

Byrne State Crisis Intervention Plan (SCIP) Grant Program FAQ

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



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Q. For the municipal law enforcement grant, the slide said subawards are limited to fire departments, school departments and nonprofit organizations. Does that mean that an agency that does not fit into any of those categories (e.g., a public housing agency) cannot be included in an application as a subaward? So, to confirm, public housing agency can be a FUNDED partner?

A. Yes, a public housing agency can be a funded partner as a sub-awardee, but they cannot be the main applicant to the grant. In the application, there must be a full breakdown of any and all sub-awardees' activities and/or costs.

Q. Our team's questions specifically relate to the SRP solicitation. Related to performance measures, is there an existing quarterly performance measurement questionnaire that state and law enforcement agencies submit, or will new data collection tools need to be developed?

A. All grant awardees (not sub-awardees but main applicants only) will be required by the federal Bureau of Justice Assistance to complete and submit quarterly Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) reports until the end of their funding period; they will also be required by OGR to submit quarterly programmatic reports. No new data collection tools will be developed at this time.

Q. Is there a list of current Byrne grantees and subgrantees available?

A. Not on the OGR webpage currently. Information regarding this can be retrieved if requested via email.

Please note that the program currently accepting applications – the Byrne SCIP Program – is a separate program from the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. This is the first time that Byrne SCIP funding has been made available.

Q. Are SRP applicants outside of Massachusetts eligible to apply?

A. No, Research Partners must be in Massachusetts.

Q. When preparing our budget, should we use our organization's federally negotiated indirect rate or can the rate be limited to 10%?

A. If your agency has a rate, you are required to use it. Otherwise, you may use the 10% de minimus rate and state to the fact you are doing so.

Q. Does there need to be a project manager assigned?

A. No, an assigned project manager is not necessary but an agency contact is required, such as a signatory, fiscal, or programmatic authority who OGR can reach out to.

Q. Is the entire grant related to gun violence? For example would a smaller town be able to apply for some of the approved programs if there isn't a gun violence related problem in our town?

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A. Yes. As per legislation, the program is directed towards gun violence crisis intervention, including addressing gun violence which may not be prevalent in your community yet. Even if there is no data on gun violence in the community, any data that shows gun violence might manifest is worth putting into the application.

Q. Would we be able to use grant funds toward mobile technology that would help to prevent or mitigate casualties in a school shooting event. I was considering a technology package that would improve communications between our regional 911 dispatch center, the police officers, and Public Schools personnel. The end product would be an application on school employees' phones that would allow them to push/talk communicate directly with our officers and dispatch center, alerting us on updates in the event of an active shooter situation. It would also provide software that would better track those entering the school. It is something our adjacent agency (uses. Would this be allowable under the grant?

A. I will refer to this statement in the AGF and provided by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) as it appears your project would be focused on response to crime in progress:

“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.”

We originally had Active Shooter training in our federal application which was denied by BJA as they determined it was training to be prepared for a crime in progress, and not to prevent it from occurring. I know this isn't active shooter training you are requesting, but your project appears to be reactive and focused on response during and after an incident occurs.