

FY2012 Hidalgo County Discretionary Grant Program Intent to Submit Application

You have read-only access to this page because this ISA has already been submitted.

Application Submitted by Jaime E Gonzalez at 2/16/2011 4:10:00 PM, Confirmation Number D201210820110216.

Official Requests for Applications (RFA) Notice on Texas Task Force on Indigent Defense website
(If a conflict exists between this webpage and the RFA, the RFA prevails.)

Steps in Application Process

Tier One: Intent to Submit Application (ISA) Requirement

- Review the eligibility requirements. Each year the Task Force adopts specific measures as eligibility requirements for the discretionary grant funds. These measures are intended to encourage each county's compliance with statutory requirements or policy and standards adopted by the Task Force. The compliance checklist maintained by the special counsel is shown below. Counties not meeting plan eligibility requirements should contact the Task Force Special Counsel to resolve any compliance issues **before 5:00PM on February 25, 2011.**

Indigent Defense Plan Review Summary		
District Plan	County Plan	Juvenile Board Plan
Complete	Complete	Complete
The plan requirements appear to have been met.		

- Verify the data on this page and update if necessary.
- Court Commitment – The judiciary is responsible for implementing indigent defense procedures within counties. ISAs must contain letter(s) of commitment to participate with or support the program implementation from the affected judges (see Attachment B). The attachment B is a **sample** form and must be modified to ensure it communicates what level of commitment that the local judges are providing to the specific program in the application. All supporting documents must be mailed together and be clearly labeled. **These documents must be postmarked on or before February 25, 2011.**

Tier Two: Full Proposals Requirements

- Notice to proceed with Application - The grant administrator will review all ISAs and provide a written **Notice to Proceed with Application** to those counties that best demonstrate that they meet the priority funding and other requirements contained within this RFA.
- Supporting Documents – Optional documents such as timelines, general letters of support, agreements, or other documents that the county uses to support their application must be mailed. All supporting documents must be mailed together and be clearly labeled. **These documents must be postmarked on or before April 29, 2011.**
- Submit a Resolution / Internet Submission Form approved by Hidalgo County's Commissioner Court and signed by the authorized official. A link will be available on the confirmation page to print out the Resolution / Internet Submission Form. When a grant application is submitted via the Internet, the Task Force will not consider it complete until the applicant provides a Resolution / Internet Submission Form that is signed by the applicant's authorized official and that meets all deadlines for applications. The County Commissioners' Court must adopt the resolution provided through the application process that authorizes the grant request and takes responsibility for the appropriate expenditure of the funds. This form also certifies that the information submitted via the Internet is true and correct and that, if a grant is awarded, the county will abide by all relevant rules, policies, and procedures. **This form must be postmarked on or before April 29, 2011 and mailed or faxed to:**

Task Force on Indigent Defense
 Attention: Grants Administrator
 205 West 14th Street, Suite 600

PO Box 12066
 Austin, Texas 78711-2066.
 512-936-6994
 512-475-3450 Fax

Texas Administrative Code §173.8, §173.202

- Meet grant award conditions such as Indigent Defense Plans and Expenditure Reports required throughout the year.

All applications must be submitted on-line by 5:00 PM on April 29, 2011 (or postmarked by the dates indicated if a waiver is granted). Late submissions will not be considered. All court commitment documents, supporting documents, and resolutions / internet submission form supporting the grant applications must be completed entirely and submitted together. **These documents must be postmarked on or before April 29, 2011.** Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

This form is completed using the information currently available to the Task Force. Please review and make any corrections necessary.

Please review the Request for Applications before completing this form. Please contact the Grants Administrator, Bryan Wilson, at 512-936-6996 if you have any questions.

Primary County **Hidalgo**
 Fiscal Year **2012**

- Type of Grant: **Single-Year Discretionary Grants** - These are competitive grants - The single year discretionary grant pays up to 100% of an awarded activity on a reimbursement basis. (Applications for video-teleconferencing equipment and applicatons requesting full-time equivalent positions require a 50% match.)
- Multi-year Discretionary Grants** - These are competitive grants that require a cash match as described below and are intended to last up to four years. A county will be required to re-apply for continued funding after each grant year: The multi-year discretionary grant fund will pay up to 80% of total program costs in the first year; 60% in the second year; 40% in the third year; and 20% in the fourth year. Awarded activities are funded on a reimbursement basis. The following application characteristics shall be given priority in deciding funding:
- Programs that provide direct services to indigent defendants.
 - Establishment of public defender offices.
 - Establishment of regional public defender offices.
 - Programs that provide mental health defender services.
 - Programs that provide juvenile defender services.

Year of Grant: **1**

Select counties participating in the Discretionary ID Grant Proposal

Available Counties	Selected Counties
Anderson 	Hidalgo
Andrews 	
Angelina	
Aransas	
Archer	
Armstrong	
Atascosa	
Austin 	

State Payee Identification number **74-6000717**
 Division or unit within the county to administer the grant **Hidalgo County Auditor's Office**

Official County Mailing Address

Address (line 1) **1615 South Closner, Suite J**
 Address (line 2 if needed)

City Edinburg
 State TX
 ZIP 78539

Program Title: Please provide a simple and unique title for the program. (250 characters maximum)
Hidalgo County Public Defender's Office - Juvenile Section

Estimated Total Program Cost: \$200,000.00
 Estimated Cash Match by County for first year: \$40,000.00

Problem Statement* - (900 characters or estimated 100 words): Please describe the problem that made you aware you may need a grant funded program.

