

Youth Reinvestment Grant Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Youth Reinvestment Grant (YRG)?

The Youth Reinvestment Grant program was established in the 2018 Budget Act (Senate Bill 840, Chapter 29, Statutes of 2018) and the related trailer bill (Assembly Bill 1812, Chapter 36, Statutes of 2018). The Youth Reinvestment Grant program is aimed at diverting low-level offenders from initial contact with the juvenile justice system using approaches that are evidence-based, culturally relevant, trauma-informed, and developmentally appropriate. Applicants are California cities and counties. Applicants must designate a “lead public agency” to receive 10 percent of the funds and coordinate with local law enforcement agencies, social service agencies, and nonprofit organizations to implement the local grant program. Applicants must pass through the remaining 90 percent of awarded funds to community-based organizations to deliver diversion programs to minors.

Reference Welf. & Inst. Code, § 1450, subd. (a) and the 2018 Budget Act (Senate Bill 840, Chapter 29)

2. How much funding is allocated to the YRG program?

The 2018 Budget Act appropriated total funding of \$37,300,000 for the YRG program.

- 94%, or \$35,062,000, must be awarded to local jurisdictions through a competitive grant process for implementing evidence-based, trauma-informed, culturally relevant, and developmentally appropriate diversion programs in underserved communities with high rates of juvenile arrests and high rates of racial/ethnic disproportionality within those juvenile arrests.
- 3%, or \$1,119,000, must be awarded to Indian tribes for implementing diversion programs for Indian children using trauma-informed, community-based, and health-based interventions. This set aside has been released as a separate RFP and is referred to as the “**Tribal Youth Diversion Grant**.” If you have questions about the Tribal Youth Diversion Grant, please [click here](#).
- 3%, or \$1,119,000, is available to the BSCC for the administration of the grant program, including contracting for a statewide evaluation.

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Reference Welf. & Inst. Code, § 1450, subd. (b) and the 2018 Budget Act (Senate Bill 840, Chapter 29)

3. Who is eligible to apply for the YRG funds?

Local jurisdictions in California including a city, a county, or a city and county are eligible to apply for YRG funds. Applications from counties must be submitted by the Board of Supervisors or the Chief County Administrative Officer. Applications from cities must be submitted by the City Council or the Administrative Office of the City (i.e. City Manager).

Reference Welf. & Inst. Code, § 1454, subd. (a)

4. Can a CBO apply directly for the YRG?

CBOs are not eligible to apply directly for YRG funds; however, 90 percent of all YRG funds must be passed through to CBOs by the applicant city or county. CBOs will be responsible for delivering diversion services to minors under this grant.

Reference Welf. & Inst. Code, § 1454, subd. (b)(3)(B)

5. How do I apply for the YRG funds?

If you are a California city, county, or city and county interested in applying for funding, you may access the Request for Proposal (RFP) on the BSCC website at www.bscc.ca.gov. It is the applicant's responsibility to read the RFP, prepare a proposal that is responsive to the RFP, and submit a complete application package that clearly identifies the need as well as the proposed intervention. The application due date is March 29, 2019.

6. When applying for the YRG funds, how much can I request?

Applicants are encouraged to request only the amount of funds needed to support their proposal, however local jurisdictions have a minimum allowable amount of \$50,000 and a maximum allowable amount of \$1,000,000. It is important to note that the amount requested is for the entire 44-month grant cycle.

Reference Welf. & Inst. Code, § 1454, subdivision (b)(1)

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7. What is the match requirement for the YRG funds? Can the match be in-kind instead of cash?

The YRG generally has a 25 percent match requirement; however, applicants who have a high need combined with little or no existing diversion infrastructure may request a 10 percent match through the application process. Regardless of match amount, applicants may provide either cash or in-kind match.

Reference Welf. & Inst. Code, § 1454, subd. (b)(2)

8. Are there any requirements or limitations on who can be appointed as a Lead Public Agency?

Cities or counties applying for these funds can fulfil the role of Lead Public Agency themselves or they may appoint any department or agency within their jurisdiction. Although local jurisdictions are allowed to submit multiple applications, each application must present a unique proposal, including the identification of a different Lead Public Agency.

9. Who is considered a Community-Based Organization (CBO)?

For the purposes of this grant, a CBO is defined as a nongovernmental organization that provides services to a community consisting of individuals, groups or other organizations that constitute the local or community service population. In the context of the Youth Reinvestment Grant, a CBO is generally considered to be a non-government, non-law enforcement organization that provides services to youth and families that are at risk of involvement or already involved with the juvenile justice system. In the YRG Request for Proposals, CBOs are referred to as NGOs or Non-Governmental Organizations.

Reference Welf. & Inst. Code, § 1454, subd. (b)(3)(B)

10. Can an applicant partner with multiple CBOs? If so, how must the 90 percent pass through funding be applied?

Applicants, or their designated Lead Agencies, must pass through a minimum of 90 percent of their total grant award to one or more CBOs. Applicants have the discretion

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to determine which CBOs, and how many CBOs, will receive a portion of the 90 percent pass through.

Reference Welf. & