



Fiscal Year 2027 School Safety Personnel and Programming Continuation Grants

**Guidelines and Application Procedures for
School Safety Personnel, Programming,
Equipment, and Training**

***Application Due Date
March 10, 2026***

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services
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I. Introduction

The Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) is offering continuation grants to fund relevant school safety personnel within a school division or law enforcement agency. The goal of this

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funding opportunity is to promote the safety of students and school staff through school safety-related positions and programming to prevent crime and violence.

These grant funds are intended to **sustain previously awarded school safety personnel positions** previously awarded under this grant program. The following positions remain eligible for continued funding:

- Division School Safety Director/Coordinator/Emergency Manager
- Division Threat Assessment Director/Coordinator
- Behavior Interventionist/Specialist
- Law Enforcement Liaison Officer
- School Ambassadors

*** Definitions for these school safety personnel positions can be found in [Section VIII](#), Restrictions on Funding. ***

These guidelines contain the rules and requirements governing the School Resource Officer Grants Program and instructions for completing and submitting an application. These instructions apply to new applicants to provide guidance on the preparation and submission of a grant application. The grant must be submitted under the locality's DCJS On-Line Grant Management System (OGMS) registration. To be added to the locality's registration, please contact ogmssupport@dcjs.virginia.gov with your name and locality.

II. Eligibility

These instructions are applicable to current School Safety Personnel Grant Program grantees to provide guidance on the preparation and submission of a continuation grant application. Units of local government are eligible to apply for and receive these funds.

Grants awarded for law enforcement personnel and their equipment, training, and/or programming shall be managed by the law enforcement agency.

Grants awarded for school division personnel and their equipment, training, and/or programming must be managed by the school division.

Continuation applications are being accepted for:

- Grantees whose four-year grant cycle has not ended.

All applications must be submitted on an annual basis and will be awarded based on the availability of funding. DCJS reserves the right to change program budgets to remove positions that remained vacant in the FY26 grant year. Continuation grant awards are contingent upon compliance with the terms and conditions of the grant award, annual submission and review of required grant applications, continued eligibility, and availability of funds.

PLEASE NOTE: School resource officers (SROs) and school security officers (SSOs), as defined in the *Code of Virginia* [§ 9.1-101](#), will **not** be funded under this opportunity. Refer to Funding Opportunity #567117 to apply for **new** SRO positions and Funding Opportunity #567166 to apply for **continuation** SRO positions. Refer to Funding Opportunity #567212 to apply for **New** SSO positions and Funding Opportunity #567211 for **Continuation** SSO positions.

III. Grant Application Deadline

Applications must be submitted in the DCJS On-Line Grants Management System (OGMS) no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 10, 2026. The system will not allow an applicant to submit an application after the deadline, and, therefore, it will not be considered. Allow time for potential technical issues, as the application will not be accepted after the deadline. Instructions on how to register in OGMS are available as an attachment.

IV. Amount Available

The total amount requested in an application in DCJS Special funds may not exceed \$100,000 per position. The total amount requested may not exceed the FY26 awarded amount unless the difference in funding is covered with matching funds.

The total amount for expenses other than personnel cannot exceed \$25,000 in DCJS Special funds. This includes expenses related to equipment, supplies, training, and programming. All requests must be reasonable and allowable under these grant guidelines and consistent with the locality's or school division's staff compensation policies.

Grant awards are contingent on the availability of funding within the SRO fund as appropriated by the state budget bill. Applications submitted under the School Resource Officer and School Resource Officer Funding Opportunities will have priority. DCJS reserves the right to change program budgets based on allowable costs, justification of items, and available funding.

V. Disbursement of Funds

Disbursement of funds will occur on a cost-reimbursement basis for actual funds expended. Actual expenditures must be reported quarterly and invoiced pursuant to approved line-item budget categories in the grant award package. Grantees will only be reimbursed for approved costs that have been incurred within the grant period and that are reported on their financial report. Grant funds, including matching funds, may only be expended and/or obligated during the grant period. All obligations must be fulfilled no later than 45 days after the end of the grant period. Requests for reimbursement shall be submitted through the DCJS On-Line Grants Management System (OGMS).

