

Community Project - DSA

2026-2027 Biennium

Effective date 09/01/2025

Latest Revision – 5/18/23

I. GRANT DESCRIPTION.

- A. **Description.** Community Project is a Discretionary State Aid (DSA) grant created to comply with Section 223.001(c), Human Resources Code. The grant is for juvenile justice programs and services, including regional programs and services, that are provided in a non-residential setting and that are evidence-based and meant to that improve a juvenile probation department's ability to serve youth locally, improve outcomes, and decrease the likelihood of out of home placement or commitment to TJJD.

Note: For Special Needs Diversionary Program (SNDP) or Border Children's Justice Program (BCJP), there are additional Program Specific Requirements.

- B. **Goal.** The goal of the Community Project grant is to encourage the development or enhancement of programs and services in the community that:
1. implement research-driven practices based on the principles of risk-need responsivity;
 2. use data to evaluate and inform program design;
 3. are trauma-responsive;
 4. keep juveniles closer to home; and
 5. result in demonstrable recidivism reduction.
- C. **Objective.** The objective of the Community Project grant is to increase the availability of juvenile justice programs and services and decrease the likelihood of commitment to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD).
- D. **Target Population.** Juveniles appropriate for participation in a Community Project grant-funded program are those with characteristics of the target population for the program who have been referred to a juvenile probation department or juvenile court.

II. PROGRAMMATIC COMPONENTS.

- A. **Eligibility Requirements.** Grantee shall ensure that each juvenile enrolled in the grant-funded program meets the characteristics of the target population.
- B. **Documentation.**
1. Documentation concerning programs shall be maintained online where specified, as well as by Grantee, is subject to review by TJJD during on-site visits or upon request, and shall include:
 - a. entry of each program in TJJD's online Program Registry;
 - b. date, time, and duration (expected length of stay) of program;
 - c. intended target population, including risk level and primary criminogenic needs of target population;
 - d. program goals and description, including program activities and/or program components, program outputs, and intended program outcomes;
 - e. location of program; and
 - f. number of intended participants.
 2. Grantee shall open a program record with the appropriate funding source in the Grantee's individual case management system for any juvenile placed in a community project.
- C. **Performance.** Performance measures are captured by TJJD each fiscal year and will be used to determine continued funding. Grantee performance under the grant shall be determined using the following measures:
1. number of juveniles enrolled in the program who complete the program;

Summary of Grant Requirements

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2. number of juveniles enrolled in the program who successfully complete the program;
3. percentage of juveniles enrolled in the program who successfully complete the program;
4. cost for successful completion of program;
5. average number of service hours per juvenile;
6. number of juveniles recidivating (one- and two-year recidivism for re-arrest or re-referral);
7. percentage of juveniles who recidivated;
8. percent of juveniles with subsequent detention/disposition/out-of-home placement/enrollment in other programs;
9. percent of juveniles with subsequent higher offense level/referral/disposition;
10. number of juveniles served as a result of training;
11. analysis of performance across all community project grants; and
12. results of fiscal and program monitoring visit(s).

D. **Annual Reports.** No later than October 1 of each year, the Grantee shall complete an end-of-year report in a format specified by TJJD. The report shall include the percentage of achievement toward identified program output goals for the previous fiscal year.

III. CONTRACT APPLICABILITY.

Grantee shall be bound by the duties, responsibilities, and requirements of each part of the State Aid and Targeted Grants Contract. If a provision contained in the General Grant Requirements of that Contract conflicts with a provision in this Targeted Grant, this Targeted Grant provision controls.