



Fact Sheet

cops.usdoj.gov

2026 Collaborative Reform Initiative Program

The **Collaborative Reform Initiative (CRI)** suite of services is designed to highlight best practices of law enforcement agencies and the many ways they protect Americans, enhance officer safety and wellness, build agencies' capacity for self-improvement and effectiveness, and promote community policing practices nationwide. CRI consists of programs meant to complement one another and provide a suite of services that range in time and complexity.

WHEN: Deadline for first part of application in Grants.gov is **August 24, 2026**, at 4:59 p.m. ET. Deadline for completed application in JustGrants is **August 31, 2026**, at 4:59 p.m. ET.

Start EARLY. The process takes more than one day.

WHERE: 1. Register online with www.sam.gov to obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and www.grants.gov to complete the Grants.gov application package.

2. Complete the application in the [JustGrants Justice Grants System](#).

HOW: Online only. No hard copies sent by U.S. Mail or electronic copies sent via email.

COPS Office CRI Programs

This year's Collaborative Reform program has two funding opportunities. The first funding opportunity has two subcategories: Collaborative Reform Technical Assistance Center (CRITAC) and Critical Response (CR). The second funding opportunity is invitational and only open to applicants that receive an invitation to apply. Please see the chart on page 2 for an overview description of the FY26 CRI programs. All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

Additional Applicant Eligibility Factors

State and local governmental entities must comply with 8 U.S.C. § 1373, which provides that state and local government entities may not prohibit, or in any way restrict, any government entity or official from sending to, receiving from, maintaining, or exchanging information regarding citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual with components of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or any other federal, state or local government entity. This includes any prohibitions or restrictions imposed or established by a state or local government entity or official.

Additional consideration will be provided to applicants that

- cooperate with federal law enforcement to address illegal immigration;
- coordinate and participate with the Homeland Security Task Force (HSTF).

Notice of Funding Opportunity	Category	Overview summary	Eligibility	Funding amount	Anticipated number of awards
FY26 Collaborative Reform Initiative (CRI) Program	Collaborative Reform Initiative Technical Assistance Center (CRI-TAC)	Provides customizable, short-term technical assistance on more than 60 topics, using a “by the field, for the field” approach	Law enforcement stakeholder associations (membership organizations)	\$3,450,000	1
	Critical Response	Provides targeted technical assistance to law enforcement agencies experiencing high-profile events, major incidents, or sensitive issues of varying need	For-profit (commercial) organizations, nonprofit organizations, and institutions of higher education	\$750,000	1

Addressing this priority is one of many factors that the COPS Office considers in making funding decisions. Receiving priority consideration does not guarantee funding.

For additional information, please see the appendices in the FY26 Collaborative Reform Initiative Resource Guide.

Funding Provisions

Provisions include the following:

- Proposals should be responsive to the notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) and identify specific program goals that will be directly accomplished if awarded CRI funding. Detailed descriptions of eligibility and additional information are available in the NOFO.
- There is up to \$4.95 million in funding available. Awards made under all NOFOs are one year (12 months) in length. There is no local match.

Contact the COPS Office

For more information about COPS Office programs and resources, please call the COPS Office Response Center at 800-421-6770 or visit the COPS Office website at cops.usdoj.gov.

How to Apply

Before You Begin: SAM. Register with the SAM (System of Award Management) database or confirm or renew your existing SAM registration.

Confirm your entity’s electronic business point of contact (E-Biz POC) in SAM is accurate.

Step 1: Grants.gov. Register with Grants.gov or confirm your existing registration.

Submit the first part of your application in Grants.gov.

Deadline to complete this step is August 24, 2026, at 4:59 p.m. ET.

Step 2: JustGrants. Onboard your agency to the JustGrants Justice Grants System.

Complete and submit the second part of your application in JustGrants (<https://www.justicegrants.usdoj.gov>).

Further instructions and explanations of the application process can be found on the COPS Office website at <https://cops.usdoj.gov>.

Complete application packages for the FY 2026 CRI funding opportunity are due by **August 31, 2026, at 4:59 p.m. ET.**