



Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office
Specialty Courts Grant Program
Special Application Procedures Addendum

Project Narrative

Within eGrants, applicants will complete several narrative fields. Below are special instructions related to required information that must be included in your Specialty Court Program Narrative. These instructions are not contained on eGrants, so applicants must review the instructions below. Failure to provide the information requested may result in an application being deemed ineligible for funding.

Applicants must describe how their court program is meeting/fulfilling the applicable Essential Characteristics as defined in Chapter 122-126, and 129-130 of the Texas Government Code.

Family Drug Courts

Project Approach & Activities: In addition to the Essential Characteristics listed below, applicants must provide a detailed summary addressing how the program meets or plans to meet the Family Treatment Court Best Practice Standards.

- The integration of substance abuse treatment services in the processing of civil cases in the child welfare system with the goal of family reunification.
- The use of a comprehensive case management approach involving Department of Family and Protective Services caseworkers, court-appointed case managers, and court-appointed special advocates to rehabilitate a parent who has had a child removed from the parent's care by the department because of suspected child abuse or neglect and who is suspected of substance abuse.
- A progressive treatment approach with specific requirements that a parent must meet to advance to the next phase of the program.
- Ongoing judicial interaction with program participants.

Capacity & Capabilities: In addition to the Essential Characteristics listed below, applicants must provide all members and their respective roles on the court team and include any other state and/or local fund sources utilized to fund this program.

- Comprehensive substance abuse needs assessment and referral to an appropriate substance abuse treatment agency.
- Monitoring of abstinence through periodic alcohol or other drug testing.
- Development of partnerships with public agencies and community organizations.

Performance Management: In addition to the Essential Characteristic listed below, applicants must describe the procedures for how performance measures are currently used to identify and address deficiencies within the program.

- Monitoring and evaluation of program goals and effectiveness.

Target Group:

- Early identification and prompt placement of eligible parents who volunteer to participate in the program.

Evidence-Based practices:

- Continuing interdisciplinary education to promote effective program planning, implementation, and operations.

Drug Courts

Project Approach & Activities: In addition to the Essential Characteristics listed below, applicants must provide a detailed summary addressing how the program meets or plans to meet the Adult Drug Court Best Practice Standards.

- The integration of alcohol and other drug treatment services in the processing of cases in the judicial system.
- The use of a nonadversarial approach involving prosecutors and defense attorneys to promote public safety and to protect the due process rights of program participants.
- A coordinated strategy to govern program responses to participants' compliance.
- Ongoing judicial interaction with program participants.

Capacity & Capabilities: In addition to the Essential Characteristics listed below, applicants must provide all members and their respective roles on the court team and include any other state and/or local fund sources utilized to fund this program.

- Access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitative services.
- Monitoring of abstinence through weekly alcohol and other drug testing.
- Development of partnerships with public agencies and community organizations.

Performance Management: In addition to the Essential Characteristic listed below, applicants must describe the procedures for how performance measures are currently used to identify and address deficiencies within the program.

- Monitoring and evaluation of program goals and effectiveness.

Target Group:

- Early identification and prompt placement of eligible participants in the program.

Evidence-Based practices:

- Continuing interdisciplinary education to promote effective program planning, implementation, and operations.

Veterans Treatment Courts

Project Approach & Activities: In addition to the Essential Characteristics listed below, applicants must provide a detailed summary addressing how the program meets or plans to meet the key components of a specialty (treatment) court.

- The integration of services in the processing of cases in the judicial system.
- The use of a nonadversarial approach involving prosecutors and defense attorneys to promote public safety and to protect the due process rights of program participants.
- A coordinated strategy to govern program responses to participants' compliance.
- Ongoing judicial interaction with program participants.

Capacity & Capabilities: In addition to the Essential Characteristics listed below, applicants must provide all members and their respective roles on the court team and include any other state and/or local fund sources utilized to fund this program.

- Access to a continuum of alcohol, controlled substance, mental health, and other related treatment and rehabilitative services.
- Careful monitoring of treatment and services provided to program participants.
- Development of partnerships with public agencies and community organizations, including the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Performance Management: In addition to the Essential Characteristic listed below, applicants must describe the procedures for how performance measures are currently used to identify and address deficiencies within the program.

- Monitoring and evaluation of program goals and effectiveness.

Target Group:

- Early identification and prompt placement of eligible participants in the program.
Inclusion of a participant's family members who agree to be involved in the treatment and services provided to the participant under the program.

Evidence-Based practices:

- Continuing interdisciplinary education to promote effective program planning, implementation, and operations.

Mental Health Courts

Project Approach & Activities: In addition to the Essential Characteristics listed below, applicants must provide a detailed summary addressing how the program meets or plans to meet the key components of a specialty (treatment) court.

- The integration of mental illness treatment services and mental retardation services in the processing of cases in the judicial system.