VI. Grant Period

Grants will be awarded on a continuation basis for one 12-month grant cycle beginning July 1, 2026, and ending on June 30, 2027. Awarded applicants will be eligible for continuation funding not to exceed 48 months total. Continuation applications must be submitted on an annual basis, with priority given to school resource officer and school security officer grant applications. The award of a grant does not guarantee funding in subsequent years. Continuation awards are contingent on funding availability and compliance with the previous grant award.

VII. Match Requirement

A local match is required for all applicants. Localities may use in-kind contributions or cash to meet the requirement and must follow the rules and restrictions of the grant program. **“In-Kind Match”** is the value of an item or service received or provided that pertains to or directly supports the specific project activities funded by the grant. **“Cash Match”** is the locality's own funds allocated for the project.

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Applicants must use the Virginia Department of Education's [2026–2028 Composite Index of Local Ability-to-Pay](#) to determine the amount of their grant match requirement.

Grant applicants must provide the local cash match or in-kind match from non-federal sources. The match must be reported on quarterly financial reports, and amounts must be fully met by the end of the grant period. Grant recipients must maintain records that clearly show the source, the amount, and the period during which the match was allocated.

The match can be based on existing local costs for personnel, equipment, training, or other local costs intended to support grant-funded positions, excluding costs for firearms, handcuffs, or other wrist restraints, or any stun weapon as defined in the *Code of Virginia* [§ 18.2-308.1](#). The match should be allocated under the appropriate budget category to include personnel, travel, subsistence, equipment, and supplies/other expenses.

The following examples show how the required amount of local match can be calculated.

EXAMPLE #1

The total cost to implement the project will be \$100,000, including salary, fringe benefits, supplies, and training. ABC City's 2024–2026 Composite Index of Local Ability-to-Pay is .3032.

- Calculate the amount of required local match by multiplying the total project costs by the locality's composite index (.3032).
 - Total Project Costs x Composite Index = Total Local Match
 $\$100,000 \times .3032 = \$30,320$
- Calculate the amount the locality can request under Special Funds by subtracting the local match from the total project costs.
 - Total Project Costs – Total Local Match = Total Special Funds
 $\$100,000 - \$30,320 = \$69,680$

Therefore, ABC City can request \$69,680 in Special Funds and must provide a local match of \$30,320 for a total project cost of \$100,000.

EXAMPLE #2

To implement the project, ABC City must receive \$50,000 for salary and fringe benefits and \$3,000 for supplies for a total request of \$53,000 from DCJS. ABC City's Composite Index of Local Ability-to-Pay is .3032.

- Calculate the special funds portion by subtracting the composite index from 1.00.
 - $1.00 - \text{Composite Index} = \text{Special Funds portion}$
 $1.00 - .3032 = .6968$
- Calculate the total project costs by dividing the special funds needed by the special funds portion.
 - $\text{Special Funds} / \text{Special Funds portion} = \text{Total Project Costs}$
 $\$53,000 / .6968 = \$76,062$
- Calculate the local match by multiplying the total project costs by the locality's composite index.
 - Total Project Costs x Composite Index = Total Local Match
 $\$76,062 \times .3032 = \$23,062$

Therefore, ABC City must provide a local match of \$23,062 to request \$53,000 from Special Funds with a total project cost of \$76,062.

VIII. Restrictions on Funding

- Funds **cannot be used for** employees who are not performing the activities outlined in the grant project.
- Funds **cannot be used to** fund positions at private schools or contracted positions.
- Funds made available through this funding opportunity cannot be used to replace State or local funds that would, in the absence of this grant, be made available for the same purposes.
- Under this funding opportunity, grant funds **cannot be used** for school resource officer positions or school security officer positions. Any positions meeting the definition of a school resource officer or school security officer, as defined in the *Code of Virginia* [§ 9.1-101](#), will not be awarded under this funding opportunity.

