

U.S. Department of Justice

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING
SERVICES (COPS OFFICE)

FY24 COPS Hiring Program Informational Webinar

May 21, 2024, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. EDT



COPS
Community Oriented Policing Services
U.S. Department of Justice



ABOUT THE COPS OFFICE

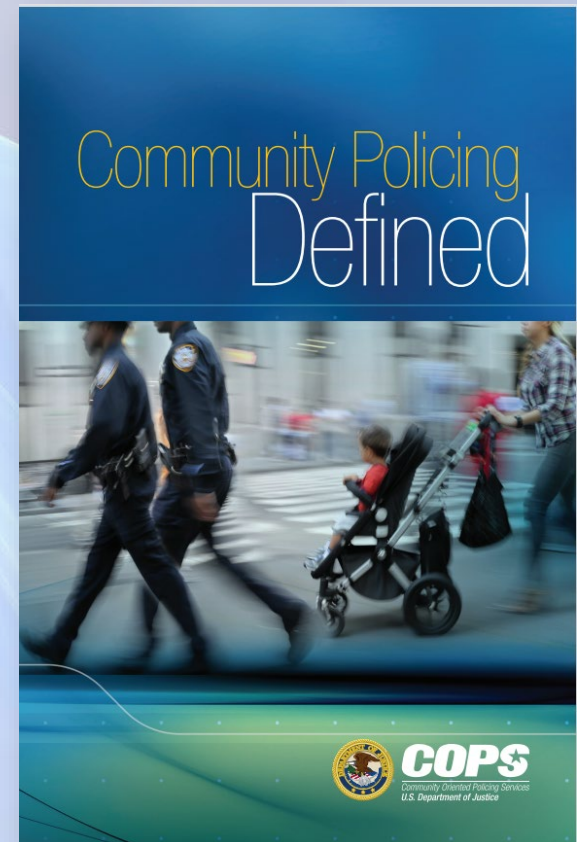
The **Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office)** is the component of the U.S. Department of Justice responsible for advancing the practice of community policing by the nation's state, local, territorial, and tribal law enforcement agencies through information and grant resources.

The COPS Office awards grants to hire community policing professionals, develop and test innovative policing strategies, and provide training and technical assistance to community members, local government leaders, and all levels of law enforcement. Since 1994, the COPS Office has been appropriated more than \$20 billion to help advance community policing.



COMMUNITY POLICING

- Community policing begins with a commitment to building trust and mutual respect between police and communities.
- It supports public safety by encouraging all stakeholders to work together to address our nation's crime challenges.
- When law enforcement and communities collaborate, they more effectively address underlying issues, change negative behavioral patterns, and allocate resources.
- To read an overview of the principles of community policing, please see the COPS Office publication [*Community Policing Defined*](#).



FY24 CHP OVERVIEW

CHP provides funding to law enforcement agencies to hire and/or rehire additional sworn career law enforcement officers in an effort to increase their community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts.

Anticipated program outcomes:

- Engagement in planned community partnership
- Implementation of projects to analyze and assess problems
- Implementation of changes to personnel and agency management in support of community policing
- Increased capacity of agency to engage in community policing activities

Awards will be made on a competitive basis.

Assistance listing number:
16.710

Grants.gov opportunity number:
O-COPS-2024-172009

Solicitation release date:
April 11, 2024, 1:00 p.m. ET

Grants.gov deadline:
June 6, 2024, 4:59 p.m. ET

JustGrants deadline:
June 12, 2024, 4:59 p.m. ET


AVAILABLE FUNDING




Up to \$156.6 million available



Approximately 250 awards anticipated



The COPS Office is statutorily required to distribute half of all hiring funds to agencies serving populations of more than 150,000 and half to those serving 150,000 or fewer



In addition, the COPS Office is statutorily required to ensure that at least one-half of one percent of hiring funds are allocated to each state or territory with eligible applications

ELIGIBILITY

State, local, territorial, and tribal law enforcement agencies with primary law enforcement authority are eligible to apply.



Local Law Enforcement
Agencies



State Law Enforcement
Agencies



Tribal Law Enforcement
Agencies



Territorial Law Enforcement
Agencies

HIRING CATEGORIES



- Funding under this program may be used to hire or rehire career law enforcement officers in the following categories:
 - Hire new officers
 - Rehire officers laid off
 - Rehire officers who are scheduled to be laid off
- Note: Officers must be hired/rehired on or after the project start date to be eligible.



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COST SHARE (MATCH)

- FY24 CHP awards will cover up to 75 percent of the entry-level salary and fringe benefits for each approved position for a three-year funding period, based on the applicant's current entry level salary levels for full-time officers.
- A minimum 25 percent* local cost share or matching funds is required, which must be in the form of cash, unless a waiver is approved.
- Absent an approved matching funds waiver, the maximum federal share per officer position is \$125,000 over the three-year period (not \$125,000 per year) and any additional costs exceeding entry level salaries and fringe benefits will be the responsibility of the recipient agency.



