The FY 2018 BJA Adult Drug Court Grant: Funding Opportunity for Tribes

Tribal Law and Policy Institute
www.Home.TLPI.org
www.WellnessCourts.org
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BJA Adult Drug Court Grant Overview

Grant Components

• Noteworthy Considerations
• Abstract
• Problem Statement
• Program Design
• Capabilities and Competencies
• Data and Performance Measures

Grant Writing Tips
Finding the BJA Drug Court RFP

BJA.gov

WellnessCourts.org
BJA Adult Drug Court Grant

• Implementation
• Enhancement

Purpose – Develop drug courts that effectively integrate
  – evidenced-based substance abuse treatment,
  – mandatory drug testing,
  – sanctions and incentives, and
  – transitional services
  – in a judicially supervised court setting
  – with jurisdiction over offenders

to reduce recidivism and substance abuse and prevent overdoses.

Due: June 5, 2018
What is a Drug Court?

Court program, managed by a multidisciplinary team that responds to the offenses and treatment needs of participants who are diagnosed with substance abuse.

Explicit exclusion against

- Violent drug offenders who sold drugs for profit
- Those who have committed acts of violence against law enforcement officers
Effective Drug Courts

- Referral based on validated risk and need assessment
- Early, continuous, and intense treatment
- Close judicial supervision and involvement
- Mandatory and random drug testing
- Community supervision
- Appropriate incentives and sanctions
- Community reintegration and recovery support services/continuing care
Amount and Length of Awards

• Implementation grant maximum of $500,000 for 48 months

• Enhancement grant maximum of $500,000 for 48 months operational at least one year

• Expect up to 96 awards (more than double of last year)
Tribal Awards

- **Tribal Grants:** In recent years, BJA has funded a small number of tribes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Number of Tribal Awards</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2012</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2013</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2014</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>FY 2015</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2016</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2017</td>
<td>1</td>
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• nadcp.org/standards
• Implementation:
  – Must show ready to implement key components and principles embodied in the NADCP Drug Court Standards

• Enhancement:
  – Describe how NADCP Drug Court Standards will be incorporated
  – Specify which Standards is/are addressed (Priority Consideration)
NADCP Drug Court Standards

Volume I

• Target Population
• Historically Disadvantaged Groups
• Roles and Responsibilities of the Judge
• Incentives, Sanctions, and Therapeutic Adjustments
• Substance Abuse Treatment

Volume II

• Complementary Treatment and Social Services
• Drug and Alcohol Testing
• Multidisciplinary Team
• Census and Caseload
• Monitoring and Evaluation
Webinar: Tribal 10 Key Components and Drug Court Standards

February 3, 2017

www.wellnesscourts.org/webinars.cfm
Key Drug Court Team members

- Judge
- Prosecutor
- Defense Attorney
- Treatment Provider
- Researcher/Evaluator/Management Information Specialist
- Community Supervision Representative
- Drug Court Coordinator

Page 42 (Under Enhancement Capabilities and Competencies section)
IMPLEMENTATION AND ENHANCEMENT
Implementation

• Already substantially planned; ready to implement
• Can use funding for:
  – Court operations and services
  – Participant supervision, management, and services
  – Recovery support services, including
    • Education
    • Civil Legal Assistance
    • Job training and placement
    • Housing placement assistance
    • Primary and behavioral health care
    • Childcare
    • Other support services
• Fully operational (at least 1 year) adult drug court.
• Must establish that Key Components/Standards are implemented
• Can use funding to:
  – **Scale up** capacity
  – Enhance court operations
    • E.g. Training programs, Evaluations, Performance management system implementation, and Automated management information system implementation
  – Expand case management
    • E.g. Drug testing, Case management, and Community supervision
  – Expand services based on needs assessments
    • E.g. Enhance treatment services, Health care coverage, Education, Vocational training, Housing, and Family support
• Must have criminal justice focus
All Applicants

• Must show that eligible candidates promptly enter the drug court
  – No initial period of incarceration

