Pennsylvania
Commission on Crime and Delinquency

Office of Justice Programs

2026-27 Regional Policing Assistance Program

Fiscal Year 2026 Solicitation

Please Note: Applications are *only* accepted through PCCD's Egrants system. Applicants must register in Egrants prior to submitting an application. Applicants are strongly encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Egrants system and allow adequate time to prepare and submit an application.

Prior to starting an application in Egrants, your agency must be registered in Egrants, and at least two individuals from your agency must register as Egrants users and have Egrants user roles for your agency.

Every agency must also have at least one person with the e-signature role in Egrants.

Please refer to the Getting Started in Egrants page on our website for Egrants registration information and guides.

Release Date:

July 22, 2026

Egrants Application Deadlines:

Round 1: October 1, 2026

Round 2: January 7, 2027 (if funds are available)

Round 3: April 8, 2027 (if funds are available)

This funding guideline contains information not appearing in the Egrants application. Applicants are advised to review this document and refer to it while completing your Egrants application.

PCCD staff may only respond to questions to clarify the funding announcement. Questions must be sent via email to: RA-PCCD-OCJSI@pa.gov with "2026-27 Regional Policing Assistance Program" in the subject line. All questions regarding this funding announcement must be received by close of business on **April 1, 2027,** unless funds are fully committed sooner**.** PCCD staff will post responses to questions, as they are received, on PCCD's website. Select the appropriate funding announcement to view questions and answers.

For any technical or system questions, contact and ask for the Egrants Help Desk at (717) 787-5887 or (800) 692-7292, or by emailing RA-eGrantsSupport@pa.gov.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY
Office of Justice Programs

Federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Funds

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PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY
Office of Justice Programs

2026-27 Regional Policing Assistance Program

Federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Funds

Submission Requirements for Applications:

- **Scoring** – All applications received will be competitively reviewed and scored based on the applicant's adherence to the funding announcement guidelines and timely submission in the PCCD Egrants system.

- **Due Date** – Applications must be submitted electronically through PCCD's Egrants system and will be reviewed on a rolling basis until such time as funds are fully committed. PCCD plans to review applications in three rounds as received on Thursday, October 1, 2026; Thursday, January 7, 2027; and Thursday, April 8, 2027. Once all funding is committed, this solicitation will close. Applications will be reviewed as follows:

    - Round 1 will include all applications received by 11:59 PM on October 1, 2026. Selected applications will be presented for consideration at the December 9, 2026 Commission meeting.
    - If funding is available, Round 2 will include all applications received between October 2, 2026 and January 7, 2027. Selected applications will be presented for consideration at the March 10, 2027 Commission meeting.
    - If funding is still available, Round 3 will include all applications received between January 8, 2027 and April 8, 2027. Selected applications for the remaining funds will be presented for consideration at the June 9, 2027 Commission meeting.

- **Technical Assistance** – Grant application and administrative guides can be accessed on PCCD's website. Applicants are strongly encouraged to review the application and administrative guides before calling the Egrants Help Desk for assistance. The Egrants Help Desk is available to assist with technical or system questions Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, and may be reached by calling (717) 787-5887 or (800) 692-7292, or by emailing RA-eGrantsSupport@pa.gov.

- **Administrative Rejection** – An application that does not meet all the listed requirements in this funding announcement may be administratively rejected.

- **Corrections** – If PCCD returns an application for corrections, the final application (including all corrections and required documents) must be returned to and approved by PCCD for the requested funding to be awarded.

- **Non–supplantation** – Funding must not be used to supplant/replace state, federal, or local funds that would otherwise be available to provide for program–related services. PCCD funding is to be used in addition to other funds that are made available for services.

PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY
Office of Justice Programs

1. Overview:

The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) is now accepting applications for funding through the Regional Policing Assistance Program. The primary purpose of the Regional Policing Assistance Program is to advance the delivery of public safety services through intergovernmental cooperation by supporting the creation of new full-time, full-service regional police departments. This initiative will also assist established regional police departments that expand by adding a chartered municipality or municipalities.

The goal(s) and objective(s) of the Regional Policing Assistance Program are to improve the following: uniformity and consistency of enforcement across municipalities; recruitment; distribution and deployment of police personnel; training and personnel efficiency; career enhancement opportunities; enhanced professionalism; and reduction of costs.

The anticipated impacts resulting from this solicitation include improvements in police coverage, training opportunities, and the use of technology. Regional police departments face increased costs as an initial impact of regionalization; however, the long-term result is cost savings.

