BRIAN P. KEMP
GOVERNOR

JAY NEAL
DIRECTOR

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (the Council) is pleased to announce the availability of funding under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program 2026 Existing Local Project Application Packet

Eligibility
Applicants are limited to local governments within Georgia who received a 2025 Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Force or K-9 Unit award.

Deadline
Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. November 6, 2026

Award Period
January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027

Contact Information
For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, contact:

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Release Date: October 9, 2026

Edward Byrne Memorial
Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program
2026 Existing Local Project Application Packet

SECTION I: OVERVIEW AND INSTRUCTIONS

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (the Council) is designated by the Governor of Georgia as the State Administering Agency for criminal justice and victims' assistance programs. Created by the General Assembly (O.C.G.A. § 35-6A-2), the Council is comprised of 27 members representing various components of the criminal justice system. The Council uses a small proportion of each fiscal year's award to pay for costs incurred in administering this grant program.

The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program

The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program (42 U.S.C. 3751(a)) is the primary provider of federal criminal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. The JAG program was created in 2005 by the merger of the Byrne Grant Program and the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program providing states and units of local governments with critical funding necessary to support a range of program areas within the criminal justice system.

Purpose Areas

JAG funds may be used for state and local criminal justice initiatives that will improve or enhance the following purpose areas:

- Law enforcement programs
- Prosecution and court programs
- Prevention and education programs
- Corrections and community corrections programs
- Drug treatment and enforcement programs
- Planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs
- Crime victim and witness programs (other than compensation)
- Mental health programs and related law enforcement and corrections programs, including behavioral programs and crisis intervention teams

SECTION II: APPLICATION PROCESS

Eligibility

Existing multi-jurisdictional drug task force (MJDTF) agencies and K-9 units who currently have a 2025 JAG award through the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council and meet the following criteria are eligible for an award under this solicitation.

In 2005, the Council established the following eligibility criteria for multi-jurisdictional task forces receiving Byrne JAG funds:

- at least two counties must participate;
- if only two counties participate, the largest municipality within each county must also participate; and
- if three or more counties participate, the cities are not required to participate.

In 2014, the Council established additional criteria for all funded drug task force agencies. All funded multi-jurisdictional drug task force agencies must have a minimum of ***four full-time task force agents plus one supervisory Commander*** to ensure that each MJDTF has ample support and enough manpower to guarantee safe operations. Should the number of task force agents fall below this criterion, the agency must submit a plan and timeline to the Council detailing the steps they will take to move into compliance.

Application Review

Applications will be reviewed and assessed by the Council and its designated representatives considering the following:

1. Past compliance with all financial and programmatic reporting requirements;
2. Overall quality and completeness of the application;
3. Demonstration of clear, measurable, and appropriate grant project objectives;
4. Demonstration of need including geographic location, local demographics, local statistics, other financial resources, etc.; and
5. Adequate correlation between the cost of the project and the objective(s) to be achieved.

Only complete applications received by the deadline will be reviewed. **When an application is received by the Council, there is no commitment on the part of the Council to fund an application or to fund it at the amount requested**. All areas of the budget are subject to review and approval. Decisions related to these budget areas are based on both eligibility and reasonableness. The Council has full discretion to determine the reasonableness of budget items based on both objective and subjective decision-making tools. See "Restrictions on Use of Funds" subsection below to determine whether budget items requested are allowable prior to submitting your budget.

Applications for funding will undergo several reviews. At any point during these reviews, a decision to not fund a project or any part thereof may be made. These decisions are within the complete discretion of the Council.

Funding Decisions

All funding decisions related to the JAG program applications received in response to this solicitation are made by the Council and are based on the availability of funding and recommendations of the review panel to the Criminal Justice System Advisory Committee. The Council will inform the applicant of funding decisions through a grant award. Applicants should not make assumptions regarding funding decisions until they have received official written notification of award or denial signed by either the Governor and/or Council Director. Applicants can appeal the initial funding decision but must do so within ten (10) days of the date on the denial notice.

Once an award is made, the Council maintains the discretion to determine that a subgrantee is not compliant with applicable policies. Upon such a determination, the Council may terminate further funding and require reimbursement of grant funds.

The expected allocations by existing programs for the calendar year 2026 JAG Program will be consistent with the previous year's funding levels (see Appendix A).

Restrictions on Use of Funds

JAG funds cannot be used directly or indirectly for security enhancements or equipment to nongovernmental entities not engaged in criminal justice or public safety. Indirect costs, not limited to expenses such as accounting, payroll, data processing, purchasing, personnel, and building use, may not be requested through this grant program. In addition, the following items are prohibited:

- Vehicles, vessels, or aircraft;
- UAVs/ Drones
- Luxury items;
- Trinkets, gift cards, gifts
- Real estate; and
- Construction projects, other than penal or correctional institutions
- Any similar matters

Match
No match is required.

Supplanting
Funds must be used to supplement existing funds for program activities and cannot replace or supplant nonfederal funds that have been appropriated for the same purpose.

