



Office of the Governor - Homeland Security Grants Division 2019 Local Border Security Program (LBSP) Request for Applications (RFA)

The Homeland Security Grants Division (HSGD) of the Governor's Office is soliciting grant applications under the Local Border Security Program (LBSP) for projects that support Operation Border Star during state fiscal year 2019.

Purpose: Operation Border Star centers on the use of intelligence to increase the effectiveness of federal, state, and local law enforcement assets. **For FY 2019 the LBSP allowable costs have been expanded in an effort to better meet the needs of local departments and enhance funding that is available through other sources (e.g. Operation Stonegarden).**

The purpose of the program is to sustain interagency law enforcement operations and enhance local law enforcement patrols to facilitate directed actions to deter and interdict criminal activity. Program participants shall assist in the execution of coordinated border security operations in an effort to:

- 1) Increase the effectiveness and impact of Steady State and Surge Operations.
- 2) Reduce border-related criminal activity in Texas.
- 3) Implement and increase the effectiveness of operational methods, measures, and techniques for outbound/southbound operations.
- 4) Decrease the supply of drugs smuggled into and through Texas from Mexico.
- 5) Disrupt and deter operations of gang and cartel criminal organizations.
- 6) Decrease specifically targeted tactics (such as conveyance methods) for drugs in the Texas border region.
- 7) Decrease use of specific areas for crime as targeted in directed action missions.
- 8) Increase the effectiveness of air operations mission planning and prioritization.
- 9) Increase the coordination and integration of air-ground team operations to include Texas Military Forces (TMF) aviation, United States Customs and Border Protection (USCBP) Air and Marine, Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Aircraft Division, and United States Coast Guard (USCG) aviation support.
- 10) Increase the effectiveness of directed action missions based upon intelligence and analysis to ensure they target the most serious threats and are conducted in high pay-off areas.
- 11) Increase the number and quality of analytical intelligence products developed at the Unified Command and state levels.
- 12) Increase intelligence-based operations at the Unified Command level through integration of TxMap, sector specific information, and intelligence analysis.

Available Funding: State funds for these projects are authorized under the Texas General Appropriations Act, Article I, Rider 21 for Trusteed Programs within the Office of the Governor. All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

Funding Levels:
Minimum: None

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Maximum: None

Match Requirement: None

Standards: Grantees must comply with standards applicable to this fund source cited in the State Uniform Grant Management Standards ([UGMS](#)), and all statutes, requirements, and guidelines applicable to this funding.

Prohibitions: Grant funds may **not** be used to support the following services, activities, and costs:

- 1) inherently religious activities such as prayer, worship, religious instruction, or proselytization;
- 2) lobbying;
- 3) any portion of the salary of, or any other compensation for, an elected or appointed government official;
- 4) backfill costs for personnel participating in operations;
- 5) transportation, lodging, per diem, training fees or any related costs associated with participants who attend a training event;
- 6) purchase of vehicles;
- 7) purchase of equipment for government agencies that is solely for general agency use;
- 8) weapons, ammunition, tasers, or explosives;
- 9) postage;
- 10) admission fees or tickets to any amusement park, recreational activity or sporting event;
- 11) promotional gifts;
- 12) food, meals, beverages, or other refreshments, except for eligible per diem associated with grant-related travel;
- 13) membership dues for individuals;
- 14) any expense or service that is readily available at no cost to the grant project;
- 15) any use of grant funds to replace (supplant) funds that have been budgeted for the same purpose through non-grant sources;
- 16) fundraising;
- 17) construction;
- 18) medical services;
- 19) legal fees;
- 20) legal services for adult offenders; and
- 21) any other prohibition imposed by federal, state, or local law.

Eligible Applicants:

- 1) Units of local government; and
- 2) Federally Recognized Native American tribes.
- 3) Eligible applicants must be located within a County within one of the six DPS Joint Operations and Intelligence Centers (JOIC) Regions including:
 - a) El Paso JOIC – El Paso County.
 - b) Coastal Bend JOIC – Aransas County, Bee County, Calhoun County, Dewitt County, Fayette County, Goliad County, Gonzales County, Guadalupe County, Jackson County,

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Jim Wells County, Karnes County, Kleberg County, Lavaca County, Live Oak County, Matagorda County, McMullen County, Nueces County, Refugio County, San Patricio County, Victoria County, and Wharton County.