• Must show proposed program will include treatment and services
to address opioid abuse reduction

• Must show no one is denied because of MAT
25% Match Requirement

– E.g: 25% of $400,000 budget = $133,333 match
For a total budget of $533,333

• Can be cash, in-kind services, or a combination.
• There is NO specific amount of cash that must be provided.
• Match is restricted to the same uses of funds as allowed by federal funds.
• DO NOT overmatch the 25%; you are obligated to provide the amount that you state in your application.
Medically-Assisted Treatment

• Cannot deny any participant b/c they use Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)

• MAT program must meet certain conditions:
  – The client is receiving those medications as part of treatment for a **diagnosed** substance use disorder
  – A licensed clinician **has examined the client** and determined that medication is appropriate
  – The medication was appropriately authorized through prescription by a **licensed prescriber**

• MAT must be permitted to be continued for as long as the prescriber determines it’s clinically beneficial.
Violent Offender Prohibition

• May not use grant funding to serve violent offenders, as defined by 34 U.S.C. § 10613.
  – *Note*: Consider tribal court jurisdiction.
  – Consider CTAS Purpose Area 3

• Exception: Veterans Treatment Courts
THE APPLICATION COMPONENTS
BJA Drug Court Application

1. Project Abstract – 1 page (800 words)

2. Program Narrative – 20 pages

3. Time/Task Plan – outline goals and objectives

4. Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative
   - Sample Budget Detail Worksheet: https://ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/BudgetDetailWorksheet.pdf
Project Abstract

• 800 words
• Describe Court:
  – Implementation or Enhancement
  – Pre- or Post-adjudication
• Current maximum participant capacity and potential increase in capacity
• Total # expected participants to receive services over life of the grant (describe admission protocol)
• Target population, and how population mirrors arrestee population (including risk/need and MAT)
• Note which NADCP Standards will be addressed (with page numbers)
• Data collection mechanism (including in- and post-program)
• Prior Drug Court grant or Drug Court Planning Initiative training?
• Template: https://ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/ProjectAbstractTemplate.pdf
Program Narrative

1. **Statement of the Problem** (20% Implementation ~ 25% Enhancement)

2. **Project Design and Implementation** (40% I & E)

3. **Capabilities and Competencies** (20% I & E)

4. **Data Collection for Performance Measures** (15% I ~ 10% E)

5. **Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative** (5%)
Statement of the Problem: Implementation

• Nature and scope of the substance abuse problem (stats)
• Problems with current response
• Target Population
• Capacity Goal
Statement of the Problem: Enhancement: Describe Current Operations

• Referral, screening, and assessment process
  • Eligibility requirements
  • Target population
  • Current capacity
  • Length and phases of program
  • Case management process
  • Community supervision

• Recovery support services
  • Judicial supervision
  • Process for random drug testing
  • Incentives and sanctions
  • Graduation requirements
  • Restitution costs and fees
Statement of the Problem: Enhancement

• In addition to describing court, include:
  – How court will target high risk/high need
  – Identify treatment
  – How interventions were selected (evidence-based?)

• Describe immediate issues the grant seeks to address
Project Design

• Must demonstrate **prompt entrance** into the drug court program.
  – No initial periods of incarceration (unless statutorily mandated)

• No fees that would prevent graduation
• Must permit access to MAT
• Describe commitment to provide for opioid and/or other substance abuse
Project Design: Implementation: Describe the Drug Court

- Screening, and assessment process
- Eligibility requirements
- Pre- or Post-Plea
- Length and phases of program
- Case management process
- Community supervision
- Evidence-based Treatment

- Recovery support services
- Judicial supervision
- Process for random drug testing
- Incentives and sanctions (relapse is a part of recovery)
- Graduation requirements
- Restitution costs and fees
Project Design: Implementation: Describe:

- What NADCP Standards will be implemented
- How will treatment providers be selected/monitored
- Range of treatment to be used
- High risk/high need assessment tool
- How will the court be “early intervention”
- Community engagement
- How will treatment be funded
- Continued care strategy* (found in Data/Evaluation section)
Project Design: Enhancement

