

Name:

Local Border Security Program (LBSP), FY2025

Available

01/15/2024

Due Date

03/14/2024

Purpose:

The Public Safety Office (PSO) is soliciting grant applications under the Local Border Security Program (LBSP) for projects that support Operation Border Star during state fiscal year 2025. Operation Border Star centers on the use of intelligence to increase the effectiveness of federal, state, and local law enforcement assets. 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:

- Increase the effectiveness and impact of Steady State and Surge Operations.
- Reduce border-related criminal activity in Texas.
- Implement and increase the effectiveness of operational methods, measures, and techniques for outbound/southbound operations.
- Decrease the supply of drugs smuggled into and through Texas from Mexico.
- Disrupt and deter operations of gang and cartel criminal organizations.
- Decrease specifically targeted tactics (such as conveyance methods) for drugs in the Texas border region.
- Decrease use of specific areas for crime as targeted in directed action missions.
- Increase the effectiveness of air operations mission planning and prioritization.
- 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.
- 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.
- Increase the number and quality of analytical intelligence products developed at the Unified Command and state levels.
- Increase intelligence-based operations at the Unified Command level through integration of TxMap, sector specific information, and intelligence analysis.
- Aid in the humane retrieval and processing of the remains of undocumented migrants.

Available Funding:

Eligible Activities and Costs

Funding may be used to provide additional personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, travel, and training in support of Operation Border Star activities, including for any one or more of the following activities.

OPERATION BORDER STAR – LAW ENFORCEMENT: Activities related to law enforcement operations in support of border operations.

1. Law Enforcement Personnel - Overtime

- Overtime for increased patrol and/or investigative capacity for certified peace officers.
- 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.
- Overtime for non-exempt administrative personnel supporting border security grants.
- 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.

2. Law Enforcement Personnel – Regular or Straight-Time

- 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.”
- 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.
- Part-time to Full-Time: Personnel costs for part-time law enforcement personnel in order to bring them to temporary full-time status.
- Regular time for administrative personnel supporting border security grant activities.

3. Law Enforcement 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. Law Enforcement Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses: 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 PSO that are critical to success of the program.

- 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.

Eligibility Requirements

- Only actual expenses supported by invoiced gas, oil, and repair or maintenance receipts may be reimbursed under this grant.

1. Local units of government must comply with the [Cybersecurity Training requirements](#) for regular described in Section 772.012 and Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code. Local governments determined to not be in compliance with their cybersecurity requirements required by Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code are ineligible for OOG grant funds until the second anniversary of the date the local government is determined ineligible. Government entities must annually certify their compliance with the training requirements using the [Cybersecurity Training Certification for State and Local Governments](#). Activities related to the humane processing of the remains of undocumented migrants must be uploaded to your eGrants application. For more information or to access available training programs, visit the Texas Department of Information [Resources Statewide Cybersecurity](#)

1. Medical Examiner Personnel - Overtime

- Overtime for death investigations conducted by a medical examiner, deputy examiner, trained technician, or a forensic pathologist as authorized under Article 49.25 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.
2. Entities receiving funds from PSO must be located in a county that has an average of 90% or above on both adult and juvenile dispositions entered into the computerized criminal history database maintained by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) as directed in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 66. The disposition completeness percentage is defined as the percentage of arrest charges a county reports to DPS for which a disposition has been subsequently reported and entered into the computerized criminal history system.

2. Medical Examiner Personnel – Regular or Straight-Time and Temporary Positions

- Regular time for county medical examiner personnel conducting death investigations. Grant funds must be used to supplement existing funds and not supplant funds that have been budgeted for the same purpose.

3. Eligible applicants operating a law enforcement agency must be current on reporting complete UCR data and the Texas specific reporting mandated by 411.042 T.C., to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for inclusion in the annual Crime in Texas (CIT) publication. To be considered

3. Medical Examiner – Equipment and Technology

- Regular time for administrative personnel supporting a County Medical Examiner's Office.
 - Hiring or contracting temporary staff to assist or conduct death investigations.
- eligible for funding, applicants must have submitted a full twelve months of accurate data to DPS for the most recent calendar year by the deadline(s) established by DPS. Due to the importance of timely reporting, applicants are required to submit complete and accurate UCR data, as well as the death investigations, temporary morgues, and/or additional body storage capacity. Texas-mandated reporting, on a no less than monthly basis and respond promptly to requests

4. Medical Examiner – Supplies and Direct Operating Expenses

- Costs for supplies and direct operating expenses related to conducting death investigations.
4. In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 420.034, any facility or entity that collects