SECTION III: POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS

Grant Acceptance
Subgrantees must accept or reject the grant award with original signatures and required forms within forty-five (45) days of the award date. The subgrantee will be unable to request funds until the award documents are received by the Council's office.

Special Conditions
At the time of the subgrant award, the Council will assign special conditions deemed appropriate for the program. The special conditions will outline the subgrantee's responsibilities, as well as federal and state regulations that must be adhered to, as a condition of accepting the grant award for the approved program. The special conditions will be included in the award packet and must be reviewed, signed, and returned to the Council within forty-five (45) days of the award date.

Fiscal Accountability

Commingling of funds on either a program-by-program or project-by-project basis is prohibited.

The subgrantee's accounting system must maintain a clear audit trail for each source of funding for each fiscal budget period and include the following:

- Separate accountability of receipts, expenditures, disbursements, and balances. CJCC recommends creating an account in your accounting system for each grant using the grant number provided by CJCC.
- Itemized records supporting all grant expenditures in sufficient detail to show exact nature of activity.
- Data and information for each expenditure with proper reference to a supporting voucher or bill properly approved.
- Hourly timesheets describing work activity, signed by the employee and supervisor, to document hours personnel worked on grant-related activities.
- Maintenance of payroll authorizations and vouchers.
- Maintenance of records supporting charges for fringe benefits.
- Maintenance of inventory records for equipment purchased, rented, and contributed (as applicable).
- Maintenance of billing records for consumable supplies (i.e., paper, printing) purchased (as applicable).
- Provisions for payment by check (as applicable).
- Maintenance of travel records (i.e., mileage logs, gas receipts) (as applicable).
- Lease agreements, contracts services, and purchases of equipment that adhere to established procurement processes (as applicable).

Office of Civil Rights

Pursuant to 28 C.F.R. Section 42.302, all recipients of federal funds must be in compliance with EEOP and Civil Rights requirements. All programs that receive Byrne JAG funds or are subawarded Byrne JAG funds via program agreements are required to conform to the grant program requirements and all applicable civil rights laws. Violations may result in suspension or termination of funding until CJCC determines the recipient is in compliance. Information on required biannual agency-wide Civil Rights trainings can be found at https://www.ojp.gov/program/civil-rights-office/home.

Nondiscrimination

Federal laws prohibit recipients of financial assistance from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, or disability in funded programs or activities, not only in respect to employment practices but also in the delivery of services or benefits. Federal law also prohibits funded programs or activities from discriminating on the basis of age in the delivery of services or benefits. Findings of discrimination must be submitted to the Office for Civil Rights and to CJCC.

Limited English Proficiency (LEP) Individuals

In accordance with Department of Justice Guidance pertaining to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d, recipients of federal assistance must take reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to their programs and activities for persons with limited English proficiency. For more information, access http://www.lep.gov. CJCC requires subgrantees to have written LEP plans that outline the policies and procedures for ensuring access to necessary forms of written and verbal communication.

Equal Employment Opportunity Plans
The applicant agency must meet the requirements of 28 CFR 42.301 et seq., Equal Employment Opportunity Plans (EEOP). If your agency needs technical assistance in preparing an Equal Employment Opportunity Plan, please contact the Office for Civil Rights Compliance Specialist, Office of Justice Programs, Washington, D.C., (202) 307-0690.

Control Board Meetings
All Drug Task Forces and K-9 Units must establish and maintain a Control Board. Each Control Board is required to hold quarterly meetings to provide oversight, guidance, and accountability for the operations of the Task Force. The minutes from each quarterly Control Board meeting must be submitted to the CJCC on a quarterly basis. The District Attorney from each judicial circuit within the jurisdiction of the Drug Task Force or K-9 Unit must be a member of its Control Board and must sign the Memorandum of Understanding to be submitted to the CJCC.

Performance Measures and Reporting Requirements
The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs, the federal entity that administers the JAG program, has developed performance measures for all program types funded with JAG program funds. As such, the Council requires that all JAG-funded subgrantees complete a quarterly statistical report using BJA's Performance Measurement Tool (PMT). The goal of the PMT is to assist states in producing evidence-based guidance on monitoring and evaluating programs.

PMT reporting is completed based on grant-funded activities and due on the following dates:

Reporting Period	Due Date
January 1 - March 31	April 15
April 1 - June 30	July 15
July 1 - September 30	October 15
October 1 - December 31	January 15

SECTION IV: APPLICATION PROCESS

Program Narrative
All applications must include up-to-date narrative information using the outline provided below. The narrative should be no more than 5 pages and uploaded in pdf format.

Statement of the Problem: The submission of this application presumes there is a definable problem, which will be solved either in whole or in part with the grant program for which funds are being requested. You should describe the problem that justifies the need for funding.

Program Activities: Provide a description of the program and explain how the program's activities will resolve the problem identified in the previous section. Also include in this section:

> *Personnel/Competencies:* A list of personnel that your agency proposes to fund and their benefit to the program.