- The use of a nonadversarial approach involving prosecutors and defense attorneys to promote public safety and to protect the due process rights of program participants.
- Diversion of potentially mentally ill or mentally retarded defendants to needed services as an alternative to subjecting those defendants to the criminal justice system.
- Ongoing judicial interaction with program participants.

Capacity & Capabilities: In addition to the Essential Characteristics listed below, applicants must provide all members and their respective roles on the court team and include any other state and/or local fund sources utilized to fund this program.

- Access to mental illness treatment services.
- Development of partnerships with public agencies and community organizations, including local mental health authorities (LMHA).

Performance Management: In addition to the Essential Characteristic listed below, applicants must describe the procedures for how performance measures are currently used to identify and address deficiencies within the program.

- Monitoring and evaluation of program goals and effectiveness.

Target Group:

- Early identification and prompt placement of eligible participants in the program.

Evidence-Based practices:

- Continuing interdisciplinary education to promote effective program planning, implementation, and operations.

Commercially Sexually Exploited Persons Courts

Project Approach & Activities: In addition to the Essential Characteristics listed below, applicants must provide a detailed summary addressing how the program meets or plans to meet the key components of a specialty (treatment) court.

- The integration of services in the processing of cases in the judicial system.
- The use of a nonadversarial approach involving prosecutors and defense attorneys to promote public safety, to reduce the demand for the commercial sex trade and trafficking of persons by educating offenders, and to protect the due process rights of program participants.
- A coordinated strategy to govern program responses to participant compliance.

Capacity & Capabilities: In addition to the Essential Characteristics listed below, applicants must provide all members and their respective roles on the court team and include any other state and/or local fund sources utilized to fund this program.

- Access to information, counseling, and services relating to sex addiction, sexually transmitted diseases, mental health, and substance abuse.
- Development of partnerships with public agencies and community organizations.

Performance Management: In addition to the Essential Characteristic listed below, applicants must describe the procedures for how performance measures are currently used to identify and address deficiencies within the program.

- Monitoring and evaluation of program goals and effectiveness.

Target Group:

- Early identification and prompt placement of eligible participants in the program.

Evidence-Based practices:

- Continuing interdisciplinary education to promote effective program planning, implementation, and operations.

Public Safety Employees Treatment Courts

Project Approach & Activities: In addition to the Essential Characteristics listed below, applicants must provide a detailed summary addressing how the program meets or plans to meet the key components of a specialty (treatment) court.

- The integration of services in the processing of cases in the judicial system.
- The use of a nonadversarial approach involving prosecutors and defense attorneys to promote public safety and to protect the due process rights of program participants.
- A coordinated strategy to govern program responses to participants' compliance.
- Ongoing judicial interaction with program participants.

Capacity & Capabilities: In addition to the Essential Characteristics listed below, applicants must provide all members and their respective roles on the court team and include any other state and/or local fund sources utilized to fund this program.

- Access to a continuum of alcohol, controlled substance, mental health, and other related treatment and rehabilitative services.
- Careful monitoring of treatment and services provided to program participants.
- Development of partnerships with public agencies and community organizations.

Performance Management: In addition to the Essential Characteristic listed below, applicants must describe the procedures for how performance measures are currently used to identify and address deficiencies within the program.

- Monitoring and evaluation of program goals and effectiveness.

Target Group:

- Early identification and prompt placement of eligible participants in the program.
- Inclusion of a participant's family members who agree to be involved in the treatment and services provided to the participant under the program.

Evidence-Based practices:

- Continuing interdisciplinary education to promote effective program planning, implementation, and operations.

Juvenile Family Drug Courts

Project Approach & Activities: In addition to the Essential Characteristics listed below, applicants must provide a detailed summary addressing how the program meets or plans to meet the key components of a specialty (treatment) court.

- The integration of substance abuse treatment services in the processing of cases and proceeding under Title 3, Family Code.
- The use of a comprehensive case management approach involving court-appointed case managers and court-appointed special advocates to rehabilitate an individual who is suspected of substance abuse and who resides with a child who is the subject of a case filed under Title 3, Family code.
- A progressive treatment approach with specific requirements for participants to meet for successful completion of the program.
- Ongoing judicial interaction with program participants.

Capacity & Capabilities: In addition to the Essential Characteristics listed below, applicants must provide all members and their respective roles on the court team and include any other state and/or local fund sources utilized to fund this program.

- A comprehensive substance abuse needs assessment and referrals to appropriate substance abuse treatment agencies for participants.
- Monitoring of abstinence through periodic screening for alcohol or screening for controlled substances.
- Development of partnerships with public agencies and community organizations.

Performance Management: In addition to the Essential Characteristic listed below, applicants must describe the procedures for how performance measures are currently used to identify and address deficiencies within the program.

- Monitoring and evaluation of program goals and effectiveness.

Target Group:

- Early identification and prompt placement of eligible individuals who volunteer to participate in the program.

Evidence-Based practices:

- Continuing interdisciplinary education for the promotion of effective program planning, implementation, and operation.