



Office of the Attorney General
Sheriff's Office Funding Assistance Grant Program 2024
Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Sheriff's Office Funding Assistance Grant Program Act?

The Oklahoma Legislature passed HB 2914 creating the Oklahoma Sheriff's Office Funding Assistance Grant Program within the Attorney General's office. The Attorney General is authorized pursuant to 74 O.S. § 20k-1A to establish the Grant Program for the purpose of "ensuring professional law enforcement throughout the state by providing financial assistance to sheriff's offices in qualified counties." Specifically, monies will be directed toward funding the lawful operations of the sheriff's office.

2. How much was approved to fund the grants?

\$18,000,000.

3. Who administers the grant program?

The Office of the Oklahoma Attorney General.

4. What are the grant award amounts?

Grant awards are based on assessed total tangible property valuation of the county, and will be awarded to counties in three tiers in the following amounts:

- a. \$150,000 for the twenty-six (26) counties having the lowest gross assessed total tangible property valuation.
- b. \$250,000 for twenty-six (26) counties ranked higher than the counties described in (a) but lower than the counties described in (c).
- c. \$300,000 for the twenty-five (25) counties having the highest gross assessed total tangible property valuation.

5. What can the grant funds be used for?

Funds can be used for the lawful operations of the Sheriff's Office. Funds may not be used for the payment of salary.

6. Is there a local match requirement to receive grant funding?

No.

7. Who makes the grant application to the Office of the Attorney General?

Grant applications will be sent to Sheriff's offices to be completed and signed by the Sheriff. Applications must be approved and submitted by the Board of County Commissioners on behalf of the Sheriff's Office

8. How many applications may a county submit?

Counties are limited to one application per fiscal year. Grant funding is dependent on available funding.

9. When are the applications due to the Attorney General's Office?

Applications must be received by September 6, 2024, at 5pm. Applications must be submitted via email.

10. Is supplanting of existing funds an allowed use of the grant funds?

No. No county shall reduce or supplant existing funding or the county's methodology for allocating funds to a county sheriff's office due to the award of grant funding.

11. Can the funds be used for capital improvements which support Sheriff's operations?

Yes.

12. Are stipends and bonuses for Sheriff's employees allowed?

Yes. Any funds used for stipends or bonuses are to be used for one-time funding only. Funds may not be used for salary.

13. Who will the funds be sent to-the county fiscal officer or the Sheriff?

Funds will be sent to the county as required by HB 2914. All grant funds shall be expended exclusively for the purposes and in compliance with the Oklahoma Sheriff's Funding Assistance Grant Program. Grant funds must be sent promptly to the sheriff's office in compliance with the Grant Program.

14. With the funds provided, can the Sheriff enter into MOUs with service providers for an eligible and lawful purpose of the Sheriff's Office?

Yes. HB 2914 allows funds to be used for lawful operations of the sheriff's office.

15. What expenditure reporting will be required?

Reporting will be required semi-annually on forms supplied by the Office of the Attorney General.

16. Is there a deadline or timeline in which the funds received must be expended?

Funds must be expended by June 30, 2026.

17. Can the funds be used to cover travel costs?

Yes. HB 2914 allows funds to be used for lawful operations of the sheriff's office. Funds shall be used to supplement, and not supplant, other federal, state, county, and local funds expended to carry out activities relating to the lawful operations of the sheriff's office.

18. Are modifications allowed after the grant is awarded?

Yes. Entities must request and submit a grant modification form. Any modifications to the prior application must comply with the provisions of HB 2914.

19. Can a Sheriff who will not serve in that capacity in 2025 due to a retirement or an election defeat expend the grant funds received in 2024 before he leaves office?

The expenditure of grants funds is subject to state law.

20. What are some examples of uses of the grant funds?

Training
Enhance Technology
Vehicles
Equipment
Computers/Laptops
Body Cameras
Website and Software Upgrades
Public Safety Education Programming
Diversion at booking
Mental Health Services in Jails
Psychiatric Medications
Professional Consultations
Weapons
Cold Case Support
Capital Improvements
Materials and Supplies
Storage Rental Costs
Uniforms

Questions? Please contact Kristi Ice at Kristi.ice@oag.ok.gov or 405-522-1214