Operations and Activities: Clearly state how the activities, investigative methods, and collaborative approach in which the task force seeks to engage will resolve the problems identified in your statement of the problem in the previous section.

Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures: Describe the goals of the proposed program and identify its objectives.

Goals. Describe the program's intent to change, reduce, or eliminate the problem noted in the previous section and outline the project's goals.

Program Objectives. Explain how the program will accomplish its goals. Objectives are specific, quantifiable statements of the project's desired results. They should be clearly linked to the problem identified in the preceding section and measurable.

Performance Measures. Describe the methods that will be used to collect data and report outcomes to the Council.

Partnerships and Collaborations: Describe partnerships and collaborative efforts as they relate to the scope of the program.

Sustainability Plan: The sustainability plan should be used to describe your agency's ability to support the program in the event funding through this solicitation is reduced or no longer available. The Council encourages all subgrantees to find alternative sources of funding to avoid being completely dependent on a sole funding source. Describe potential alternative sources of funding and a plan for continued operation and services should funding under Byrne JAG be reduced or eliminated.

SECTION V: BUDGETS

All applicants must complete a detailed budget with budget narrative within the grant management system. The narrative should include a breakdown of costs, as well as how funds will be allocated across approved budget categories of Personnel, Fringe Benefits, Travel, Equipment, Supplies, Consultants/Contracts, and Other.

All line items within the budget are subject to review and approval. Decisions related to these budget line items are based on allowability of line item costs per program guidelines, justification of costs in relation to project activities, and reasonableness of costs based on current market rates.

The 2026 awards are only for continuation funding. The award amount received in the previous year should remain the same, pending availability of federal funds and compliance with programmatic and fiscal requirements imposed in your special conditions.

Required Attachments

Under Required Documents, please include the following attachments:

- *Program Narrative* (max. 5 pages, pdf format): Include statement of the problem, program activities, goals and objectives, partnerships, and sustainability plan.
- *Previous Year Accomplishments* (1 page): Please upload a brief description of the program's accomplishments in the previous year. Please include any data pertaining to the scope of the extent of the program. **The description should be for the grant period of January 1, 2026 to date.** If your agency is unable to provide a response, provide a brief explanation of why the data is not available.
- *Project Timeline*: Please provide a objective based timeline for the project to cover January 1- December 31, 2026.
- *Current Staffing List*: Please provide a list of all active members of the task force both grant and county/city funded.
- *Personnel Action Forms:* from the home local government entity for all grant-funded personnel that support and verify the salary included in the budget detail worksheet
- *Job Description (If Vacant)*: ***Important note: A plan/timeline must be attached if vacant positions are to be considered for funding.*** If your agency's application proposes funding for currently vacant positions, provide a plan and timeline to fill each vacant position. The timeline should assume each proposed position will be filled and active no later than the grant period end date of December 31, 2027. Provide details of how long the position has been vacant, the reason for the vacancy, and the steps previously taken to fill the position. Provide documentation (e.g., job postings) of the efforts made to fill vacant positions.
- *Memorandum of Understanding*: Include copies of the MOU that includes and is signed by the Mayor/Board of Commissioners' Chair of all participating local government entities, the police chief/sheriff of all participating law enforcement agencies, and the District Attorney from each judicial circuit within the jurisdiction of the Drug Task Force regarding grant funds management financial arrangements. A sample MOU is posted on the Council's website at: Application & Award Documents | Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

****Prior to submitting your application, make certain that you have attached all required forms and that all documents requiring signature are signed by the appropriate, authorized official. If any of the required documents are missing or incorrectly executed, your application will be deemed incomplete and considered ineligible for funding.**

How to Apply

This application will be submitted through the new grants management system, https://grantsportal.cjcc.ga.gov/. The application must be completed and submitted in accordance with the RFA guidelines in order for the submission or proposal to be considered for funding. Before you submit, review your application from start to finish to ensure you submit complete and accurate information. **To finalize the application, please have the Authorized Official select the checkbox and change the status to application submitted.** Remember to submit the application when you are finished with this section.

Applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 6th, 2026. The application must be submitted through the grants management system. Please see the accompanying step by step guides for more details and instructions on the application process.

- How to Complete an Application/Apply for Funding | Scribe
- How to Re-enter & Continue a Saved Grant Application | Scribe
- How To Cancel an Application | Scribe

Appendix A

Maximum Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Force Award Amounts

Drug Task Force Agency	Maximum Amount
Northeast GA Regional DTF	$139,460
Ocmulgee DTF	$300,000
West Metro RDEO	$353,413
North GA K-9 Task Force	$123,219
Oconee DTF	$400,000
Southeastern RDEO	$357,610
Georgia Department of Public Safety	$352,200
Northwest Georgia DTF	$200,750
South Central DTF	$147,186
Lookout Mtn DTF	$152,838
Upson County	$111,766
Appalachian RDEO	$500,000
Southwestern RDEO	$248,000

NOTE: Award amounts are subject to change based on availability of funds.