Describe:

• Proposed *criminal justice* enhancements
• What, if any, Drug Court Standards will be implemented
• High risk/high need assessment tool
• Target capacity #
• Also describe:
  – Drug testing process
  – Frequency of judicial status hearings
  – Perception of procedural fairness
  – Evidence-base for treatment interventions
  – If applicable, recovery support services
  – Continued care strategy* (found in Data/Evaluation section)
NADCP Standards

• Target Population
• Historically Disadvantaged Groups
• Roles and Responsibilities of the Judge
• Incentives, Sanctions, and Therapeutic Adjustments
• Substance Abuse Treatment

• Complementary Treatment and Social Services
• Drug and Alcohol Testing
• Multidisciplinary Team
• Census and Caseloads
• Monitoring and Evaluation
NADCP Standards – Some Thoughts

- Validated eligibility assessments
- Peer support groups
- Sequence and timing of complementary services
- Trauma-informed services
- Evidence-based treatments
- Drug testing at least twice a week
- Data management system
- Clinician case loads
Capabilities and Competencies: Implementation

• BJA Drug Court Planning Initiative?
• Identify each team member and their role
  – Attach MOU
  – Note if law enforcement and probation
• Describe communication and coordination strategies
• Describe treatment
Capabilities and Competencies: Enhancement

- Identify each drug court team member who will have a role in the proposed enhancement
- Identify other critical personnel
- Proposed treatment partners
- MOU signed by each team member
Data Collection

• Ability to collect and analyze client-level data:
  – Demographic
  – Performance
  – Outcome
• Ability to conduct regular program assessments
• Implementation:
  – Steps to develop performance management and evaluation plan
  – Quarterly review of participants served vs. projected number
  – Sustainability plan
Data Collection

• Enhancement
  – How court performance of court operations will be evaluated
  – Quarterly review of participants served vs. projected number
  – Sustainability Plan
Performance Measures

• Awardees required to submit quarterly reports at https://bjapmt.ojp.gov/

• Performance Measure Tools:
GENERAL AWARD INFORMATION

1. Was there grant activity in the reporting period? Grant activity is defined as any proposed activity in the BJA-approved grant application that is implemented or executed with BJA program funds.
   A. Yes  
   B. No (Please explain below)

   ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________

2. Which one of the following type of areas best describes where your Drug Court program is located? (Please select only one area type)
   A. Urban (a large city with 50,000 or more people) _____
   B. Suburban (territory outside of a large city with a population of 2,500 to 50,000 people or more) _____
   C. Rural (territory that encompasses all people and housing not included within a suburban, urban, or tribal area) _____
   D. Tribal (territory that contains a concentration of people who identify with a federally recognized American Indian tribe) _____

3. What is the expected number of participants the Drug Court program plans to serve with BJA program funds over the life of this award? The value should correspond to what was reported in the grant application.
   A. Enter the expected number of participants __________________________

4. Is this the last time the grantee is reporting in the PMT before closing out this award? If “yes,” the grantee must complete the Court and Criminal Involvement section. This question will appear and go into effect starting with the January to March 2013 reporting period.
   A. Yes  
   B. No _____
Performance Measure Tool Categories

• General Award Information
• Program Characteristics
• Program-Level Measures
  – Amount of Services Added
  – Amount of Services Delivered

• Participant Level Measures
  – Screening and Program Intake
  – Risk Assessment
  – Number of Drug Court Participants Receiving Services
  – Program Completion and Judicial Interaction
  – Alcohol and Substance Involvement

• Court and Criminal Involvement
• Narrative Questions
Other Attachments

• Time Task Plan
  – Outline Goals and Objectives
  – Summarize major activities, responsible agencies, and expected completion dates
  – MUST include the expected number of participants to be served each quarter
  – Performance Measurement
Other Attachments Cont.