2. Funding Availability:

A total of $1 million in federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds is being announced to support this initiative. Applicants may apply for up to $200,000 to form a new regional police department or up to $100,000 to expand an existing regional police department by adding a chartered municipality or municipalities.

PCCD is not liable for costs incurred prior to the official start date of the award.

3. Project Dates:

Initial applications approved at the December 9, 2026 Commission meeting will be 24-month projects and have a start date of January 1, 2027 and an end date of December 31, 2028. If funds are available, Round 2 applications approved at the March 10, 2027 Commission meeting will be 24-month projects and have a start date of April 1, 2027 and an end date of March 31, 2029. If funds are available, Round 3 applications approved at the June 9, 2027 Commission meeting will be 24-month projects and have a start date of July 1, 2027 and an end date of June 30, 2029.

Applicants are encouraged to complete their applications in Egrants as soon as possible following notification of this funding opportunity. **Applications that are not fully executed (i.e., that reach open-awarded status) within one year from the date the application/award was approved risk forfeiture of that award.**

4. Eligible Applicants:

Eligibility for these funds is open to any municipality – a city, borough, township, or home-rule municipality. Applicants may also be a public or quasi-public body, or its representative duly authorized to act on behalf of one or more municipalities. <u>All applications must be accompanied by fully executed Articles of Agreement or an Intergovernmental Agreement establishing a Regional Police Department.</u>

Applicants must be in good standing with PCCD to be eligible for these funds.[1] The applicant and recipient agencies' historical success in implementing PCCD-funded programs/initiatives that met their intended goals will be considered in the review process. Applicants are not required to have a prior funding history with PCCD to be eligible.

5. Eligible Program Activities and Expenses:

Funds for the proposed program shall be used to support any, all, or one of the following:

New Regional Police Departments:

The Articles of Agreement or Intergovernmental Agreement between municipalities forming a regional department MUST be executed to be eligible for funding. Funds may be used to support the following activities/expenses:

A. Law Enforcement Technology and Equipment

- Standardization of uniforms and equipment including patrol cars, car radios, portable radios, computer hardware, mobile computing, desktop computers, weapons, and miscellaneous equipment for uniformity.

B. Legal Fees and Expenses

- Expenses related to regionalization, such as merging pensions, collective bargaining agreements, or other labor-related issues.

C. Training & Recruitment

- Pursue accreditation or additional diversity training opportunities, hire new officers/staff, or temporary contractors working towards a specific purpose or goal.

D. Police Chief Salary and Benefits (ensuring the need is not due to poor fiscal management).

- Eligible up to a maximum of 50% of the Police Chief's salary and benefits, not to exceed $50,000 for each year (Cash Match must be reported in Egrants). Salary reimbursements cannot exceed $12,500 per quarter over the two-year period.

E. "Re-Branding" of other items such as letterheads, business cards, vehicle decals, and building signage.

Current Regional Police Departments:

Established regional police departments that expand their department by adding a chartered municipality or municipalities may apply for funding to support one or more of the following activities/expenses, with budgets not to exceed $100,000 per added chartered municipality:

[1] This may include, but is not limited to, compliance with PCCD program and fiscal reporting requirements, State and Federal funding guidelines, and acceptable risk rating as determined by PCCD.

A. Law Enforcement Technology and Equipment

- Standardization of uniforms and equipment to include patrol cars, car radios, portable radios, computer hardware, mobile computing, desktop computers, weapons, and miscellaneous equipment for uniformity. This category includes the evaluation/assessment of equipment owned by the department joining the existing regional department.

B. Legal Fees and Expenses

- Expenses related to regionalization, such as merging pensions, collective bargaining agreements, or other labor-related issues.

C. Training & Recruitment

- Pursue accreditation or additional diversity training opportunities, hire new officers/staff, or temporary contractors working towards a specific purpose or goal.

D. "Re-Branding" of other items such as letterheads, business cards, vehicle decals, and building signage.

All expenses must be described in the Justification box located in the Egrants Budget Detail section. PCCD has approval of all final budgets and may require budget adjustments.

6. Ineligible Program Activities and Expenses:

The following items are not eligible for funding within any JAG purpose area and may result in an administrative rejection of the application:

- JAG funds may NOT be used to pay an outside police department to provide contracted police services to a municipality unless that municipality is formally included in the department's charter or governing agreement.

- JAG funds may not be used directly or indirectly for security enhancements or equipment for nongovernmental entities not engaged in criminal justice or public safety.