- c) Marfa JOIC – Brewster County, Culberson County, Hudspeth County, Jeff Davis County, Pecos County, Presidio County, Reeves County, and Terrell County.
- d) Del Rio JOIC – Dimmit County, Edwards County, Kinney County, Maverick County, Real County, Uvalde County, Val Verde County, and Zavala County.
- e) Laredo JOIC – Duval County, Frio County, Jim Hogg County, La Salle County, Webb County, and Zapata County.
- f) Rio Grande Valley JOIC – Brooks County, Cameron County, Hidalgo County, Kenedy County, Starr County, and Willacy County.

Eligible Costs:

1) PERSONNEL - OVERTIME

- a) Overtime for increased patrol and/or investigative capacity for certified peace officers.
- b) Overtime for law enforcement support personnel. These costs may include overtime for personnel necessary to support officers that are on patrol and participating in border security operations, such as Jailer overtime, or Communications Officer/Dispatcher overtime, necessary to maintain a safe Officer to Dispatcher ratio.
- c) Overtime for administrative personnel supporting border security grants.
- d) Overtime for law enforcement support and administrative personnel should be limited and anything greater than 10% may not be funded or may require significant additional data and justification.
- e) Applicants must provide a copy of the local overtime policy as approved by its governing board. This policy will be considered the official policy for grant purposes and must be used throughout the grant period. The policy must:
 - i. Clearly describe how overtime will be calculated;
 - ii. Be consistent with the agency's local overtime policy;
 - iii. Treat overtime for grant-paid personnel the same as non-grant paid personnel.
- f) Project Overtime (OT) shall be reimbursed following the grantee's overtime policy and the requirements as stated below:
 - i. OT is time actually worked that exceeds the required number of hours during an employee's designated work period, as per grantee's policies and procedures.
 - ii. OT must be worked to support border security operations.
 - iii. The project OT rate shall be no more than one-and-one-half (1.5) times the employee's regular pay rate.
 - iv. Exempt salaried employees may not be reimbursed for overtime unless the grantee's overtime policy specifically allows for this.
 - v. HSGD will only reimburse the grantee for OT that does not exceed a total of 16-hours worked (regular plus OT) during any 24-hour period.

- 2) PERSONNEL - REGULAR or STRAIGHT-TIME
 - a) Augmentees: Personnel costs for law enforcement personnel who are not regular employees of a funded agency, but are brought on as needed to specifically cover border security operations so that there can be a force multiplier during a period of “surge.”
 - b) Regular time for law enforcement personnel working border operations. Grant funds must be used to supplement existing funds and not supplant funds that have been budgeted for the same purpose.
 - c) Part-time to Full-Time: Personnel costs for part-time law enforcement personnel in order to bring them to temporary full-time status.
 - d) Regular time for administrative personnel supporting border security grant activities.

- 3) EQUIPMENT: Costs for equipment, or the rental of equipment, which will benefit the border security mission and will be routinely utilized during border security operations.

- 4) SUPPLIES and DIRECT OPERATING EXPENSE: Certain operational costs are also allowable, such as vehicle operating costs or costs for minor emergency repairs as described below, or for other services pre-approved by the HSGD that are critical to success of the program.
 - a) The cost of fuel, lubricants, and minor emergency repairs or maintenance for vehicles, aircraft, boats, generators, and similar equipment used during the hours in which grant-funded staff are working.
 - b) Only actual expenses supported by invoiced gas, oil, and repair or maintenance receipts may be reimbursed under this grant.
 - c) Maintenance costs must be prorated to show the usage of vehicles or equipment for regular law enforcement duties as compared to usage while officers are working grant-paid patrols.
 - d) The cost of minor emergency repairs, such as tire repair or fan belt replacement, to vehicles or equipment used in program operations is allowable.

Eligibility Requirements:

- 1) Eligible applicants must agree to perform the following activities:
 - a) Conduct Steady State operations and respond to calls for service.
 - b) Conduct enhanced law enforcement patrolling activities.
 - c) Conduct surveillance, interdictions, investigations, and collect and disseminate information within its jurisdiction or cross-jurisdiction lines as required.
 - d) Recognize and react to information/intelligence to adjust times and locations of enhanced patrol activities.
 - e) Report significant border-related events that occur during each 24-hour period.
 - f) Identify significant border-related trends or areas of interest that may be developed into focus areas for future operations.
 - g) Integrate air, ground, marine, and remote operations.