School Safety Personnel

The following positions will be considered for continuation funding:

- **Division School Safety Director/Coordinator/Emergency Manager:** A school employee, at the division level, solely responsible for overseeing school safety in the division.
- **Division Threat Assessment Director/Coordinator:** A school employee, at the division level, solely responsible for the oversight committee and overseeing the threat assessment process, data collection, training, etc.
- **Behavior Interventionist/Specialist:** A school employee who works with individuals to eliminate disruptive and negative behaviors and replace them with positive behaviors and actions.
- **Law Enforcement Liaison Officer:** A sworn law enforcement officer responsible for serving on the school division's threat assessment teams and crisis teams in each public elementary or secondary school that does not employ a school resource officer in accordance with the *Code of Virginia* [§ 22.1-280.2](#). This position is required to receive training, either in-person or online, as set forth in subsection E. of the *Code of Virginia* [§ 22.1-279.8](#).
- **School Ambassadors:** A civilian employed by the local law enforcement agency for the purpose of providing mentorship, instruction in violence prevention, citizenship, and relationship building.

Equipment and Supplies

These grant funds can be used for equipment and supplies necessary for **grant-funded** school safety personnel, but **cannot be used** for any expenses related to the purchase of firearms, handcuffs or other wrist restraints, or any stun weapon as defined in the *Code of Virginia* [§ 18.2-308.1](#).

For this funding opportunity, **equipment** is defined as tangible property having a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit cost equal to or exceeding \$10,000. All other expenses should be itemized as supplies.

Grant funds cannot support the entire cost of an item that is not used exclusively for grant project-related activities; however, grant funds can support a prorated share of such an item.

Equipment and supply expenses can include, but are not limited to:

- Computers/Laptops
- Locked filing cabinets
- Safes/Locked cases

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- Office supplies
- Cellphones
- Two-way radios
- Uniforms
- DUI goggles

Programming

The state grant funds can be used for education-based programming expenses that enhance the school-law enforcement partnership. Expenses can include, but are not limited to:

- Training or awareness materials
- Educating students on public safety topics
- Virginia Rules
- Suicide prevention
- Bullying prevention
- Trauma-sensitive care of students

Training

The state grant funds can be used for expenses related to attending DCJS-sponsored or facilitated training and professional development events relevant to school safety. Conferences are limited to in-state DCJS-sponsored conferences, including, but not limited to:

- School Safety Training Forum
- First Responder Wellness Conference
- Regional Threat Assessment Forums
- Conference on Violent Crime

Unallowable Expenses

The following activities and/or expenses cannot be supported with these funds or used as local match*:

- Expenses related to the purchase of firearms, handcuffs or other wrist restraints, or any stun weapon as defined in the *Code of Virginia* [§ 18.2-308.1](#)
- Consultants
- Private security
- Food or beverage for any meeting, training, or event
- Vehicles or vehicle maintenance (*these expenses may be used as local match only)
- Capital expenses
- Hosting, coordinating, or organizing local or regional conferences and trainings

IX. Availability of Continuation Funding

The award of a grant does not guarantee funding awards in subsequent years. Successful applicants will be eligible to apply for continuation funding and receive funding for a total of 48 months. Continuation applications must be submitted on an annual basis and will be awarded based on the availability of

funding, with priority given to school resource officer and school security officer grants. In addition to the availability of funds, a project's implementation, performance, compliance with reporting requirements, and any encumbrances placed on the grant are key factors in determining eligibility for continuation funding.

DCJS reserves the right to change program budgets based on allowable costs, justification of items, and available funding.

X. Application Requirements

- Any law enforcement position working within the school must submit a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The provisions shall be based on the most current version of the [DCJS Model MOU](#).
- In the event of an unscheduled school closure or alternative scheduling during the grant year, such as with the COVID-19 pandemic, grant-funded positions are required to spend at least 75% of their time performing school-related activities or activities that directly support their students. In this case, the applicant should notify their grant monitor and provide assurances that the grant-funded position will meet these conditions. If the applicant is unable to meet the above requirements, it could result in a reduction or rejection of funding.

XI. Application Forms and Instructions

Each application **must be submitted using the DCJS On-line Grant Management System (OGMS)**. Emailed files or paper applications will not be accepted. All required fields must be completed to submit your application. Do not include any items not requested, such as letters of support, annual reports, publicity articles, etc.

General Information: The OGMS Application Creation Wizard will assist you in completing the application's General Information form.

- *Step 1:* The Wizard requires an application title and primary contact. The application title should include the locality's name and calendar year (e.g., Town of ABC – FY27 or DEF City – FY27). Do not include the names of schools, since personnel grants receive **funding for a position** and not a specific school.

