

FUNDING

Many federal funding programs exist to support state, local, and tribal law enforcement, several of which may provide direct support for officer safety at the local and/or national level. Many of these funding opportunities are available through the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs.

While funding opportunities across the federal government can be identified through the Grants.gov online resource, the following agencies and programs may provide the best opportunity for funding research, planning, and analysis efforts, policy and procedure improvements, training, equipment and other needs:

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE (BJA)



BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

Byrne JAG Program grants are awarded directly to every state and territory and to many cities, counties, and Native American tribes. JAG funding is one of the most flexible resources available, allowing agencies to support officer safety needs of nearly any type, with the exception of facility construction. Additionally, many states award additional JAG funding to local units of government for a variety of purposes, as determined necessary by the state administering agency. A list of JAG recipients and amounts awarded is available at www.bja.gov.

The Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Program which provides funding to law enforcement agencies to reimburse a portion or all of their costs associated with the purchase of body armor that meets NIJ standards. More information about this program can be found at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bvpbasi/>.

Byrne Competitive Program and Field Initiated Innovation grants are competitively awarded on an annual basis for a variety of purposes, including programs that support smarter policing strategies, those that support information sharing for improved investigations and situational awareness, and innovative strategies to address critical issues, including officer safety.

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES (COPS)

COPS
COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The COPS Hiring Program (CHP) is a competitive grant program that provides funding directly to state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies nationwide to hire and/or rehire full-time sworn officers to increase their community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts. CHP provides the opportunity to supplement police forces with additional officers, helping to alleviate the strain on agencies and enhance their ability to protect and serve their communities safely.

The COPS Office also supports training, guidebooks, and other resources on a variety of policing topics through the Community Policing Development (CPD) Program. The FY 2011 CPD solicitation has been designed to address a number of critical topics in the law enforcement field, including ethics and integrity. A culture of police integrity is essential in building respect and trust, and in turn, mutual respect and trust between police and citizens are essential to effective crime-fighting as well as officer safety. Another track of CPD funding is designated for a Critical Response Technical Assistance program, which will provide technical assistance to support law enforcement efforts related to high-profile events and major incidents that impact the capacity of law enforcement.

COPS has funded the development of the Police Training Officer (PTO) Program, which provides an alternative national model for field training that successfully incorporates community and problem-solving principles. Currently, agencies can use the PTO Program outlines to develop their own in-house programs adapted to their particular training needs relating to officer safety and wellness. For more information on COPS resources, please visit <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov>.

FUNDING

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE (NIJ)



The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) funds officer safety research through grants competitively awarded through the National Institute of Justice Research, Evaluation, and Development Project Grants Program. Solicitations for applications to conduct such research are released through www.grants.gov. Relevant solicitations may be released under various titles, such as Officer Traffic Safety Research and Technology Development for Criminal Justice Application. Past NIJ solicitations can be found at <http://www.nij.gov/funding/expired.htm>.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION (NHTSA)



The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration supports state highway safety programs designed to reduce traffic crashes and resulting deaths, injuries, and property damage. NHTSA accomplishes this through formula grant funding provided to states by several different programs. A state may use these grant funds only for highway safety purposes. A state is eligible for these formula grants by submitting a Performance Plan, which establishes goals and performance measures to improve highway safety in the state, and a Highway Safety Plan, which describes activities to achieve those goals. Section 402 requires assurances from states that they will implement activities in support of national highway safety goals, including national law enforcement mobilizations; sustained enforcement of statutes addressing impaired driving, occupant protection, and speed; annual safety belt use surveys; and development of timely and effective statewide data systems.

Many of NHTSA's funding programs can address officer safety as well as occupant and highway safety in general. More information on NHTSA's funding programs can be found at <http://www.nhtsa.gov/>.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS)



DHS provides funds to enhance homeland security capabilities through planning, equipment, training and exercise activities. Funds are provided through programs such as the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and the Urban Area Security Initiative Grant Program (UASI). While these programs provide funds to address homeland security related issues, agencies are encouraged to see how they may also be leveraged to support officer safety related activities. Additional information can be located at <http://www.fema.gov/grants>.