

FY25 CPD Accreditation Cohort Annual Report

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Introduction

Law enforcement agency (LEA) accreditation is a self-initiated process of adopting and maintaining standardized policies and procedures. Accreditation bodies determine and define sets of state- and nationally recognized standards by which accredited LEAs operate. To obtain accreditation, an LEA must work with a state or national accreditation body to develop and adopt that body's specific set of operational standards, the number of which varies by accreditation entity, and maintain compliance during the accreditation period. LEAs may also choose to seek dual accreditation, or accreditation by both national and state accreditation bodies.

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) support LEA accreditation and recognize the importance of adhering to the highest standards of police policies and operations. The community benefits when its law enforcement personnel follow standardized policies and procedures that provide fair, impartial, and effective policing. Agency accreditation helps to ensure the accountability and transparency that can enhance community confidence and trust in law enforcement.

Since 2021, the COPS Office has supported accreditation efforts through a separate funding opportunity of the Community Policing Development (CPD) program. Accreditation solicitations vary from year to year but have included the following subcategories:

- **Addressing Gaps in State Accreditation.** Establishment of accreditation entities in states that do not have an accreditation body.
- **Enhancing Law Enforcement Accreditation Entities.** Support and enhancement of law enforcement accreditation bodies to increase the number of agencies accredited.
- **Supporting Law Enforcement Agencies in Seeking Accreditation.** Funding of agency costs such as officer overtime, accreditation fees, and policy software related to obtaining law enforcement accreditation from an existing state or national law enforcement accreditation entity.
- **Accreditation Resources and Implementation Support.** Development of a national marketing program and provision of technical assistance in support of law enforcement accreditation.
- **Supporting Tribal Agency Accreditation.** Support of an accreditation body to assist tribal law enforcement agencies through the accreditation process (offered in 2021 only).

Accreditation Awards

In 2025, the COPS Office received 75 applications across all Accreditation subcategories and funded 36 organizations and agencies for \$7,393,524 (see appendix for the full list of recipients). The FY 2025 funding is an increase from the FY 2024 total of 6,479,820, with a slightly lower number of applicants; in FY24 there were 84 applications across all subcategories and 26 funded organizations and agencies. The FY 2025 funding included 13 awards under Enhancing Law Enforcement Accreditation Entities and 23 awards under the Supporting Law Enforcement Agencies in Seeking Accreditation category. The following accreditation entities received Enhancing Law Enforcement Accreditation Entities awards:

- Arizona Chiefs of Police
- California Police Chiefs Association, Inc.
- Executive Office of the Governor of Delaware
- Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police Foundation
- Indiana Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, Inc.
- International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators, Inc.
- Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc.
- Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association, Inc.
- Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services
- Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association
- South Carolina Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc.
- Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.
- Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

For the Supporting Law Enforcement Agencies in Seeking Accreditation category, the 23 recipients across 13 states include 19 municipalities and four counties.

Total Accreditation Funding

Total awards from Fiscal Years 2021 through 2025 for the Accreditation program are shown in table 1.

Table 1. Total accreditation awards by subcategory, 2021–2025

Solicitation	No. of awards	Total award amount
Addressing Gaps in State Accreditation	5	\$1,865,195
Enhancing Law Enforcement Accreditation Entities	44	\$11,006,292
Supporting Law Enforcement Agencies in Seeking Accreditation	161	\$19,066,899
Accreditation Resources and Implementation Support	1	\$250,000
Supporting Tribal Agency Accreditation	1	\$148,498
Total	212	\$32,336,884

CPD Accreditation Cohort

To manage the Accreditation cooperative agreements and grants, a team of Community Policing Advancement (CPA) Directorate staff, termed the Accreditation Cohort, works cooperatively with all recipients to support award management and oversight. In addition, the Accreditation Cohort provides technical assistance to support project management and implementation, as well as training opportunities via multimedia resources—for example, a webinar to highlight successes and lessons learned for other agencies seeking accreditation.

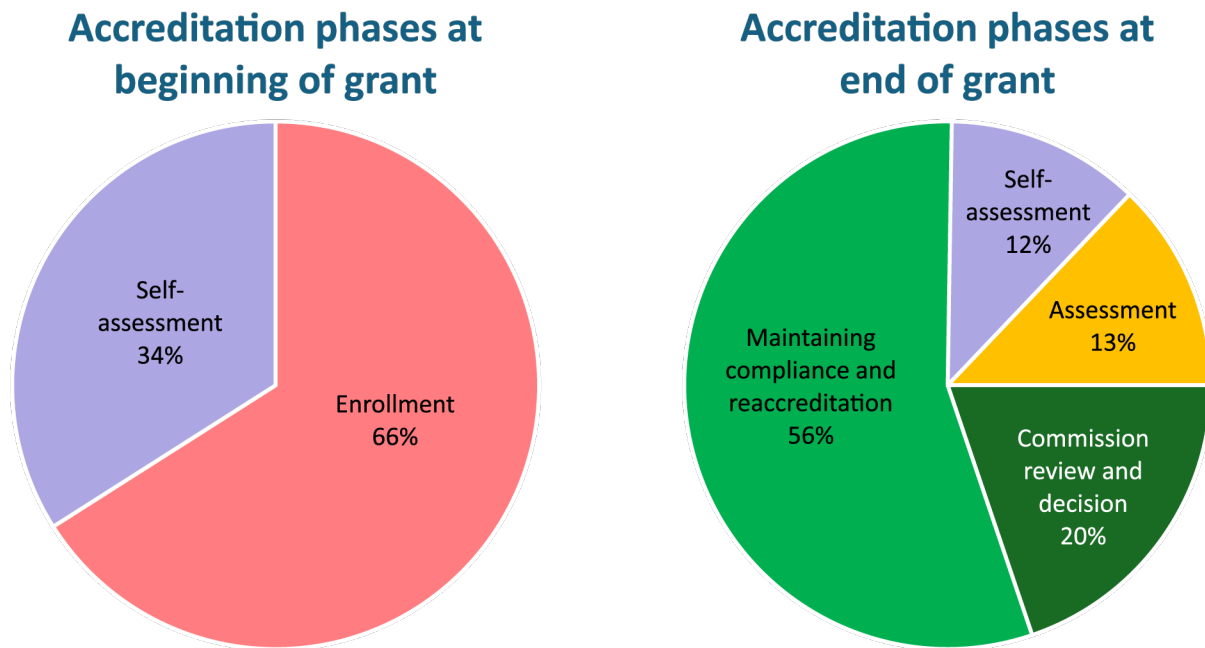
Since October 2024, the Accreditation Cohort’s accomplishments have included the following:

- Individual kickoff meetings for all cooperative agreement recipients
- A November 20, 2024 kickoff meeting for 2024 grant award recipients with 77 individual attendees, at which the following topics were presented:
 - Overview of the COPS Office
 - Accreditation Community of Practice
 - Award Package and Recipient Materials
 - JustGrants Navigation
- Internal coordination via regular meetings and communication channels
- Regular maintenance and updates of the Law Enforcement Agency (LEA) Accreditation web page (https://cops.usdoj.gov/LEA_accreditation), which is housed in the Community Policing Topics resources section of the COPS Office website and has an interactive map of state and national accreditation bodies with links to the organizations and links to accreditation-related resources and publications

Agency Accreditation Progress

COPS Office funding allows award recipients to obtain any state or national accreditation. Generally, accreditation is a five-step process: (1) enrollment, (2) self-assessment, (3) assessment, (4) commission review and decision, and (5) maintaining compliance and reaccreditation. A total of 161¹ law enforcement agency accreditation awards have been made since 2021. Of these, 77 remained active as of October 1, 2025. These recipients continue to implement their awards and work toward their accreditation goals. Another 77 LEA accreditation awards ended on or before September 30, 2025; all of these saw significant progress toward achieving accreditation, as shown in figure 1, with 43 achieving accreditation during the grant period.

Figure 1. Agency accreditation progress for law enforcement agency awards that have ended (n=77)



¹ Seven law enforcement agencies declined their awards.

Future Accreditation Support

The accreditation cohort is committed to providing outreach and support to current and new grantees receiving accreditation funding from the COPS Office. As part of this outreach, the National Policing Institute (NPI) was funded to develop a virtual peer-to-peer community of practice for accreditation recipients in collaboration with the COPS Office. Continuing outreach is an essential component of developing content to support the needs of this community of practice and make resources available. NPI has facilitated a series of small group listening sessions with agencies that are beginning the accreditation process, agencies that are working to maintain their accreditation, and accreditation bodies. These sessions identified the content for a dedicated web page for agencies in the cohort and are shaping the framework for the virtual community of practice (CoP). The sessions also helped inform NPI and the COPS Office as to the gaps in resources and other needs of the field that may be worth considering for future support or availability through the community of practice. NPI has completed two resources for CoP participants and are in the process of developing three additional products. The CoP will launch in the spring of 2026.

Appendix. FY25 CPD Accreditation Recipients

Enhancing Existing Law Enforcement Accreditation Entities

State	Agency Name	Award Amount
AZ	ARIZONA CHIEFS OF POLICE	\$299,999
CA	CALIFORNIA POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION, INC.	\$300,000
DE	EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF DELAWARE	\$300,000
IL	ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE FOUNDATION	\$292,905
IN	INDIANA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCREDITATION COMMISSION, INC.	\$297,565
MD	INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CAMPUS LAW ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATORS, INC.	\$299,552
MI	MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE, INC.	\$244,601
MN	MINNESOTA CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION, INC.	\$250,000
OH	OHIO OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES	\$300,000
PA	PENNSYLVANIA CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION	\$300,000
SC	SOUTH CAROLINA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCREDITATION, INC.	\$300,000
VA	COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES INC	\$300,000
VA	DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES VIRGINIA	\$300,000

Supporting Law Enforcement Agencies Seeking Accreditation

State	Agency Name	Award Amount
AZ	CITY OF DOUGLAS	\$83,531
FL	CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS	\$250,000
FL	TOWN OF ORANGE PARK	\$111,120
IA	CITY OF COUNCIL BLUFFS	\$248,670
MA	CITY OF QUINCY	\$95,383
MA	LEICESTER, TOWN OF	\$64,745
MN	CITY OF BROOKLYN PARK	\$142,488
MN	CITY OF LESUEUR	\$137,792
MN	CITY OF NEW PRAGUE	\$45,038
MN	CITY OF SAVAGE	\$231,245
MO	CITY OF JEFFERSON	\$67,249
NC	CITY OF KINSTON	\$51,270
NC	TOWN OF WOODFIN	\$183,069
NC	WAKE COUNTY	\$250,000
NJ	SADDLE BROOK, TOWNSHIP OF	\$43,900
NY	CITY OF WATERVLIET	\$200,000
PA	BUCKS, THE COUNTY OF	\$45,000
TX	CITY OF DALLAS	\$250,000
VA	CITY OF BRISTOL VIRGINIA	\$233,693
VA	DICKENSON COUNTY OF	\$196,206
VA	SCOTT COUNTY GOVERNMENT OFFICE	\$219,955
VA	TOWN OF CHASE CITY	\$218,218
WI	CITY OF FRANKLIN	\$240,330