- MOU signed by all team members
  - Judge, Prosecutor, Defense Counselor, Treatment Provider, Data Specialist, Community Supervision, Coordinator
- Policies and Procedures Manual (Enhancement)
- Tribal Authorizing Resolution
- Disclosure of Pending Applications (for same program)
### BJA Adult Drug Court RFPs PROs and CONs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pros</th>
<th>Cons</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Drug court specific RFP/funding source</td>
<td>• Not tribal specific RFP</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Specific reference to Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts</td>
<td>• Tribes have to compete with state drug courts</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Peer reviewers will have substantial drug court specific knowledge</td>
<td>• No guarantee that any Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts will be funded under these RFPs</td>
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<tr>
<td>• In recent years, at least 2-3 tribes per year have received funding under the general BJA Adult Drug Court RFP</td>
<td>• Violent Offender Prohibition</td>
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<td>• More grant awards under general BJA Adult Drug Court RFP than under any other drug court specific RFP (such as OJJDP and SAHMSA RFPs)</td>
<td>• 25% match requirement</td>
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Additional Evidenced-Based Program Principles

• SAMHSA’s National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices, an online registry of mental health and substance abuse interventions: www.nrepp.samhsa.gov/LearnLanding.aspx
• NIJ’s Multi-site Adult Drug Court Evaluation: www.nij.gov/topics/courts/drug-courts/Pages/madce.aspx#results
Common Mistakes

• Not responding to all of the requested information
• Failed to draw connection between statement of the problem and the program design
• Not providing the requested information in relevant section where peer reviewers could easily locate it
• Failed to draw the connection between the proposed budget and the programmatic activities
• Inconsistencies within proposal – different writers by section
• Did not provide specific measurable targets for performance measures
TIPS

1. Check all of the resources linked in the RFP
2. Use scoring criteria as a general guide for how many pages to devote to each section
3. Don’t wait until the deadline to apply
4. Go back and review the budget after completing the narrative.
5. Focus on attachments *(Time Task Plan!)*
6. PDF everything!
If unsuccessful

• Always ask Agency to provide comments
• Keep prior proposals and comments (*although different review panel each time*)
• Ask Agency what other services can be provided such as:
  • Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA)
  • Capacity Building
  • Scholarships for Conferences/Trainings
• Ask Agency for copies of successful applications
• Serve as peer reviewer
Other Funding Opportunities
Office of Justice Programs

- BJA Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-Based Program
  - Due June 7, 2018
  - Webinar: May 11, 2018; 11:00am PDT

- OJJDP Drug Treatment Courts
  - Juvenile and Family Drug Court funding
  - Due June 21, 2018
Family First Prevention Services Act

- Title IV-E Prevention Services
  - One-year prevention services for mental health/substance abuse and in-home parent skill-based programs for *candidates* for foster care.
  - Child does not have to eligible for Title IV-E foster care, adoption, or other eligibility requirements.

- Title IV-E foster care maintenance payments for children with parents in a licensed residential family-based treatment facility for substance abuse
  - Child must be eligible for IV-E foster care maintenance
  - Placement s specified in the child’s case plan
  - Treatment facility provides parenting skills training, parent education, and individual and family counseling
  - Facility’s organizational structure and framework are trauma-informed and include trauma-specific interventions
Wellness Court Trainings

- Tribal Track at 2018 NADCP Conference
  - May 30 – June 2, 2018 ~ Houston, TX
    nadcpconference.org

- Healing to Wellness Court Enhancement Training
  - August 28-30, 208 ~ Albuquerque, NM
    EnhancementTraining.org

- California Collaborative Courts Conference
  - September 12-14, 2018 ~ Sacramento, CA

- Montana Statewide Drug Court Conference
  - October 22-24, 2018

Find events and past materials at: WellnessCourts.org
Wellness Court Publications
WellnessCourts.org

- The Tribal 10 Key Components
- Publication Series
- Webinar Series
- Tribal-Specific Research
- Federal Funding Announcements
- Listing of all Healing to Wellness Courts
- Subject-Matter specific Wellness Court Resources
The Tribal Law and Policy Institute

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QUESTIONS?