



Juvenile Justice Support Requests

Criteria and Process for Submitting Requests for Support to the Juvenile Justice Strategy Group

Overview

The Foundation's Juvenile Justice Strategy Group (JJSG) recognizes that juvenile justice systems and state and local jurisdictions all over the country are pursuing policy, practice and programmatic changes that aim to advance the well-being of young people. It strives to support that work by:

- providing resources and guidance from experts and peers on JusticeLink and the [Youth Justice Resource Library](#);
- providing technical assistance where other resources or peer-to-peer support are not readily available;
- investing in innovative ideas and initiatives with strong potential to achieve desired outcomes; and
- expanding learning opportunities through attendance at conferences, visits to other sites and learning labs, etc.

In the interest of streamlining decision making; promoting consistency and transparency; and acknowledging Casey's priorities, the Juvenile Justice Strategy Group offers the following process and selection criteria for sites to request support and resources for new and ongoing work.

What kinds of support can be requested through this process?

This process should be used to seek support and/or funding for any of the categories below. Applicants must identify which of the following categories best capture(s) the support they are requesting.

Please explore JusticeLink and the Youth Justice Resource Library before submitting a support request.

The JusticeLink community and the [resource library](#) contain a wealth of resources and guidance from experts and peers in other sites or organizations and should be the first place you turn for support around ideas and

initiatives. If you need help finding relevant resources and technical advice, please contact the JusticeLink community manager (@Bryan Taylor), he will respond to you directly to help point you in the right direction.

- **Targeted Assistance or Expertise:** Sites may request support for technical assistance, outside expertise or training that they are not able to satisfy using existing resources. Support would be in the form of technical assistance, not direct financial resources.
- **Innovative Practices:** Sites may request support for planning activities and/or one-time implementation costs associated with a larger effort to launch an initiative involving innovative practices. Innovative practice is defined here as new work that advances JJSG’s vision and priorities and has the capacity to achieve significant outcomes for youth, families and communities. Innovative ideas may fall along the continuum of one of the key stages listed below:
 - **Idea:** A site or jurisdiction has a new idea it wants to develop and/or launch that is not currently in practice.
 - **Replication:** A site wants to implement an innovative idea that is already in practice elsewhere.
 - **Expansion:** A site wants to expand or scale up its existing innovative practice.

Sites may request support associated with innovative work that falls anywhere along this continuum, but the key consideration is how the proposed work either adds to or builds upon the existing knowledge of best practices in youth justice. The support request should focus on specific activities or non-recurring costs that subsidize the broader initiative, rather than fully fund it. Types of requests under innovation include planning; community mapping; community, youth and family engagement and outreach; consultants; programmatic start-up costs; or one-time implementation costs, but not ongoing program operations.

- **Support for New Learning:** Sites may request support to enhance existing knowledge for themselves; their system stakeholders and community partners; or peers in other sites. Examples include: requests to visit another site or program to learn more about what they are doing; requests to host another site or organization to share new learning; requests to provide training at a site; requests to attend training elsewhere; or requests to attend a conference.
- **Support for State-Level or Regional Convenings:** Sites may request support to supplement their own efforts to convene juvenile justice stakeholders at the state or regional level to scale reform strategies, provide training, etc.

What are the basic criteria for support?

All requests must describe how the financial support would contribute to the following criteria:

- **Vision-Aligned:** Describe how the support will help the site to:
 - advance equity and inclusion;
 - engage youth, family and community partners in reform efforts; and
 - improve the well-being of youth involved in the justice system.
- **Data-Informed:** Provide data that demonstrates the need for additional support.

- **Results-Oriented:** Describe the site's desired outcomes and how the support will accelerate tangible, measurable results. Sites should provide details on the performance measures they will track.
 - **Advance the Field:** Articulate how the applicant will "pay it forward" within the JusticeLink Slack community. The hope is that learning in one site will benefit numerous sites and the field as a whole.
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What are the other elements of a strong application?

Strong applications are complete, bold and clear. Applicants – including sites, community-based organizations, and collaboratives – should demonstrate what other support options they have pursued before making a request. Preference will be given to those that are able to make financial contributions or leverage other resources to support their efforts.

What information will applicants have to provide?

The application questions are specific to the type of request, but all requests need to include:

- a description of the support need(s);
 - state or local data that quantifies the issue;
 - the desired results to be achieved within a specified timeframe with related performance measures; past efforts to achieve the desired result(s);
 - stakeholders involved;
 - a description of the level and nature of the financial and/or in-kind resources the state, local or site leadership agency(s) or collaborative will be able to contribute; and
 - strategies to engage youth, families and/or communities in defining or in addressing the issue.
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Who should submit a support request?

A recognized representative, such as the JDAI Coordinator, a system leader, or a representative of a community-based organization or collaborative, should submit the request. The application asks details regarding the specific need for support (e.g. descriptions of the level and nature of support from the state, local or site leadership to address the issue, results expected from the Casey investment, etc.) and it is key that the person submitting the application is able to provide the necessary information and has the backing of their site, agency, or community leadership.

What does the support request process entail?

Once a site or community-based organization has determined that its need meets the criteria, the site or organization should submit an application online. The applicant will receive an acknowledgement within three business days. A Casey representative will keep the site or organization representative informed. [Find the online form here.](#)

How much can an applicant request?

The majority of financial support requests granted will be in the \$5,000-\$50,000 range, although proposals outside of that range may be considered.

When are applications due?

There is no due date for applications, as we are using a rolling review process, and applications will be reviewed monthly. However, please note that the amount allocated by the Foundation is finite and once the funds earmarked for the calendar year are exhausted, no additional requests will be accommodated until the following year. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible. Applications will be accepted through September and applications received after September 30 will be considered for funding early in the following calendar year.

How quickly will applicants hear if their request is granted?

Decision timelines may take up to 45 days and will vary depending on the category of the funding request.