- JAG funds may not be used directly or indirectly to provide for any of the following fixed assets or contracted matters unless the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) certifies that extraordinary and exigent circumstances exist, making them essential to the maintenance of public safety and good order:
    - Vehicles (excluding police cruisers), vessels (excluding police boats), or aircraft (excluding police helicopters);
    - RADAR/LIDAR;
    - Luxury items;
    - Real estate; and
    - Construction projects (other than penal or correctional institutions).

- JAG funds may not be used to purchase food and/or beverages.

Additional Restrictions, Certifications, and Prior Approval Requirements:

The following activities may be allowable only if the applicant satisfies the applicable certification, policy, or prior approval requirements.

- To use JAG funds for DNA testing of evidentiary materials, any resulting eligible DNA profiles must be uploaded to the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS, the national DNA database operated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation [FBI]) by a government DNA lab with access to CODIS. No profiles generated with JAG funding may be entered into any other non-governmental DNA database without prior express written approval from the BJA. Also, funds may not be used for the purchase of DNA equipment and supplies when the resulting DNA profiles from such technology are not accepted for entry into CODIS.

- To use JAG funds to support emergency communications activities (including the purchase of interoperable communications equipment and technologies such as voice-over-internet protocol bridging or gateway devices or equipment to support the build-out of wireless broadband networks in the 700 MHz public safety band under the Federal Communications Commission [FCC] Waiver Order), activities should comply with the *SAFECOM Guidance for Emergency Communication Grants* FY 2025 SAFECOM Grant Guidance, including provisions on technical standards that ensure and enhance interoperable communications.

  The *SAFECOM Guidance* is an essential resource for entities applying for federal financial assistance for emergency communications projects. It provides general information on eligible activities, technical standards, and other terms and conditions that are common to most federal emergency communications programs.

- To use JAG funds for Body-Worn Camera (BWC) equipment or to implement or enhance BWC programs, applicants must provide to the PCCD Office of Justice Programs (OJP) a certification(s) that the applicant has policies and procedures in place related to BWC equipment usage, data storage and access, privacy considerations, training, etc. The certification can be found at: JAG Program BWC Policy Certification.

  Additionally, as provided in Act 22 of 2017, PCCD is authorized to condition funding or grants related to the implementation, use, maintenance, or storage of BWCs or recordings from BWCs. All BWC initiatives awarded will be conditioned upon protocols, guidelines, or written policies being substantially compliant with PCCD's BWC Policy Recommendations. Applicants should include their BWC policy in the "Required Attachments" section of Egrants.

- To utilize JAG funds for body armor, applicants must provide to OJP a certification that the agency has a written "mandatory wear" policy in effect. The certification can be found at: BJA Body Armor Mandatory Wear Certification.

- Unmanned aerial systems (UAS) and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) are not included on the Prohibited List but have additional legal restrictions. UAS/UAV may be acquired with JAG funds only if PCCD requests and is granted prior express approval from BJA, consistent with requirements specific to UAS/UAV purchases. In the event an applicant requests JAG funds for the purchase of UAS/UAV, the purchase may not be completed until BJA approval is obtained.

  To utilize JAG funds for UAS/UAV purchases, applicants must provide to OJP a certification that only UAS/UAV verified by the U.S. Department of Defense, the

Defense Contract Management Agency's Blue UAS Cleared List as not manufactured by a "covered foreign entity" may be purchased or operated under the federal award and, further, that no modifications or additional accessories may be introduced to the UAS/UAV, nor may the UAS/UAV be used to process, store, or transmit Federal information. The certification can be found at: Unmanned Aircraft System Certification.

Applicants should include any required certifications in the "Project Description & Collaborative Planning" section of Egrants.

For additional information on expenditures prohibited under JAG, as well as expenditures that are permitted but "controlled," along with the process for requesting approval regarding controlled items, refer to the JAG Prohibited and Controlled Expenditures Guidance, JAG FAQs, DOJ's Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative Guidelines, and the DOJ Grants Financial Guide.

7. Required Egrants Sections/Documents:

a. Required Egrants Sections – All sections identified in Egrants are required. Applicants will not be able to submit their grant application in Egrants until all sections are marked as complete.

b. Required Signed Documents – A successful application must be accompanied by the following documents, which should be uploaded in the Project Description & Collaborative Planning section in Egrants (unless otherwise specified below):

- Articles of Agreement or Intergovernmental Agreement that establishes a Regional Police Department.
- Letter(s) of Commitment or Resolution from each participating municipality.
- Any relevant JAG Certification.

8. Scoring:

Applicants must submit the requested information for each section specified below within the defined response fields provided in Egrants. Responses should not be duplicated in multiple sections.