The primary contact is the person who has the day-to-day responsibility for managing the grant. It is recommended that the Project Director (definition under Face Sheet) be listed as the primary contact.

Once the information has been entered, click "Save Form" to enter Step 2.

- *Step 2:* Under this step, an Application ID will be assigned, and Program Area, Funding Opportunity, Application Stage, and Application Status will be auto-populated. Select the organization for which you will be submitting this application. **The organization must be the locality.** Regardless of whether the project is managed by the law enforcement agency or the school division, the grant application must be awarded to a local unit of government. In accordance with the *Code of Virginia § 22.1-116*, the locality's treasurer or comparable officer has the responsibility for the receipt and disbursement of funds of the school board.
- Click "Save Form Information" to start Step 3.
- *Step 3:* Under "**Additional Applicants**," select any additional contacts within your organization that will also manage the grant and work on the application, to include the Project Administrator and Finance Officer (definitions under Face Sheet). Only individuals listed as applicants will have access

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to the application. Once you click “Save Form Information” on Step 3, you will have completed the General Information component of the application.

After General Information has been finished, you can complete the application in any order or save it to return at another time.

Face Sheet: Required

- *Congressional District*: Select the Congressional District(s) that will benefit from the program. To select more than one, hold down the Ctrl key.
- *Best Practice*: This **does not apply** to this grant program.
- *Jurisdiction(s) Served*: Select all jurisdiction(s) served.
- *Program Title*: Provide a program title that indicates if the project is for school safety personnel, equipment, and/or training.
- *Certified Crime Prevention Community*: Click the hyperlink on the form to see if your locality is certified.
- *Type of Application*: For this funding opportunity, you will choose “Continuation.” **Please note: If you are applying for a “New” position, you will need to apply under Funding Opportunity Number #566890.**
- *Community Setting*: Check the box(es) that best describe the applicant service area.
- *Brief Project Overview*: Provide a short description of the project. If requesting personnel, include the number of positions and the position’s role and responsibilities. If requesting funds for programming, explain the purpose of the programming. **Note:** The Brief Project Overview is provided to the Criminal Justice Services Board (CJSB) for review when making final award decisions.
- *Project Director*: List the person who will have the day-to-day responsibility for managing the project and provide all required contact information. Law enforcement agency and school division staff may serve as a grant Project Director; however, the Project Administrator must be the locality’s chief administrative officer (see definition under Application Forms and Instructions – Face Sheet).
- *Project Administrator*: List the person who has the authority to formally commit the locality to complying with all the terms of the grant applications, including the provision of the required match. This must be the county administrator; the city, county, or town manager; or the chief elected officer of the locality, such as the Mayor or Chairman of the Board of Supervisors (not the Sheriff, Chief of Police, or School Superintendent).
 - Please Note: If someone other than one of these officials has been delegated the authority to sign, and provides their signature on the grant application, your organization must: (1) provide a letter, memorandum, or other document by which the signing authority was delegated on an official organization letterhead, (2) provide an effective date, (3) list of applicable grant numbers, (4) the contact information of the person being granted signatory authority, and (5) submit under “Attachments.”
 - The received letter, memorandum, or other document shall run through the project period as defined in the grant award terms and conditions.
 - A new letter is required for any newly issued DCJS grant and/or change in the delegation of authority.
- *Finance Officer*: List the person who will be responsible for the fiscal management of the funds and provide all required contact information.
- **Note:** Appropriate internal controls necessitate that **the Project Director, Project Administrator, and Finance Officer are different people.** All three grant officials must be registered in OGMS and

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added to the application using the application's General Information form and selecting "Additional Contacts."

Budget: Required

- *Budget:* Click "Edit Grid" and enter your requested DCJS amount under the "**Special**" column. Local match needs to be placed in the appropriate budget category under the "Cash Match" or "In-Kind Match" columns. Consultant and Indirect Cost expenses are unallowable under this grant program.
- *Match Percentage:* This box will auto-calculate the percentage of match provided in the grid. The percentage must match the locality's Composite Index.

Project Narrative: All questions in this section are required.