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- h) Participate in operational planning and coordination meetings, information/intelligence sharing meetings, and After Action Reviews (AARs) established by the Texas Department of Public Safety's (DPS) Joint Operations and Intelligence Centers (JOIC).
 - i) Participate weekly on the JOIC Unified Command conference calls or meetings as required by the JOIC.
- 2) Eligible applicants must agree to submit the Daily Border Incident Assessment Report (BIAR). The BIAR is the primary incident and information-reporting tool for the grantee in local border security operations. The grantee shall ensure all BIARs conform to the respective standards outlined by the JOIC and are submitted within 24 hours of the end of shift and/or the timeframes established by the JOIC. The grantee shall report all activities that are considered Steady State activities, in addition to Enhanced Operation activities, to the JOIC. Steady State activities are defined as normal patrol or investigative duties that do not use grant funds, but directly impact the overall LBSP mission (organized crime arrests, terroristic activities, weapons trafficking arrests, kidnappings, human trafficking, human smuggling, home invasions with a border or organized crime nexus, illegal immigration, border-related murders, gang-related murders, vehicle thefts, or drug trafficking). Enhanced (Surge) Operations originate out of the use of LBSP funds when the local agency chooses to increase the hours of patrol or investigative bodies.
 - 3) In order for an applicant to be eligible, the county (or counties) in which the applicant is located must have a 90% average on both adult and juvenile criminal history dispositions reported to the Texas Department of Public Safety for calendar years 2012 through 2016. This requirement must be met by August 1, 2018.
 - 4) Eligible applicants operating a law enforcement agency must be current on reporting Part I violent crime data to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for inclusion in the annual Uniform Crime Report (UCR). To be considered eligible for funding, applicants must have submitted a full twelve months of accurate data to DPS for the most recent calendar year.
 - 5) An application requirement pertaining to full compliance with Department of Homeland Security detainer requests applies to all municipal or county governments that operate a subdivision or department that detains individuals after arrest for a criminal violation. Full text of this certification can be found on the Narrative tab of each application or at http://gov.texas.gov/cjd/dhs_detainerrequest. All applicants must select one of four options in their eGrants application to be considered for funding under this announcement.
 - 6) Eligible applicants must have a DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) number assigned to its agency (to request a DUNS number, go to <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/displayHomePage.do>).
 - 7) Eligible applicants must be registered in the federal System for Award Management (SAM) database located at <https://www.sam.gov/>.
 - 8) Failure to comply with program eligibility requirements may cause funds to be withheld and/or suspension or termination of grant funds.

Project Period: Projects selected for funding must begin on or after September 1, 2018 and expire on or before August 31, 2019.

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Application Process: Applicants must access HSGD's eGrants grant management website at <https://eGrants.gov.texas.gov> to register and apply for funding. Additional requirements are included within the online application form.

NOTE: Applicants must upload the required Texas Direct Deposit Authorization Form, Texas Application for Payee Identification Number Form, and the IRS W9 Form for each application prior to submission. The eGrants system will not allow an application to be submitted until these forms are attached to the application. These forms are available for download from eGrants at <https://egrants.gov.texas.gov/updates.aspx> under the Financial Management section of Forms and Guides or from the Forms link on the Profile/Grant.Vendor tab within the grant application.

Closing Date for Receipt of Applications: All applications must be submitted, and certified, via HSGD's eGrants grant management website on or before Thursday, **March 29, 2018** by 5:00 PM CST.

Selection Process: Applications will be reviewed by HSGD staff members in consultation with DPS Regional JOIC representatives. HSGD will make all final funding decisions based on eligibility and operational content which includes but is not limited to the following:

- 1) Compliance - Past compliance with grant requirements, reporting, and information sharing.
- 2) Performance – Impact and effectiveness of the Applicant's participation in previous border security operations or activities and effectiveness in using grant funds awarded for border security.
- 3) Risk – The Applicant's need as indicated by data available on border-related criminal activity, population, number of officers, and other factors.
- 4) Other Funding – The Applicant's history of applying for, receiving, and/or effectively utilizing other sources of funding available to support border security activities (e.g. Operation Stonegarden).

Contact Information: For technical assistance or additional information, contact HSGD at eGrants@gov.texas.gov or (512) 463-8382.