During FY 2010, the 449th District Court, the court assigned the juvenile case load for Hidalgo County, approved an estimated \$650,000 to court appointed attorneys for services rendered. Estimates for FY 2011 and FY 2012, project that cost to be higher than \$700,000.

Objectives* - (900 characters or estimated 100 words): Please describe how the situation should be if the grant funded program is successful.

If this program is successful, the juvenile public defender's office will have absorbed a majority of the appointed case load thereby reducing court appointed fees. Furthermore, as projected caseloads increase in the future, the county will realize future savings as juvenile public defender costs will remain the same.

Activities* - (2500 characters or estimated 500 words): Please describe what specific actions need to be taken to solve the problem(s) above.

In order to fully address the high costs of court appointed attorney fees, the following actions need to be addressed: 1) The Public Defender's Office would need, at least, two additional juvenile attorney and one support staff; 2) The 449th District Court must recognize the potential savings to the county of a juvenile public defender and should appoint cases to its assistant public defenders; 3) Hidalgo County must institute a policy whereby the juvenile public defender's office will be guaranteed a percentage of court appointed cases; and 4) The juvenile public defender's section will require access to juvenile records to fully represent its clients.

Evaluation* - (900 characters or estimated 100 words): Please describe what events would be measured to know for certain that the program was a success.

1) Number of cases appointed; 2) Number of cases disposed; 3) Cost per case (juvenile public defender vs. court appointed attorney); 4) Cost saving in overall attorney voucher payouts; and 5) Cost saving from Hidalgo County juvenile detention center by expediting cases more efficiency.

* The text boxes will only hold unformatted text. Pasting formatted text from Word or other program will result in only the actual text being input.

Officials Designated at the County Level

The County Judge and Financial Officer positions must be designated according to rule. The County Judge is the elected Constitutional County Judge for the county. The Financial Officer must be the County Auditor, or in the case of counties which do not have a county auditor, the County Treasurer. In order to streamline communications, all grant communication will be with the Program Director. If the information for these positions is out-of-date, click on Cancel, update these positions from the county home page, and then re-enter this application.

The County Judge is **Ramon Garcia**.

The Financial Officer is the County Auditor, **Raymundo Eufrazio**.

Grant Officials

The Program Director must be an officer or employee responsible for the program operation or monitoring and who will serve as the point-of-contact regarding the program's day-to-day operations. The Authorized Official must be authorized to apply for, accept, decline, modify, or cancel the grant for the applicant county. A county judge or a designee authorized by the governing body in its resolution may serve as the authorized official. The program director and the authorized official may be the same person. The financial officer may not serve as the program director or the authorized official. *Texas Government Code §173.301(a)*. Please indicate who you anticipate as the grant officials. If you are allowed to proceed, this may still be changed on the Tier 2 Application.

Program Director

Jaime E Gonzalez
1615 S. Closner, Suite B
Edinburg, TX 78539

phone: 956-292-7040
Fax: 956-292-7049
email: jimmy.gonzalez@co.hidalgo.tx.us

Authorized Official

Fred Garza
100 N. Closner
3rd Floor
Edinburg, TX 78539

phone: 956-318-2390
Fax: 956-318-2577
email: fred.garza@co.hidalgo.tx.us

Resolution / Internet Submission Form: Click on link to open new window with Sample resolution. This may be printed or copied (Ctrl+A, Ctrl+C) and pasted (Ctrl+V) into Word Processing software for editing. Word Version

Additional notes or proposed changes:

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**2012 Hidalgo County Resolution
Indigent Defense Discretionary Grant Program**

WHEREAS, under the provisions of the Texas Government Code Section 71.062 and Texas Administrative Code Chapter 173, counties are eligible to receive grants from the Task Force on Indigent Defense to provide improvements in indigent defense services in the county; and

WHEREAS, this grant program will assist the county in the implementation and the improvement of the indigent criminal defense services in this county; and

WHEREAS, Hidalgo County Commissioners Court has agreed that in the event of loss or misuse of the funds, Hidalgo County Commissioners assures that the funds will be returned in full to the Task Force on Indigent Defense.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED and ordered that Fred Garza is designated as the Authorized Official to apply for, accept, decline, modify, or cancel the grant application for the Indigent Defense Discretionary Grant Program and all other necessary documents to accept said grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Jaime E Gonzalez is designated as the Program Director and contact person for this grant and the County Auditor is designated as the Financial Officer for this grant.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2011.

Ramon Garcia
County Judge

Attest:

County Clerk

Note: This Required Resolution is to obtain grant funds. Please do not alter it other than to fill in the optional spaces. Please direct request to alter to the Task Force's Special Counsel.

Internet Submission Form

After submitting the discretionary grant application on-line, the following Internet submission confirmation number was received #D201210820110216. This grant application submission was in accordance with the Commissioners Court Resolution above.

Fred Garza
Authorized Official