- *Demonstration of Need*
 - Provide a brief description of the nature and extent of the school safety and security concerns that exist in the school(s). Describe your existing resources and services that are available to address the identified school safety and security problems, and state why those resources and services are not adequate to address your school safety needs.
- *Project Description:*
 - Provide a detailed description of the project design and planned implementation activities. If requesting school safety personnel, include the daily responsibilities and any programs or initiatives that will be implemented. Describe how the project will reach the stated goals of this funding opportunity and the capabilities of your organization to implement and manage the project. If a locality is requesting equipment and/or training expenses, explain how they will be used.
- *Service Area Demographic/Target Population:*
 - Identify the school division, school(s), and grade levels where the activities will take place, and any key community partners supporting the proposed project. If applying for multiple positions and schools, they must be ranked by priority.
- *Sustainment Plan:*
 - Provide a brief description of how the locality will support the grant-funded position and/or programming after grant funding ends.

Goals and Activities: This section is **required** under this grant program. You should have a goal, activities, and an outcome for each position type and program requested. Responses should be clear and concise, using the limited number of characters available for each field.

- *Goals:* Briefly explain what you plan to accomplish with the position or program you are requesting (add a row for each position type or program).
- *Activity:* Briefly explain what activities will be performed to accomplish the goal.
- *Outcome:* Briefly explain how you will demonstrate your progress and success on the quarterly status reports.

Personnel and Employee Fringe Benefits: A new row is required for each position under the grant. If requesting a position, you should answer, "Yes" when asked, "Is Personnel being requested?"

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Staff time that is supported by grant funds may only be spent on approved school safety grant activities. If you are requesting funding for a position that provides services outside of these grant activities, prorate your request to only include time spent on school safety as part of this grant program. For example, if a Law Enforcement Liaison Officer spends 70% of their time on the school threat assessment program and 30% of their time on activities other than ensuring school safety, then you cannot request 100% of that person's salary. You must prorate your request to 70% of this position.

Employee Information: To request funding for staff, click "Add Row."

- *New Position:* Indicate if the position is new or is an existing position.
- *Employee Type:* Indicate if the position is employed by the law enforcement agency or school division. Any law enforcement positions working within the school must submit a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that addresses the roles of the law enforcement agency position and the school division.
- *Employee Name:* Enter "To Be Determined" or "TBD." If applying for multiple positions, add a number that designates priority (e.g., TBD-1 and TBD-2).
- *Position Title:* Enter the title of the position being requested on the grant.
- *Position:* Indicate whether the position is full-time or part-time.
- *School Division:* Choose the school division from the dropdown where the staff will be assigned.
- *Type of School:* Indicate the classification of the school(s) the employee will be working in as an elementary, middle, elementary/middle, high, or alternative school. Choose all that apply.
- *Description of Position:* Describe the grant-related duties that this position will perform. Provide a statement as to whether the position will work exclusively under the grant or if it has been prorated. If the request is prorated, explain how you calculated the time/amount listed on the application.
- *Justification for Position:* Explain how the position is essential to the goals of the proposed project. Justify the position's salary by demonstrating that the salary is consistent with the locality's staff compensation policies. If the position is prorated, explain how the rates were determined.

Employee Salary and Fringe Benefits: To request salary and fringe benefits, click "Add Row."

- *Employee Name:* Choose the name of the employee from the drop-down box.
- *Total Hours Per Year:* Enter the total number of hours the position will work per year.
- *Total Annual Salary:* Enter the **total annual salary** for the position to include grant-funded and other funding sources. This figure **should not** include fringe benefits.
- *Total Salary Amount on Grant:* Enter the total annual salary on the grant, including local cash match. **Do not** include fringe benefits.
- *Percent being requested:* This figure will auto-calculate after you save the row and is based on information you entered in "Total Annual Salary" and "Total Salary Amount on Grant."
- *Enter the amounts of each benefit on the grant:* If you enter "Other," you will need to describe and break down the costs of the benefits in the text box labeled "If Other, Please Describe."
- *Salary and Fringe Benefits Breakdown:* Break down the "Salary and Fringe Benefits on Grant" into **Special Funds** and, if applicable, the appropriate local match field. The "Salary and Fringe Benefits Total" will auto-calculate when you save the row.

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Travel: To request funding or provide a match for Travel, you should answer “Yes” when asked, “Is Travel being requested?”

If the applicant does not have an established local travel policy, then they must adhere to the [state travel policy](#). If local travel policy differs from the state travel policy, provide or describe the policy in the justification.

