

Firearm Relinquishment Grant Program

Frequently Asked Questions

The Budget Act of 2022, [Assembly Bill \(AB\) 178](#) (Stats. 2022, Ch. 45), provided \$40 million in one-time funding through the General Fund to be distributed as grants to the superior courts to support new or expanded firearm relinquishment programs, and for administration and evaluation of the programs. Approximately \$16 million is available for the Cycle 3 grant program. Court programs must be conducted in conjunction with local law enforcement agencies to ensure the consistent and safe removal of firearms from individuals who become prohibited from owning or possessing firearms and ammunition pursuant to court order.

Q Because the Firearm Relinquishment Grant Program funding is one-time funding, does it have to be used in a certain timeframe?

A The funding must be spent or encumbered by June 30, 2025.

Q When is the deadline to apply for a Cycle 3 grant?

A Friday, December 22, 2023

Q How do I apply?

A Courts may apply by completing an application through Submittable, a web-based submissions management software. For instructions on how to submit your application using Submittable please visit: [How Can I Submit?](#)

Q Are there eligibility requirements?

A All superior courts are eligible, including courts that are currently participating in the program. However, priority for funding will be given to courts who have not received an award under this program. Priority will also be given to courts with higher numbers of requests per capita for domestic violence restraining orders or gun violence restraining orders. The selection process will consider statewide diversity in geographic location and court size. Funding will be available to courts that establish a collaboration with local law enforcement and allocate at least 30% of total funding to law enforcement partners for firearm relinquishment activities.

Q Can firearm relinquishment activities related to criminal protective orders or criminal cases be funded by this grant?

A Yes, grant funds can be used for firearm relinquishment activities for criminal protective orders or criminal cases. However, priority will be given to proposals that focus primarily on firearm relinquishment activities for civil restraining orders.

Q Can the funding be used to support existing programs?

A The funding must be used for new programs *or* the expansion of services in existing programs.

Q How many courts will receive funding?

A There is no set number of awardees. The goal will be to distribute all the current funding available (\$16 million). The number of awardees will depend on the number of applications received and the amounts requested.

Q When will funding be available?

A July 1, 2024

Q Will there be a webinar available for interested courts?

A Yes, a webinar on the grant program is scheduled for November 16, 2023, and you can register for it at this [link](#).

Q Which agencies qualify as law enforcement for purposes of partnering for the grant?

A Probation departments, sheriff's offices, police departments, district attorney's offices, or multiagency teams including some or all of these agencies in a jurisdiction.

Q What is the deadline to establish a relationship with local law enforcement?

A The court should have established a relationship with any partner law enforcement agency or agencies, proposed to be funded, by the time the application is submitted. Each partner law enforcement agency must certify the application before submission and collaborate with the applicant court in submitting the required budget form.

Q What activities can be charged to the grant?

A Activities that may be charged to the grant must be related to the grant's purpose, "to ensure the consistent and safe removal of firearms from individuals who become prohibited from owning or possessing firearms and ammunition pursuant to court order."

Q What activities cannot be funded by the grant?

A Activities that the court or law enforcement is already performing, or obligated to perform with other funding, cannot be charged to the grant. Activities that do not directly relate to firearm relinquishment, like time spent by a prosecutor to build a criminal case (e.g., discovery) cannot be funded by this grant.