

# BOARD MEETINGS

June 12, 2025

Austin, TX



TEXAS  
JUVENILE  JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT



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DEPARTMENT

## Memorandum

To: TJJJ Board Members

From: Emily Anderson, Deputy Executive Director, Agency Operations/Efficiencies

Subject: Approval of FY2026-2027 Juvenile Probation Department Funding

Date: June 12, 2025

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Staff respectfully requests approval from the TJJJ Finance and Audit Committee for the proposed juvenile probation grant allocations for Fiscal Years (FY) 2026 and 2027. This request includes both State Aid Formula Funding (SAFF) and targeted or competitive grant programs that support the core functions of county probation departments statewide

For FYs 2026 and 2027, a total of \$167.1 million annually is available through SAFF an increase of \$4.1 million per year over the previous biennium (FYs 2024 and 2025). This increase reflects the state's ongoing investment in local probation departments and our shared commitment to public safety, community-based services, and youth rehabilitation.

After applying the formula, which incorporates parameters such as funding floors, ceilings, and compression ratios, approximately \$700,000 remains unallocated. TJJJ recommends reserving these funds to support an appeals or consideration process for counties impacted by funding reductions.

Of the 164 juvenile probation departments, 128 will receive an average SAFF increase of 2.87% over FY 2025. The remaining 36 departments will see modest reductions, averaging 1.56%. Department-specific allocations are included at the end of this memo.

### State Aid Funding Formula Methodology

The State Aid Funding Formula distributes funds using a combination of projected juvenile population and the three-year average of formal referrals. Departments that have historically underutilized their full allocations are subject to caps on year-over-year increases to encourage fiscal responsibility and programmatic planning.

Departments are required to submit an initial SAFF budget that meets category thresholds and fully allocates their flexible funds. Once approved, departments may request to shift funds between categories, provided they meet statutory minimums and General Appropriations Act limitations. TJJJ reviews and approves these requests based on available flexibility within appropriations.



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SAFF is intentionally structured to offer departments additional flexibility, allowing certain expenditures to qualify under more than one component grant. To date, TJJJ staff have successfully worked with departments to address all funding adjustment requests through this built-in flexibility or strategic category shifts.

### Statutory Requirements Related to the State Aid Formula Funding Program

The SAFF program complies with Section 223.001(a) of the Texas Human Resources Code, which requires the agency to allocate state aid to juvenile boards based on estimated juvenile populations, a clearly defined probation funding formula, and other appropriate factors.

As outlined in the General Appropriations Act, SAFF is distributed across five core grant categories aligned with TJJJ's budget strategies and the Legislature's priorities. These include:

- BASIC PROBATION SERVICES (BPS): Case planning and juvenile supervision
- COMMUNITY PROGRAMS (CP): In-community programming and services
- PRE/POST ADJUDICATION (PPA): Placement services and related costs
- COMMITMENT DIVERSION (CD): Programs to reduce TJJJ commitments
- MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (MHS): Mental health and sex offender programming

### Targeted and Reimbursement Grants

In addition to formula funding, TJJJ recommends continuing its support for targeted and reimbursement-based grant programs in FYs 2026 and 2027. These programs fund critical services that address regional and population-specific needs, including mental health, education, prevention, and placement alternatives.

Funds from Discretionary State Aid (DSA) grants that expire at the end of FY 2025 will be redirected through a competitive grant process to promote innovation and equitable distribution. All other existing targeted and reimbursement grants are proposed for continuation, except for those discontinued voluntarily by departments.



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The following table provides preliminary FY 2026-2027 funding levels for these targeted programs. Additional grants under consideration during the 89<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session will be incorporated once appropriations are finalized.

Grant Name	Proposed FY 2026-27 Allocations
Prevention and Intervention	\$3,012,177
Special Needs Diversionary Program	\$1,895,175
Boarder Children's Justice Project	\$100,000
Direct Grants	\$3,560,000
Title IV-E (reimbursement)	\$2,733,329
Mandatory JJAEP	\$5,637,500
Discretionary JJAEP	\$300,000
Discretionary State Aid Grants	\$10,200,000
Regional Diversion Alternatives (Reimbursement)	\$16,211,540
Regional Detention	\$4,000,000
Salary Grant	\$47,713,793
Total	\$94,053,514