Local Mileage: Click “Add Row.” Local mileage is considered travel within the school division or law enforcement jurisdiction.

- *Number of Miles:* Enter the number of miles.
- *Mileage Rate:* Enter the rate used to calculate the costs. If the locality does not have an established travel policy, then the applicant must adhere to the state travel policy.
- *Total Local Mileage:* This figure will auto-calculate when you save the row.
- *Local Mileage Funding:* Break down the “Total Local Mileage” under “Special” or into the appropriate local match field. The “Local Mileage Total” will auto-calculate when you save the row.

Non-Local Mileage: To provide local match, click “Add Row.” Non-local mileage is travel outside the school division or law enforcement jurisdiction.

- *Number of Miles:* Enter the number of miles.
- *Mileage Rate:* Enter the rate used to calculate the costs. If the locality does not have an established travel policy, then the applicant must adhere to the state travel policy.
- *Total:* This figure will auto-calculate when you save the row.
- *Non-Local Mileage Funding:* Break down the “Total” under “Special” or into the appropriate local match field. The “Non-Local Mileage Total” will auto-calculate when you save the row.

Mileage Description and Justification: If you request funds or provide local match under Local or Non-Local Mileage, you must complete this section.

- *Type:* Choose Local Mileage or Non-Local Mileage from the drop-down box.
- *Description of Mileage:* Describe the reason for the travel.
- *Justification for Mileage:* Explain why costs are necessary and essential to achieving the goals and objectives of the grant. Describe the local travel policy if it differs from the state travel policy.

Subsistence: To request funding or provide match for Subsistence/Other Travel Costs, you should answer “Yes” when asked, “Are Subsistence/Other Travel Costs being requested?”

If the applicant does not have an established local travel policy, then they must adhere to the state travel policy. If local travel policy differs from the state travel policy, provide or describe the policy in the justification.

Subsistence: Click “Add Row.” The costs are associated with lodging, meals, and transportation necessary for grant-related activities.

- *Event Title:* Enter the name of the event requiring costs.
- *Number of People Attending:* Enter the number of grant-funded staff, under this funding opportunity, attending the event.

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- *Number of Nights:* Enter the number of nights grant-funded staff require lodging. The number of nights should be the sum of all grant-funded staff. For example, if the conference is 3 nights and 2 grant-funded staff are attending, you would enter 6 nights (3 nights x 2 staff = 6 nights).
- *Lodging Rate:* Enter the rate amount. If the locality does not have an established travel policy, then the applicant must adhere to the state travel policy.
- *Total:* This figure will auto-calculate when you save the row.
- *Number of Days:* Enter the number of days grant-funded staff are eligible for per diem. If the locality does not have an established travel policy, then the applicant must adhere to the state travel policy. The number of days should be the sum of all grant-funded staff attending the event. For example, if the conference is 3 days and 2 grant-funded staff are attending, you would enter 6 days (3 days x 2 staff = 6 days).
- *Per Diem Rate:* Enter the rate for per diem. If the locality does not have an established travel policy, the applicant must adhere to the state travel policy.
- *Total:* This figure will auto-calculate when you save the row.
- *Subsistence Funding:* Break down the “Total Subsistence” under “Special” or into the appropriate local match field. The “Subsistence Total” will auto-calculate when you save the row.

Subsistence Description and Justification: If you are requesting funds or providing local match under Subsistence, you must complete this section.

- *Event:* Choose the event from the drop-down box.
- *Description of Costs:* Describe the event and the reason for the travel.
- *Justification for Costs:* Explain why costs are necessary and essential to achieving the goals and objectives of the grant. Describe the local travel policy if it differs from the state travel policy.

Other Travel Costs: Click “Add Row.” Enter expenses associated with other travel costs necessary for grant-related activities. Airfare costs are not allowed under this grant program.

- *Event Title:* Provide the name of the event.
- *Cost Type:* Enter the type of expense, e.g., parking, tolls, and other travel costs required to attend the event.
- *Number of People Attending:* Enter the number of grant-funded staff attending the event.
- *Rate:* Enter the rate of the cost type.
- *Total:* This figure will auto-calculate when you save the row.
- *Other Travel Costs Funding:* Break down the “Total” under “Special” or into the appropriate local match field. The “Other Travel Costs Total” will auto-calculate when you save the row.

