



# **Pre-Award Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for 2024 COPS Office Safer Outcomes: Enhancing De-Escalation and Crisis Response Training for Law Enforcement**

## **Expansion of Regional De-Escalation Training Centers**

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### **Q. What is the goal of this solicitation?**

- A. The goal of this solicitation is to promote safe outcomes during police encounters with persons in crisis through the continued support and expansion of the COPS Office network of regional de-escalation training centers. These centers provide relevant de-escalation and crisis response training for law enforcement in a multistate region. Training provided by the center must address one or more of the following areas of focus:
1. De-escalation tactics and alternatives to use of force
  2. Safely responding to an individual experiencing a mental or behavioral health or suicidal crisis
  3. Safe encounters with individuals with disabilities
  4. Successfully participating on a crisis intervention team
  5. Making referrals to community-based services and supports

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### **Q. Who is eligible to apply for funding as a Regional De-Escalation Training Center?**

- A. Applicants must be accredited institutions of higher education or nonprofit organizations with experience providing training to law enforcement at the national or regional level. Partnerships are encouraged, but the applicant entity must meet one of these two criteria.

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### **Q. Who is trained by Regional De-Escalation Training Centers?**

- A. Training is supported for law enforcement officers, support personnel employed by law enforcement agencies, and mental health professionals working on a crisis intervention team as an employee of a law enforcement agency or under a legal agreement with a law enforcement agency.

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**Q. How will regional coverage be determined among Regional De-Escalation Training Centers?**

A. The regional de-escalation training centers should provide training and programming to a diverse set of state, local, territorial, and tribal law enforcement agencies in a multistate region. Applicants are encouraged to include information in their project narrative about areas for which they are well suited to provide training, and the training they intend to provide. The final regional coverage must be flexible post-award to ensure national coverage. In addition, the applicant should be prepared to coordinate with the COPS Office, other regional training centers, and the national training coordinator in the delivery of training.

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**Q. Are there any post-award requirements for the Regional De-Escalation Training Centers?**

A. Yes. The regional de-escalation training centers will collaborate with the De-Escalation National Coordinator to help guide the development of any new training materials, share their existing materials, and report their training delivery numbers. The regional centers will serve on an advisory board for the development of an online training program, any other in-person modules, and pilot testing of all pieces of the curricula.

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For the [FY24 COPS Office Solicitations Frequently Asked Questions](#) visit our [How To Apply](#) page.

**Questions?** For technical assistance with submitting the **full application** in JustGrants, contact the JustGrants Service Desk at [JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov](mailto:JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov) or 833-872-5175. The JustGrants Service Desk operates 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. eastern time (ET) Monday to Friday, and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET on Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays.

For programmatic and general assistance with the solicitation requirements, contact the COPS Office Response Center at 800-421-6770 or by email at [AskCOPSRC@usdoj.gov](mailto:AskCOPSRC@usdoj.gov). The Response Center's hours of operation are Monday–Friday (except U.S. Federal Government holidays; see <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/snow-dismissal-procedures/federal-holidays/>) from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET). The Response Center will remain open on the solicitation closing date until 4:59 p.m. ET.