

How Projects (Subgrantees) Are Selected to Receive Funding Awards

The State Advisory Group awards grant funds from the federal OJJDP (Title II Formula Grants Program and Title V Community Delinquency Prevention Grants Program) to prevent juvenile delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system. The purpose of the grant funds is to improve the juvenile justice system by allowing carefully selected innovative projects to have stable funding while they demonstrate their effectiveness. Demonstration projects selected for funding are required to be objectively evaluated by an outside, qualified evaluator. Projects that are proven to be effective are often continued by private, local government or state funding.

The SAG provides technical assistance and training to juvenile justice agencies and may also commission policy research studies on topics of special concern.

The following steps provide a general outline of the competitive process that is followed regarding the selection of projects to implement proven and promising programs for youth.

1. On behalf of the State Advisory Group, the Department of Social & Health Services, Office of Juvenile Justice, issues a Request for Proposals (RFP) or a Request for Qualifications and Quotations (RFQQ).
2. The State Advisory Group appoints a "proposal reading team" to review and rate applicant proposals.
3. The State Advisory Group invites finalists to submit a full grant application.
4. The State Advisory Group selects grant applications for funding.
5. The Department of Social & Health Services, Office of Juvenile Justice, enters into a one-year contract with the selected applicants (or "subgrantees").

The SAG may renew a demonstration project contract for up to two additional years dependent upon the program funding source, but only if the SAG determines, by on-site monitoring and outside evaluation, that the project is effective. The federal JJDP Act also requires, per section 223(a)(21)(C), that funds not be expended to carry out a program if the recipient of the funds fails to demonstrate, before the expiration of a 2-year period, that the program achieved substantial success in achieving the goals specified in the grant application to the state agency.

In addition to the federal JJDP Act funds, Annie E. Casey Foundation grant funds and state funds are used to implement the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) in Washington. In 2009, there were seven juvenile courts participating in this Initiative.

In 2009, 10 demonstration projects, 13 local Community Juvenile Justice Coordination grants, 8 JDAI grants, one multi-site evaluation, and four technical assistance grants were awarded funds within one of the funding sources. The GJJAC awarded approximately \$770,000 of federal dollars statewide in 2009, along with approximately \$326,000 of Annie E. Casey and State funding combined (a total of \$1,096,000).