The following application sections in Egrants have a point value associated with them and will be scored as described below:

A. Executive Summary – Maximum of 5 points

All applicants should fill out the following script and paste into the executive summary section:

The __name of applicant__ is requesting $_____ to [provide a single sentence or two of what you are seeking to implement with your grant funding]. These funds will be used for the following: [provide bullet points of what the funds will be used for].

B. Budget Detail – Maximum of 10 points

As stated in PCCD's Applicant's Manual, all costs must be allowable, necessary for the project's performance, sensible, allocated to the project consistently, and claimed against only one grant award. The budget detail section should clearly state what the

funds will be used for, and line items should be entered for each budgeted cost. Calculations should be clear and entered as the Egrants system requires in the budget detail section.

For any budgeted cost that is not self-explanatory, clearly explain the relationship between the budgeted costs and the proposed project activities/operation. Describe how the item will be used to implement the proposed project. This section may include an additional explanation of the computations stated in the Budget Detail section; however, computations provided within the line items should not be replicated in the justification field(s).

** Items should only be listed under the Equipment category if the cost of one item is $10,000 or greater. Items that cost less than $10,000 should be listed under Supplies and Operating Expenses.

C. Project Description & Collaborative Planning – Maximum of 35 points

This description should outline the plan to establish a new regional police department or to expand an existing regional police department.

Additionally, applicants are required to describe how their proposed project aligns with the local collaborative planning process. Attach the following items as applicable.

- Letters of commitment from applicable municipality(ies).
- Letters indicating general support for your proposal.
- Local governing body's meeting minutes refer to the need for a regional police department or the need to join an existing regional police department.

D. Statement of Problem – Maximum of 35 points

Identify the precise problem the project aims to address. Provide supporting data/facts/figures specific to the project and relevant to the problem and the proposed request. Applicants should also express why funding is needed to support the proposed project, and are strongly encouraged to describe their financial need, or the financial need of their community, as part of the response in this section.

E. Measurement of Program Outcomes – Maximum of 10 points

This section establishes that the applicant has a clear understanding of the project's intent and a reasonable method for measuring its success and impact. Discuss how the effects of the project will be assessed and how the overall impact will be evaluated, the process measures that will be used to monitor the implementation of the project, the intermediate outcomes that will be used to measure the success of the project and how they will be tracked (what data will be collected), and describe the method, tools, and documentation that will be used to track process and outcome measures.

F. Sustainability Plan – Maximum of 5 points

This section should describe the strategies the applicant will utilize to sustain the initiative beyond the project period and include information showing how ongoing support for this program will be generated, how commitments from key stakeholders necessary for the successful sustainability of the program will be obtained, sustained, and the sources of financial support once grant funding expires. If you have a viable sustainability plan that involves a partnership with other municipalities, you must attach letters of support from those partners indicating their willingness to accept some or all

financial responsibility for the continuation of this project's post-grant funds into this section.

9. Performance Measures:

Under this funding announcement, successful applicants are required to comply with all reporting, data collection, and evaluation requirements, as prescribed by PCCD and federal or state guidelines.

- **Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Data Collection Elements** – Under this funding announcement, successful applicants are required to comply with all reporting, data collection, and evaluation requirements as prescribed by law and detailed by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) in program guidance for the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

  BJA developed specific JAG Programmatic Measures that must be tracked and reported on for all applications awarded as part of this announcement. The programmatic performance measures are customized dependent upon the activity type(s) within each purpose area(s) supported under the awarded application. Applicants are not required to report on all JAG Programmatic Measures, only those that apply to your application. The full list of programmatic measures and other supporting documentation is available on the BJA website (*BJA JAG Performance Measure Questionnaire*).

  Successful applicants will be required to report on the JAG Programmatic Measures through the BJA Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) at the end of each calendar quarter. Training for the PMT will be made available through BJA; refer to the BJA website (https://bjapmt.ojp.gov) for additional information or follow the link: https://bjapmt.ojp.gov/help/JAGTraining.html. PCCD will establish the award for successful applicants in the PMT identifying which activities apply to your award.

  Within 20 days of the end of each calendar quarter, you will be required to access the PMT, enter the required performance measurement information, and submit the report for review and approval. The PMT only pertains to BJA JAG data collection requirements. Any other reporting requirements associated with this funding announcement are identified elsewhere in this document; refer to those sections for details.

- **Other Performance Measures –** Under this funding announcement, successful applicants are required to submit quarterly progress reports to PCCD via the Egrants system. Subgrant recipients will be **required** to accept and report on performance measures selected by the staff of the PCCD Office of Justice Programs that will fulfill federal guidelines.