***NOTE:** The local cost share or matching funds requirement may be higher than 25 percent. For example, if salary and fringe for an entry-level officer totals \$190,000 over three years, the CHP award will cover only \$125,000 and the recipient agency will be responsible for the remaining amount: \$65,000, or 34% of the \$190,000 award, unless a local match waiver is granted.

CAP ON OFFICER REQUESTS



Requests will be capped at 20 percent of actual sworn force.



Maximum of 50 officers for any agency.



Agencies with fewer than 10 officers may request one position.



RETENTION REQUIREMENT

- CHP funding will support three years of officer or deputy salaries within a five-year period of performance to accommodate time needed for recruitment and hiring.
- Agencies must retain each CHP-funded position for a minimum of 12 months following the three years of funding for that position.

BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS

- Officers hired with CHP funding must be subject to a background investigation.
- See [FY24 External Background Investigations FAQs](#).





SUPLANTING PROHIBITION

- Funds must be used to supplement, not replace, local funds (nonsupplanting).
- A recipient may not reduce its existing current fiscal year budget for sworn officers just to make use of the CHP award.
- Any budget cut must be unrelated to the receipt of CHP award funds to avoid a violation of the COPS Office statutory nonsupplanting requirement.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO) REQUIREMENTS

- **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)**

- MOU between the law enforcement agency and the school partners required for recipients who use CHP funds for SROs within 90 days of the date shown on the award letter, and before expending or drawing down funds under the award.
- See [School Resource Officer Memorandum of Understanding Fact Sheet \(usdoj.gov\)](https://www.usdoj.gov/cops/sro/mou).

- **TRAINING**

- CHP-funded SROs are required to complete a 40-hour basic training course no later than nine months after the award date, or six months after the SRO hire date, whichever comes first.

Note: Agencies should adhere to the guiding principles found at [SUPPORTING SAFE SCHOOLS | COPS OFFICE \(usdoj.gov\)](https://www.usdoj.gov/cops/sro/supporting-safe-schools).





HOW TO APPLY

Two-step application process:

1. Applicants must register electronically through Grants.gov and complete the SF-424 and SF-LLL by the June 6, 2024, 4:59 PM ET deadline.
2. Applicants must then submit the full application in JustGrants by the June 12, 2024, 4:59 PM ET deadline. The full application includes the following:
 - Standard Applicant Information
 - Application Survey Questions
 - Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative Form

All applications will be reviewed based on their answers to the fiscal health questions, crime statistics, community policing strategy, and other relevant factors determined by the COPS Office.

HOW TO APPLY

- ✓ Visit the COPS Office How to Apply page: <https://cops.usdoj.gov/how-to-apply>
- ✓ Register and submit the first part of your application in Grants.gov. **Deadline to complete this step is June 6, 2024, at 4:59 p.m. ET.** Applicants must submit an SF-424 through Grants.gov before completing the CHP application in JustGrants.
- ✓ Onboard your agency to the Justice Grants System (JustGrants).
- ✓ Complete and submit the second part of your application in JustGrants (<https://www.justicegrants.usdoj.gov>).
- ✓ Complete application packages for the FY 2024 CHP solicitation are due by **June 12, 2024, at 4:59 p.m. ET.**

For further instructions and explanations of the application process read the Solicitation and Supporting Materials posted on the COPS Office CHP web page:

<https://cops.usdoj.gov/chp>

Detailed application process document

Solicitation video



COPS ABOUT ▾ NEWS ▾ GRANTS ▾ RESOURCES ▾ TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ▾ ACCOUNT ACCESS 🔍

HOW TO APPLY

On this page, you will find frequently asked questions, appendices, fact sheets, links to webinars, and other resources to help you apply for COPS Office funding. For more information on COPS Office programs, visit our [Grants](#) page.

ASSISTANCE ON HOW TO APPLY

Process for Applying to COPS Office Solicitations
This document will provide potential applicants with information on the process for Applying to COPS Office Solicitations.

[Application Process](#)

COPS Office Solicitation Tips Video
This video will provide potential applicants with information on how to prepare to apply, start and complete an application, tips for success and where to find resources.

[View the video](#)

- [Tips for Applying to COPS Office Solicitations](#)
- [Process for Applying to COPS Office Solicitations](#)
- [DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#)
- [Navigating Solicitation Surveys in JustGrants](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

JUSTGRANTS VIRTUAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The JustGrants team facilitates weekly sessions providing an opportunity for users to receive topic-specific training, direct technical assistance and support on JustGrants system functionality.