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### Program Descriptions

- **Prevention and Intervention (P&A):** In collaboration with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), the Texas Education Agency (TEA), and the Texas Military Department, TJJD fulfills its statutory mandate to prevent juvenile delinquency and school dropout through local prevention and intervention grants supporting youth-focused programs.
- **Special Needs Diversionary Program (SNDP):** A partnership between TJJD, the Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments (TCOOMM), and local mental health services for justice-involved youth with psychiatric diagnoses.
- **Border Children's Justice Project (BCJP):** Facilitates the return and repatriation of foreign national and U.S. citizen youth involved in cross-border justice processes, in coordination with law enforcement and consular agencies.
- **Direct Grants:** Funded through legislative riders, these grants support regional initiatives including the Harris County Leadership Academy, nonprofit pilot programs in border counties, and Multisystemic Therapy teams aimed at preventing deep system involvement.
- **Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Programs (JJAEPs):** Mandated or discretionary programs offering education, behavioral support, and credit recovery for expelled students in compliance with Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code.
- **Regional Diversion Alternatives (RDA) and Discretionary State Aid (DSA):** Competitive or reimbursement-based grants designed to fund research-driven programs that reduce commitments and enhance local treatment options. Departments may propose individualized diversion plans in lieu of commitment.
- **Supplemental & Emergent Needs (S&E):** Funded through prior-year de-obligated funds, S&E grants are administered regionally to address emerging local priorities and are eligible for use across any SAFF grant category.









# DRAFT

## PROPOSED FY2026 ALLOCATIONS: ALL TJJD PROBATION GRANT PROGRAMS (pending TJJD Board approval)

FISCAL YEAR 2026	State Aid Formula Funding	Directed Grants	Detention Projects	Prevention and Intervention (P&I) <sup>1</sup>	Special Needs Diversionary Program (SNDP) <sup>1</sup>	Border Justice Project <sup>1</sup>	Disc. JJAEP Funding	Risk and Needs <sup>2</sup>	DSA Community Projects <sup>1</sup>	DSA Residential Projects <sup>1</sup>	Regional Diversion Alternatives (RDA) <sup>3</sup>	Title IV-E <sup>3</sup>	JJAEP Mandatory Rate up to \$96 Per Day <sup>3</sup>
TERRY	\$223,825												
TITUS	\$567,118												
TOM GREEN	\$1,102,147		\$644,064	\$73,117	\$31,940				\$106,550				
TRAVIS	\$7,013,960				\$153,725					\$1,898,402			
TYLER	\$193,791				\$13,790								
UPSHUR	\$376,254												
UPTON	\$107,011												
UVALDE	\$392,838												
VAL VERDE	\$749,837					\$48,752							
VAN ZANDT	\$578,236			\$137,028									
VICTORIA	\$1,285,980												
WALKER	\$503,082												
WALLER	\$328,594												
WARD	\$222,592												
WEBB	\$2,593,499			\$126,513		\$26,294							
WHARTON	\$468,420			\$168,217			\$50,000						
WHEELER	\$155,593												
WICHITA	\$1,307,686												
WILBARGER	\$229,071												
WILLACY	\$305,661												
WILLIAMSON	\$2,414,610	\$600,000		\$48,000									
WINKLER	\$115,282												
WISE	\$571,557												
WOOD	\$316,894												
YOAKUM	\$104,325												
YOUNG	\$304,849												
ZAPATA	\$279,016												
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$166,392,232</b>	<b>\$2,600,000</b>	<b>\$4,000,000</b>	<b>\$3,012,177</b>	<b>\$1,895,175</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,773,529</b>	<b>\$7,200,952</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>To Be Allocated</b>	<b>\$3,917,426</b>	<b>\$47,963,793</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,125,000</b>	<b>\$936,471</b>	<b>\$999,048</b>	<b>\$16,211,540</b>	<b>\$2,733,329</b>	<b>\$5,637,500</b>
<b>Program Total</b>	<b>\$166,392,232</b>	<b>\$50,563,793</b>	<b>\$4,000,000</b>	<b>\$3,012,177</b>	<b>\$1,895,175</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>	<b>\$300,000</b>	<b>\$1,125,000</b>	<b>\$10,910,000</b>	<b>\$16,211,540</b>	<b>\$2,733,329</b>	<b>\$5,637,500</b>	

# DRAFT

## PROPOSED FY2026 ALLOCATIONS: ALL TJJJ PROBATION GRANT PROGRAMS (pending TJJJ Board approval)

FISCAL YEAR 2026	State Aid Formula Funding	Directed Grants	Detention Projects	Prevention and Intervention (P&I) <sup>1</sup>	Special Needs Diversionary Program (SNDP) <sup>1</sup>	Border Justice Project <sup>1</sup>	Disc. JJAEP Funding	Risk and Needs <sup>2</sup>	DSA Community Projects <sup>1</sup>	DSA Residential Projects <sup>1</sup>	Regional Diversion Alternatives (RDA) <sup>3</sup>	Title IV-E <sup>3</sup>	JJAEP Mandatory Rate up to \$96 Per Day <sup>3</sup>
<b>Grand Total<sup>4</sup></b>												<b>\$266,798,172</b>	

<sup>1</sup>Remaining funds will be allocated through a defined selection process.

<sup>2</sup>Remaining funds will be allocated directly to vendor (Noble) for county services.

<sup>3</sup>Reimbursement program, with payments distributed upon receipt of acceptable documentation. Grand total reflects appropriated amounts for FY2026, but actual reimbursements may vary.

<sup>4</sup>Grand Total reconciles exactly to FY 2026 probation grant appropriations.



