

Locally Committed Youth Block Grant

The CJS program, initiated in 1981, is a partnership between the state, county juvenile courts and the private sector, in which each shares in the cost of providing local comprehensive services to youthful offenders. These pre-commitment services include: Evidence Based and Promising Programs, Disposition Alternatives, diversion, probation supervision, individual and family counseling, drug/alcohol assessment and treatment, vocational training, and psychiatric and psychological services. There are CJS programs for delinquent youth in all 33 juvenile court jurisdictions serving the 39 counties.

In 2009 and 2010, the Legislature authorized the JRA to provide the juvenile court funding to the 33 county juvenile courts in a "Block Grant" as opposed to a categorical funding mechanism. This funding change creates higher levels of local flexibility regarding the use of these State funds. This new funding process has been in development with the first year of the Block Grant implementation being State Fiscal Year 2011. Ongoing evaluation and program analysis of evidence based programs was identified as being critical for maintaining high program standards and is part of the expected outcomes in the juvenile court Block Grant.

The Block Grant funding allocation for FY 2009-2011, is approximately 13 million dollars per fiscal year. The funding formula used for determining Block Grant funding is different from what was previously used under the categorical structure. The new formula is as follows: 37.5 percent for the 10 to 17 year old population, 25 percent for evidenced based program participants, 17.5 percent for birth through 17 year old minority population, and 5 percent for youth placed on a Disposition Alternative.

Block Grant Application Process

Counties applying for Block Grant funds for the -2011 fiscal year were required to describe how they will be using the funding to include the anticipated amounts they will spend in each program area. Additionally, they were required to provide projected numbers of youth to be served in each program area. As was true under the previous funding structure, they were required to describe efforts to address minority disproportionality in their plans. Any county applying for CJS funding that also operated a detention facility were required to have standards of operation in place. These included intake and admissions, medical and health care, communication, correspondence, visiting and telephone use, security and control, sanitation and hygiene, juvenile rights, rules and discipline, property, juvenile records, safety and emergency procedures, programming, release and transfer, training and staff development, and food service.

SSODA (Special Sex Offender Disposition Alternative)

In addition to these pre-commitment and prevention services, the state also funds four alternatives to standard commitment to juvenile rehabilitation facilities. The first, the Special Sex Offender Disposition Alternative (SSODA), for first time sex offenders, allows the court to suspend the disposition of the offender and require the youth to receive treatment in the community.

CDDA (Chemical Dependency Disposition Alternative)

The second alternative, legislated in 1997, created the Chemical Dependency Disposition Alternative (CDDA), as an alternative to standard commitment for juvenile offenders who are chemically dependent, with a standard range

of local sanctions or 15 – 36 weeks of confinement and who haven't committed an A- or B+ offense.

CJAA (Community Juvenile Accountability Act)

The 1997 State Legislature passed the Community Juvenile Accountability Act (CJAA), which enabled local courts to develop and administer community-based accountability and intervention programs. Functional Family Therapy, Aggression Replacement Training, Multi-Systemic Therapy, and Coordination of Services are the four approved CJAA interventions. These programs are evidenced-based and have demonstrated their effectiveness in reducing recidivism among juvenile offenders. .

These funds, administered by the state, and allocated to counties, are combined into a single Block Grant contract. This consolidation enables counties to blend funds into service packages that better meet the needs of youth and families at each local jurisdiction.

Evidence Based Programs (EBP) Expansion

In addition to the locally Committed Youth Block Grant, the JRA provides approximately three million additional dollars per State Fiscal Year for EBPs. The Legislature authorized this expanded funding for EBPs in 2008. These funds are monitored through a separated contracting process to ensure the outcome is a true expansion State-wide in the delivery of EBPs. This funding source roughly doubled the appropriated funding level for these programs that have demonstrated reductions in recidivism and an associated cost/benefit to the State. The delivery of these additional EBPs supported by this funding source is expected to reduce the need for future adult prison construction in Washington State.

Disposition Options

Disposition options implemented in July 2003 include the Mental Health Disposition Option (similar to CDDA and SSODA except for juveniles with mental health related issues) and Option B, a suspended commitment option for youth not eligible for CDDA, SSODA, or MHDA. These alternatives may be used to provide community-based services to individual youth who would otherwise be committed to state care.

Each county's share of Block Grant funding for FY -2011 is shown in the following table.

Table 83
Consolidated Juvenile Services Block Grants

County	Final Allotment (includes EBE)	Final Block Grant Allotment (less EBE)
Adams	114,536	105,911
Asotin/Garfield	88,304	88,304
Benton/Franklin	685,707	588,226
Chelan	226,260	157,125
Clallam	199,019	130,019
Clark	1,075,657	949,203
Columbia/Walla Walla	161,993	133,648
Cowlitz	316,699	251,019
Douglas	93,277	93,277
Ferry/Stevens/Pend Oreille	145,312	145,312
Grant	201,979	201,979
Grays Harbor	216,798	165,873
Island	167,849	120,702
Jefferson	137,476	96,225
King	3,309,020	2,728,570
Kitsap	532,534	455,571
Kittitas	146,627	106,627
Klickitat	93,603	93,603
Lewis	143,574	143,574
Lincoln	91,413	86,413
Mason	137,489	97,489
Okanogan	101,492	101,492
Pacific/Wahkiakum	124,139	99,139
Pierce	2,163,758	1,701,003
San Juan	76,814	76,814
Skagit	276,442	217,854
Skamania	92,135	92,135
Snohomish	1,404,836	1,236,248
Spokane	1,191,065	876,334
Thurston	750,370	513,010
Whatcom	417,348	348,064
Whitman	95,117	95,117
Yakima	954,121	644,775
	15,932,764	12,940,656

* Totals include all funding categories (CJS at-Risk, CJAA, SSODA, CDDA, MHDA, SDA) except Evidence Based Expansion (EBE)

** Totals include EBE and all other funding categories