the build-out of wireless broadband networks in the 700 MHz public safety band under the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Waiver Order) must ensure:

- Compliance with the FY 2020 SAFECOM Guidance on Emergency Communications Grants (including provisions on technical standards that ensure and enhance interoperable communications) and
- Adherence to the technical standards set forth in the FCC Waiver Order, or any succeeding FCC orders, rules, or regulations pertaining to broadband operations in the 700 MHz public safety band.

In order to promote information sharing and enable interoperability among disparate systems across the justice and public safety communities, DOJ Office of Justice Programs (OJP) requires the grantee to comply with DOJ's Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative (DOJ's Global) guidelines and recommendations for this particular grant. Grantees shall conform to the Global Standards Package (GSP) and all constituent elements, where applicable, as described at: <https://it.ojp.gov/GSP>. Grantees shall document planned approaches to information sharing and describe compliance to the GSP and appropriate privacy policy that protects shared information, or provide detailed justification for why an alternative approach is recommended.

Additional Interoperable Communications Compliance Requirements:

Applications that request funds for *interoperable communications components*, such as the purchase of radios or other communication system components are subject to an additional approval process per Massachusetts Executive Order 493, by the Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) or a representative thereof.

In order to receive approval to utilize Byrne SCIP funds for *interoperable communications components*, a department must also complete and submit the “[Interoperable Communications Investment Proposal](#)” (ICIP) form as part of this application process. The completed ICIP Form may be uploaded as Attachment B.

OGR Overtime Policy

Where state and local first responders are eligible through their department for overtime and preapproved by OGR, the department may be reimbursed for overtime costs related to grant-funded activities ONLY.

Overtime hours charged against a federal grant award provided by OGR may be reimbursed for actual hours worked only, regardless of union contract rules. For example, an officer working two

hours of overtime on a federally funded project awarded by OGR is prohibited from charging the grant award for four hours of overtime due to a union contract agreement for a four-hour minimum. In this example, the department must cover the remaining 2 hours of overtime from their own state or local budget. Departments found violating this policy will be subject to immediate termination of a grant award and must return all misspent funds to OGR.

Overtime Related Definitions

Definitions for the key terms referenced within this policy are listed below:

- *Overtime* - Expenses limited to the additional costs that result from state and local first responders, such as sworn law enforcement personnel, working over and above their weekly full-time/part-time schedule as a direct result of their performance of approved activities related to the project receiving federal funding.
- *Subrecipient* - An entity receiving a grant award from OGR.
- *Sworn Uniform Personnel* - State or local (uniform) law enforcement and firefighter personnel.

If awarded to utilize grant funding for overtime costs, OGR will provide additional criteria and reporting forms needed at the time an award is made to justify and support such reimbursement costs being charged against the grant.

IV. Application Submission and Award Process

Submission Process and Deadline

Submit the online application form including all required attachments no later than **August 16, 2024 by 4:00pm**. The digitally signed, completed online application and attachments are all that is required, mailed hard copy applications are NOT required.

Emailed submissions will not be accepted. Please let OGR know if you have any difficulties or questions regarding the online application. All questions can be directed to James.Houghton@mass.gov.

*This AGF and all other required documents can also be found on our website:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/byrne-state-crisis-intervention-program-for-state-agencies>

Online Submission

All applicants are required to submit the Online Application information with the State Agency application form found here:

[Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program SA Online Application](#)

Upon completion, the Grant Point of Contact will receive an email confirmation with a PDF attachment of the application and supporting application documents for your records.

The online application must be completed and submitted with the following required attachments uploaded:

- Attachment A: Budget Excel Workbook uploaded in Excel format, not PDF
- Attachment B: Interoperable Communications Investment Proposal (ICIP), if applicable
- Approved Fringe Rate Agreement and/or Indirect Cost Rate Agreement, if applicable

Review Process

This is a competitive grant and will be subject to a peer review process. Applications will be reviewed and scored by three peer reviewers (internal and external) based on the following criteria:

- Complete responses in online form: Application Online Submission (5 points);
- Use of data to demonstrate need and description of how requested equipment/programming addresses the stated need (30 points);
- A narrative that clearly describes the items to be purchased and/or programming to be implemented, and the gun violence prevention benefits to the department and/or community (25 points);
- Implementation plan and timeline that are feasible and ensure all programming, goods and services will be received and paid for within the anticipated grant period (15 points); and
- A detailed, reasonable, relevant, and complete budget (25 points).

***Note:** In an effort to assist as many communities as possible, applicants are encouraged to submit reasonable and cost-effective requests. OGR retains the right to partially fund departments in an effort to award additional departments throughout the Commonwealth that reviewers recommend for funding.*

Reviewer recommendations will be presented to the SCIP Advisory Board for approval. In addition to reviewer comments and ratings, other considerations such as achieving geographic diversity, strategic priorities, past performance and available funding will be taken into effect when determining awards. Upon completion of the Board review process, OGR will then submit a request to BJA for final federal approval as required in the Byrne SCIP solicitation. BJA has the final authority to determine if the proposed projects meet the intended purpose of these funds.

Notification of Awards

Funding decisions are ultimately at the discretion of the Executive Director of OGR, the Secretary of Public Safety and Security, Byrne SCIP Advisory Board and the Bureau of Justice Assistance. It is anticipated that the grant awards will be announced in October 2024.

OGR reserves the right to award additional proposals recommended for funding by the peer reviewers if additional Byrne SCIP funds become available after the initial awards are made.