10. Competitive Bidding/Sole Source Procurement:

All procurement transactions shall be conducted in a manner that provides open and free competition. Grant recipients must follow the Procurement Standards section in PCCD's Applicant's Manual.

Procurements by noncompetitive proposal are strongly discouraged and must demonstrate an economic benefit or lack of alternate resources to be justified. If a request is made, the prospective applicant must identify the request as a procurement by noncompetitive proposal and provide a substantial justification for the request within their funding request

(See PCCD's Applicant's Manual for Procurement by Noncompetitive Proposal Approval Procedure).

11. Administrative Requirements:

a. Egrants Agency and User Registration:
Prior to submitting a grant application, both the applicant agency and at least two users from the applicant agency must be registered in Egrants. Applicants are strongly advised to allow adequate time to work on application documents in Egrants prior to the submission deadline. Please go to the Getting Started in Egrants page on PCCD's website for further information.

b. Fiscal Accountability:
See the Fiscal Accountability page on PCCD's website for further information.

c. Time and Effort Reporting:
See the Time and Effort Reports page on PCCD's website for further information.

d. Grant Payments:
- Payments will not be released until all applicable special conditions on the grant award have been satisfied.
- All grantees are required, at a minimum, to submit quarterly fiscal reports. PCCD will only make payments to reimburse actual expenditures reported on the fiscal reports. An agency experiencing cash flow problems may submit fiscal reports monthly and PCCD will reimburse reported expenditures. Non-submission or late submission of the required reports will result in payment delays.
- ACH Payments:
  - All payments to grant recipients will be made through ACH.
  - Either before or at the time an application is submitted to PCCD, the applicant agency must register as a Non-Procurement Vendor with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

e. Federal Transparency Act Certification:
This section is required for both state and federal funding streams. See the Federal Applicants page on PCCD's website for further information.

f. Reporting Requirements:
- Programmatic reports are due quarterly.
- Fiscal reports are due quarterly.
- Late submission of programmatic and fiscal reports may delay payments.
- All reports must be submitted through the Egrants system.

g. UCR Reporting:
Every criminal justice entity which is required to submit Uniform Crime Report (UCR) data and is participating in this project must submit UCR data to the Pennsylvania State Police. If a required entity is not submitting UCR data, they may be ineligible for funding.

12. PCCD Contact Information and Resources:

Staff are only able to clarify the funding announcement and cannot answer any questions about how a potential applicant should respond to any section. Questions regarding this funding announcement should be directed as follows:
- E-mail your funding announcement questions to RA-PCCD-OCJSI@pa.gov with "2026-27 Regional Policing Assistance Program" in the subject line.

- Questions must be received by the close of business on April 1, 2027, unless funds are fully committed sooner.
- All questions and answers will be posted under this funding announcement title on the Funding Announcement Q&A page of the PCCD website.

- Egrants Funding Announcement:
  Log in to the Egrants system and search under the "Funding Announcement" tab for 2026-27 Regional Policing Assistance Program.

- PCCD Guidelines and Documents:
  Applicants should be familiar with the Applicant's Manual, grant application and administrative guides, and other documents common to PCCD's grant application process, all of which are available on the Funding and Grants Process page of the PCCD website.

- Egrants Technical Questions:
  For any technical or system questions, contact and ask for the Egrants Help Desk at (717) 787-5887 or (800) 692-7292, or by emailing RA-eGrantsSupport@pa.gov.

- PCCD Webmaster:
  Please address any technical problems you may have with the website or online forms to the PCCD Web Master.

- Reporting Potential Fraud, Waste and Abuse:
  Information about waste, fraud, abuse, conflict of interest, bribery, gratuity, or other similar misconduct, or whistleblower reprisal relating to a PCCD employee, program, contract or grant, may be reported to the PCCD Fraud Hotline at (717) 525-5031. For more information, visit the Reporting Fraud, Waste and Abuse page on PCCD's website.

13. Submission Information:

The application must be entered into Egrants **no later than April 8, 2027, by 11:59 PM unless funds are fully committed through previous rounds.**

Successful applicants will be required to sign the grant contract following PCCD's review of the application and after any identified issues are resolved. Applicants will receive an automated notification from Egrants when their grant contract is ready to be signed.

The grant application must be electronically signed within Egrants. To electronically sign the application, at least one person from your organization must have the e-signature role in Egrants. Please use the link below to access instructions which explain how to request the e-signature role.

E-signature Access Request Instructions

E-signature Access Request Form (This must be attached to your access request in Egrants)

Please note that you cannot request the e-signature role on behalf of someone else.