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## Memorandum

To: TJJJ Board Members

From: Emily Anderson, Deputy Executive Director, Agency Operations/Efficiencies

Subject: Approval of FY2026-2027 Juvenile Probation Department Funding Contract

Date: June 12, 2025

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Staff respectfully requests approval from the TJJJ Finance and Audit Committee for the proposed juvenile probation grant allocation contract for Fiscal Years (FY) 2026 and 2027.

The FY 2026–2027 State Aid and Targeted Grants Contract outlines the terms, responsibilities, and funding requirements between the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJJ) and participating county juvenile boards (JPDs). The contract is effective from September 1, 2025, through August 31, 2027, and governs the administration, distribution, and expenditure of both State Aid and Targeted Grant funds. It also includes expectations for performance, definitions of key terms, allowable and unallowable uses of funds, and compliance monitoring processes.

### Key Provisions

#### 1. Contract Structure

The contract includes the General Grant Requirements (Exhibit A), a Juvenile Board Resolution (Exhibit B), and multiple appendices and incorporated documents. Grants are categorized into two primary types: State Aid Grants, which are distributed based on a funding formula, and Targeted Grants, which are awarded based on specific eligibility criteria.

#### 2. Payments

State Aid funds are distributed in eleven monthly installments each fiscal year. Additional payments, including those related to Detention Reimbursement, Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Programs (JJAEP), Regional Diversion Alternatives (RDA), and Title IV-E reimbursements, are issued either as lump sums or on a reimbursement basis, depending on the program.

#### 3. Grantee Responsibilities

JPDs are required to submit an annual budget and fully executed contract. They must also maintain compliance systems, such as the COMETS tracking system, and promptly notify TJJJ of any legal actions, changes to contracts, or issues with facilities. JPDs must ensure all juvenile facility staff have appropriate certifications and that all programs provide adequate health and safety protections for youth.



## Memorandum

### **4. Financial Management**

JPDs must comply with the Texas Grant Management Standards (TxGMS), maintain accurate financial records, and submit annual independent audits. They are responsible for returning any unexpended, overpaid, or unallowable funds. Required financial reports must be submitted quarterly and annually through TJJD's online Grants Portal (FLUXX).

### **5. Programmatic Requirements**

Grant funds must be used to support community-based diversion programs, mental health services, and youth services. JPDs are expected to follow TJJD's ideal commitment criteria to avoid unnecessary commitments to state custody when local alternatives are appropriate. Program performance must be tracked and reported, including metrics such as referrals, placements, and recidivism rates.

### **6. Monitoring and Sanctions**

TJJD will conduct both scheduled and unannounced on-site monitoring visits, as well as desk audits and financial reviews. If a JPD fails to meet contractual obligations, TJJD may issue citations, withhold payments, or terminate the contract.

### **7. Legal and Administrative Terms**

The contract is contingent upon the availability of state appropriations and may be terminated by either party with appropriate notice. JPDs must comply with all applicable federal and state laws and agree to indemnify TJJD against liabilities arising from program operations. Contracts with service providers must include defined accountability measures and financial oversight provisions.



**Texas Juvenile Justice Department  
RESOLUTION**

**A RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL OF FYS 2026-2027 STATE AID FUNDING FORMULA AND JPD GRANT CONTRACT**

On this 12th day of June 2025, a duly called and lawfully convened meeting of the Finance and Audit Committee of the Texas Juvenile Justice Board was held in Austin, Texas, pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act. A quorum of the Members was present, to wit:

BOARD MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Edeska Barnes, Jr.					
Stephanie House					
Manny Ramirez					
Shawn Thierry					

BOARD MEMBER	PRESENT	ABSENT	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Motion:			Second:		

Where, among other matters, came up for consideration and adoption the following Resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the TJJD Board Governance and Policy Manual outlines the Board’s authority and responsibility to review and approve the department’s core operating, financial, and strategic plans and objectives; and

**WHEREAS**, the 89th Legislature has appropriated funding to support local probation department activities for Fiscal Years 2026 and 2027; and

**WHEREAS**, TJJD staff has developed a proposed funding allocation methodology for the appropriated funds, utilizing formula-based, targeted, and reimbursement-driven probation grant programs and the associated grant contract; and

**WHEREAS**, to facilitate timely funding distribution and in light of the legislative schedule and the Board’s approved meeting calendar, the Board has delegated authority to the Finance and Audit Committee for the final review and approval of the proposed allocations and related grant contract;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Finance and Audit Committee, under delegation from the Board, authorizes the Executive Director to adjust appropriation line items, probation grant programs, and individual department allocations as necessary, in accordance with state and federal law, agency policy, the State Aid and Targeted Grants Contract, and Board guidance.

The foregoing Resolution was lawfully moved, duly seconded, and adopted by the Texas Juvenile Justice Board.

**Signed this 12th day of June 2025.**

**Texas Juvenile Justice Board**

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Edeska Barnes, Committee Chair