Other Travel Costs Description and Justification: If you are requesting funds or are providing local match under “Other Travel Costs,” you must complete this section.

- *Event:* Choose the event from the drop-down box.
- *Description of Costs:* Describe the event and the reason for the travel.
- *Justification for Costs:* Explain why costs are necessary and essential to achieving the goals and objectives of the grant. Describe the local travel policy if it differs from the state travel policy.

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Equipment: To request funding or provide match for Equipment, you should answer “Yes” when asked, “Is Equipment being requested?” Otherwise, answer “No.”

For this grant program, equipment is defined as tangible personal property with a useful life of more than one year and a per-unit cost of \$10,000 or greater (or the organization’s capitalization policy if it is less than \$10,000; consult with your finance department). Please note that grant-funded equipment should be tracked, managed, and disposed of in a manner consistent with the locality’s policies.

Equipment may be requested or provided as a match for grant-funded personnel only. Grant funds cannot support the entire cost of an item that is not used exclusively for grant project-related activities; however, grant funds can support a prorated share of such an item.

Equipment: Click “Add Row.”

- *Equipment Item:* List the item to be purchased to support the position.
- *Cost Per Item:* Enter the unit cost or monthly rate for the item to be purchased.
- *Total Number of Items/Monthly Rate:* Enter the number of items to be purchased or the number of months requiring payment.
- *Total Cost:* This figure will auto-calculate when you save the row.
- *Equipment Funding:* Break down the “Total Cost” under “Special” or into the appropriate local match field. The “Equipment Total” will auto-calculate when you save the row.

Equipment Description and Justification: If you are requesting funds or providing local match under “Equipment,” you must complete this section for each item.

- *Equipment Item:* Choose the equipment item from the drop-down box.
- *Description of Costs:* Describe the item and how it will be used.
- *Justification for Costs:* Explain why costs are necessary and essential to achieving the goals and objectives of the grant. If the agency’s capitalization policy is less than \$10,000, provide an explanation.

Additional Documentation: This option allows applicants to attach supporting documentation for the equipment items and costs. Click “Add New Attachment” and upload the file. In the description box, indicate the equipment item and explain what information the file is providing.

Supplies and Other: To request funding or provide match for Supplies and Other Expenses, you should answer “Yes” when asked, “Are Supplies & Other Expenses being requested?” Otherwise, answer “No.”

Supplies and other expenses may be requested or provided as match for grant-funded personnel only. Grant funds cannot support the entire cost of an item that is not used exclusively for grant project-related activities; however, grant funds can support a prorated share of such an item.

Supplies and Other Expenses: Click “Add Row.”

- *Supply/Item Requested:* List the item to be purchased. Costs can be itemized by major types. For example, pens, paper clips, and staples can be under Office Supplies, but should be listed under the “Description of Supply/Item.”
- *Cost Per Item/Monthly Rate:* Enter the unit cost or monthly rate for the supply/item.

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- *Total Number of Items/Number of Months:* Enter the number of items to be purchased or the number of months requiring payment.
- *Total Cost:* This figure will auto-calculate when you save the row.
- *Supplies & Other Expenses Funding:* Break down the “Total Cost” under “Special” or the appropriate local match field. The “Supplies & Other Expenses Total” will auto-calculate when you save the row.

Supply/Item Requested Description and Justification: If you are requesting funds or providing local match under “Supplies & Other Expenses,” you must complete this section for each item.

- *Supply/Item:* choose the supply/item from the drop-down box.
- *Description of Supply/Item:* Describe the item and how it will be used.
- *Justification for Supply/Item:* Explain why costs are necessary and essential to achieving the goals and objectives of the grant.