Two sessions may be especially useful for applicants:

- Application Mechanics: Submitting an Application Training
- Entity Management Virtual Q&A
- Award Acceptance Virtual Q&A



APPLICATION REVIEW

- Application is specifically tailored to law enforcement
- No separate narrative or budget narrative is required. Narrative questions will be answered in the JustGrants survey.
- Data review for the CHP application:
 - Fiscal need – 33%
 - Crime – 33%
 - Community policing plans – 33%
- CHP application scoring is data-driven. This approach gives the program several advantages:
 - Objective decision-making
 - Quality of information
 - Speed and efficiency
 - Ensures we are comparing apples to apples

PROBLEM/FOCUS AREAS

Additional consideration will be given to applicants that propose a community-based approach to the following four problem/focus areas:

1. Building Legitimacy and Trust
2. Violent Crime/Gun Violence
3. Combating Hate and Domestic Extremism
4. Police Based Response to Persons in Crisis

NOTE: If awarded CHP funding, recipients that chose one of the four specific community policing problem/focus areas must devote 100 percent of their funded positions to that focus area and will not be allowed to change the problem area post-award.



In FY 2024, additional priority consideration given for the following:

- Persistent Poverty
- Preventing Radicalization of Personnel
- Community-Based Hires
- Community-Based Officer Relocation
- Diversity Training
- Safe Harbor
- Catastrophic Incident
- Hiring Veterans
- Rural Designation
- Agency Not Funded in FY23



In addition to the criteria listed earlier, responses to the list of questions related to the activities outlined in the Federal Priorities for Policing Inventory will help the U.S. Department of Justice evaluate the possibility for priority consideration, where appropriate, and identify potential gaps in training and technical assistance.

TIPS FOR APPLYING

- ✓ Start early!
- ✓ Register and submit Grants.gov portion as soon as possible.
- ✓ Register with SAM database/Confirm Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number.
- ✓ Acquire an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and a Grants.gov username and password.
- ✓ Acquire confirmation for the AOR from the E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC).
- ✓ Register the Entity Administrator (E-Biz POC) and the Application Submitter with DOJ's Justice Grants System (JustGrants).
- ✓ Read the solicitation and supporting materials on the COPS Office website.
- ✓ Be sure that your agency is ready and able to commit to the potential grant funding and grant conditions.
- ✓ Ensure that you have responded to **every** element in the solicitation and all required documents are attached and complete.



RESOURCES

[CHP Solicitation](#)

[Application Resource Guide](#)

[CHP Fact Sheet](#)

[CHP Frequently Asked Questions](#)

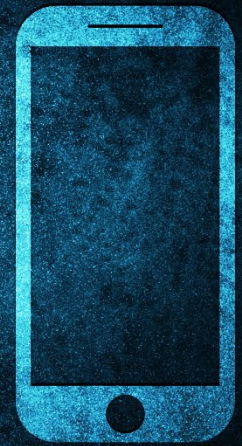
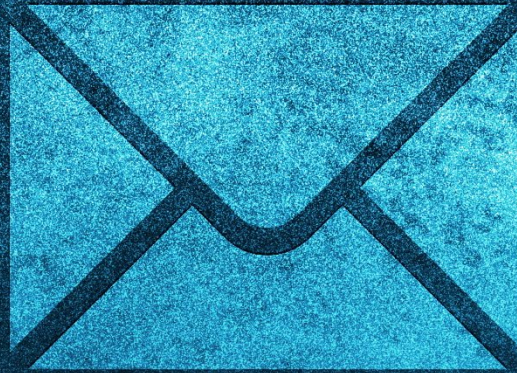
[CHP Repository Questions](#)

[SRO MOU Fact Sheet](#)

[SRO Guiding Principles](#)

[SRO Guiding Principles Flyer](#)

[Background Investigation FAQs](#)



CONTACT INFORMATION

Learn more about CHP here: <https://cops.usdoj.gov/chp>

For technical assistance with submitting the SF 242 and SF-LLL, please call the Grants.gov customer service hotline at 800-518-4726 or send questions via email to support@Grants.gov.

For technical assistance with submitting the full application in JustGrants contact the JustGrants service desk at justgrants.support@usdoj.gov or 833-872-5175.

For programmatic and general assistance with the solicitation requirements, contact the COPS Office Customer Care Center at 800-421-6770 or by email at AskCOPSRC@usdoj.gov. The Customer Care Center will remain open on the solicitation closing date until 4:59 p.m. ET.

STAY CONNECTED

The COPS Office produces hundreds of guidebooks, white papers, and publications on the most successful proactive methods for improving public safety.

Visit <https://cops.usdoj.gov/> for the latest COPS Office updates and resources.



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THANK YOU!



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