



Fact Sheet

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2026 Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act Program

The **Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act (LEMHWA)** program furthers the Administration priority of supporting the mental health and wellness of law enforcement officers and their families. Through the LEMHWA program, the Department of Justice will fund the delivery of and access to mental health and wellness services for law enforcement officers and their families through the implementation of peer support, training, family resources, suicide prevention, stress reduction, clinical support, and other promising practices for wellness programs.

WHEN: Deadline for first part of application in Grants.gov is **July 30, 2026**, at 4:59 p.m. ET. Deadline for completed application in JustGrants is **August 5, 2026**, at 4:59 p.m. ET.

Start EARLY. The process takes more than one day.

WHO: For LEMHWA Start-up and Enhanced Implementation Projects funding: Local, state, tribal, and territorial law enforcement agencies that have primary law enforcement authority for their jurisdiction. Agencies that respond only to certain types of crimes, such as statewide investigative agencies, or only to crimes occurring within correctional institutions, are ineligible. Proposed projects can serve a group of agencies, but only one agency can submit the application.

For LEMHWA Community of Practice Initiative funding: Any nonprofit organization, for-profit organization, institution of higher education, community group, or faith-based organization.

COPS Office Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act Program

The LEMHWA program has one open funding opportunity with three subcategories this year:

■ Start-up LEMHWA Implementation Projects

The goal of this program is to provide support to law enforcement agencies that do not have established law enforcement-specific mental health and wellness programming. These funds will serve as start-up costs to support the development of new mental health and wellness service and programming. Please note: Applicants that have received previous LEMHWA funding are ineligible for this program.

■ Enhanced LEMHWA Implementation Projects

The goal of this program is to provide support for law enforcement agencies that have current wellness programs in place and are seeking to enhance or expand upon those existing wellness programs.

■ LEMHWA Community of Practice Initiative

The goal of this program is provide funding to a provider that will create a support network for LEMHWA grantees that includes peer support and technical assistance through the development and facilitation of an innovative forum where grantees can learn from their peers and share promising practices. The forum should be responsive and adaptive to the needs of the LEMHWA grantees.

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. For additional information, please see the appendices in the FY26 Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act (LEMWHA) Program Resource Guide.

Funding Provisions

Provisions include the following:

- Proposals should be responsive to the notice of funding opportunity and identify specific program goals that will be directly accomplished if awarded LEMHWA funding. Detailed descriptions of eligibility and additional information are available in the funding opportunity guide.
- There is up to \$9 million in funding available for the LEMHWA Start-up and Enhanced Implementation Projects program and \$250,000 available for the LEMHWA Community of Practice Initiative. Awards made under this funding opportunity are two years (24 months) in length. There is no local match of funding required.
- Applicants applying under the FY26 Start-up LEMHWA Implementation Projects or the FY26 Enhanced LEMHWA Implementation Projects programs will receive additional consideration for agencies that do the following:
 - Serve small and rural communities (law enforcement applicants only). Please note: Applicants are allowed to self-identify whether their jurisdiction type is rural based on their own geographical considerations.

- Cooperate with federal law enforcement to address illegal immigration (law enforcement applicants only).
- Submit accurate race and ethnicity information in the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) (law enforcement applicants only).
- Coordinate and participate with the Homeland Security Task Force (HSTF) (law enforcement applicants only).

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

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 July 30, 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 LEMHWA funding opportunity are due by **August 5, 2026, at 4:59 p.m. ET.**

Contact the COPS Office

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