5. Medical Examiner – Contractual

- Costs associated with the outsourcing of death investigations, temporary body storage, and other contractual costs incurred by a county medical examiner's office related to the humane processing of the remains of undocumented migrants.
- electronic tracking system developed and implemented by the Texas Department of Public Safety. Visit DPS's [Sexual Assault Evidence Tracking Program](#) website for more information or to set up an account to begin participating. Additionally, per Section 420.042 "A law enforcement agency that

Program-Specific Requirements

receives evidence of a sexual assault or other sex offense...shall submit that evidence to a public

1. Eligible applicants must agree to participate in the following activities after the date on which that evidence is received: (1) local planning and agency joint operations of information/intelligence of Sexual Assault Evidence Teams (SAET) After Action Reviews (AARs) established by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Joint Operations and Intelligence Centers (JOIC).

- Participate weekly on the JOIC Unified Command conference calls or meetings as required by the JOIC.
- Participate in the JOIC of government, including cities, counties and other general purpose political subdivisions, to report significant border-related events that occur during the 24-hour period enforcement agency, and must enhance its law enforcement procedures utilized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to (1) identify DHS facilities and locations of steady DHS related illegal aliens in Agency's custody; and (2) detain such illegal aliens in accordance with requirements of DHS. Additionally, related standards and municipal interests that have the opportunity to have force as for the operations subject to or bound by, any law, rule, policy, or practice (with conduct written) that interdict (1) require investigation, and the public disclosure of information enforcement jurisdiction or orders-judicial, habeas, or required from detection fugitives from justice and (2) State the United States, pro (2) to make federal officers from exercising authority under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), § 1226(b), § 1231(a), § 1357(a), § 1366(1), or § 1366(3). Lastly, eligible applicants must comply with all provisions, policies, and penalties found in Chapter 752, Subchapter C of the Texas Government Code.

2. Eligible applicants must agree to submit information on incidents using the Border Incident Assessment Report (BIAR)

6. Each local unit of government, and institution of higher education that operates a law enforcement agency, must download, complete and then upload into eGrants the [CEO/Law Enforcement Certifications and Assurances Form](#) certifying compliance with federal and state immigration enforcement requirements. This Form is required for each application submitted to OOG and is active until August 31, 2025 or the end of the grant period, whichever is later. The local agency chooses to increase the hours of patrol or the number of investigative bodies.

Steady State activities are defined as normal patrol or investigative duties that do not use grant funds, but directly impact the overall LBSP mission, such as 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.

7. Failure to comply with program eligibility requirements may cause funds to be withheld and/or suspension or termination of grant funds. 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.

3. 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:
 - Clearly describe how overtime will be calculated;

Prohibitions

Be consistent with the agency's local overtime policy;

○ Treat overtime for grant-paid personnel the same as non-grant paid personnel.
 Grant funds may **not** be used to support the unallowable costs listed in the **Guide to Grants** or Project Overtime (OT) shall be reimbursed following the grantee's overtime policy and any of the following unallowable 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. Vehicles or equipment for government agencies that are for general agency use;
6. Aircraft (fixed-wing & rotary-wing);
7. Weapons, ammunition, tasers, or explosives;
8. Admission fees or tickets to any amusement park, recreational activity or sporting event;
9. Promotional gifts;
10. Food, meals, beverages, or other refreshments, except for eligible per diem associated with grant-related travel;
11. Membership dues for individuals;
12. Any expense or service that is readily available at no cost to the grant project;
13. Any use of grant funds to replace (supplant) funds that have been budgeted for the same purpose through non-grant sources;
14. Fundraising;
15. Construction;
16. Medical services;
17. Legal services for adult offenders; and
18. Any other prohibition imposed by federal, state, or local law.

Selection Process

Application Screening: The Office of the Governor will screen all applications to ensure that they meet the requirements included in the funding announcement.

Peer/Merit Review: Applications will be reviewed by PSO staff in consultation with DPS Regional JOIC representatives. Funding decisions will be based on eligibility and operational content, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Compliance – Past compliance with grant requirements, reporting, and information sharing.
- 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.
- Risk – The Applicant's need as indicated by data available on border-related criminal activity, population, number of officers, and other factors.

- 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 or Operation Lone Star).

Final Decisions: The Executive Director will consider rankings along with other factors and make all final funding decisions. Other factors may include cost effectiveness, overall funds availability, or state government priorities and strategies.

The Office of the Governor may not fund all applications or may only award part of the amount requested. In the event that funding requests exceed available funds, the Office of the Governor may revise projects to address a more limited focus.

Contact Information

For more information, contact the eGrants help desk at eGrants@gov.texas.gov or (512) 463-1919.

Total Funds
\$TBD