Attachments:

- **Authority Certification:** If someone other than one of these officials has been delegated the authority to sign, and provides their signature on the grant application, your organization must: (1) provide a letter, memorandum, or other document by which the signing authority was delegated on an official organization letterhead, (2) provide an effective date, (3) list of applicable grant numbers, (4) the contact information of the person being granted signatory authority, and (5) submit under “Attachments.”
- **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):** Any law enforcement position working within the school must submit a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that addresses the roles of the law enforcement agency position and the school division. Applicants requesting funds for one or more law enforcement positions must submit a signed [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\)](#) pursuant to the *Code of Virginia § 22.1-280.2:3* between the school division and the law enforcement agency. **This requirement must be met within 30 days of the award date of the grant. Grant funds will not be distributed until this requirement is met.** The MOU should, at a minimum, include the following and be consistent with the Model MOU:
 - Description of the chain of command for the law enforcement liaison officer or school ambassador,
 - Definitions of the roles and responsibilities of school officials and of law enforcement liaison officers/ school ambassadors,
 - Dates for reviewing and renewing the MOU and the date the MOU is effective; and,
 - Signatures of authorized officials representing all parties to the agreement.

Non-Supplantation: This section is **required**. The Project Administrator, or the individual who has been delegated or designated as the signing authority, must certify that the grant funds requested under this grant program will be used to supplement existing funds and will not replace (supplant) funds appropriated for the same purposes. Funds made available through this award cannot be used to replace state or local funds that would, in the absence of this grant, be made available for the same purposes

Authority Certification: The section is **required** under this grant program. If the person completing the application is not the Project Administrator, as defined above, information regarding the signing authority, or the delegation of such authority, should be submitted under “Attachments.”

XII. Reporting Requirements

Grant recipients must submit quarterly financial and status reports through OGMS. Both quarterly reports are due within 15 days after the end of each calendar quarter, even if no activity has occurred. Failure to comply in a timely manner may result in DCJS withholding disbursement of grant funds and/or termination of the grant.

XIII. Submitting the Application

Applications must be submitted in the DCJS On-Line Grants Management System (OGMS) no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 10, 2026. The system will not allow you to submit an application after the deadline, and, therefore, it will not be considered. Plan time for any possible technical difficulties you may experience, since the application will not be accepted after the deadline. Each application form in OGMS must be marked as complete before you can submit the application. If you receive an alert, you will need to review the form for any missing required information.

XIV. Technical Assistance

Please contact the following DCJS staff for questions regarding your grant application:

- Phyllis Vaughan: email phyllis.vaughan@dcjs.virginia.gov or telephone (804) 340-9754.
- Tracy Matthews: email tracy.matthews@dcjs.virginia.gov or telephone (804) 371-0635.

For assistance with the OGMS system, email ogmssupport@dcjs.virginia.gov and include the grant program in the subject line. This should be used for general system questions and not grant application-specific inquiries.

A copy of this solicitation is available on OGMS and the [DCJS website \(www.dcjs.virginia.gov\)](http://www.dcjs.virginia.gov).

For additional resources, refer to the Attachments and Website Links under the Funding Opportunity.

XV. Grant Application Review Process

DCJS staff will utilize an application review form to review all grant applications. New grant applications will be reviewed as part of a competitive review process, but applications submitted under. The competitive review process may include DCJS staff who will rate each application based on the information provided, adherence to the funding opportunity, the strength of the funding request, and funding priorities. Reviewers may consider geographic location, budget justification, cost-effectiveness of proposed projects, and the availability of competitive funds. DCJS reserves the right to change program budgets based on allowable costs, justification of items, and available funding. Grants may be funded in full or in part, based on the number of qualifying applications, available funding, and geographical representation. Each submitted grant application will be rated on its quality and adherence to these guidelines.

The Grants Committee of the Criminal Justice Services Board (CJSB) will review brief project overviews, summaries of staff evaluations of applications, and grant application scores for competitive applications. The Grants Committee will then make funding recommendations to the full CJSB, which will make final grant award decisions at its May 2026 meeting. Funding decisions made by the CJSB are final and may not be appealed.

XVI. Grant Submission Advisory

Please read all grant guidance carefully. Because funding is limited, the following technical errors in grant preparation and/or submission will likely result in your grant application not being considered for funding:

- Failure to provide all requested grant components
- Failure to designate the correct official as the Program Administrator
- Failure to calculate correctly the required local match based on the [2026–2028 Composite Index of Local Ability to Pay](#).
- Exceeding the budget limits established under this funding opportunity (see IV. Amount Available)
- Requesting funding for unallowable expenses
- Failure to submit your grant application in OGMS and by the deadline (5:00 pm on March 10, 2026)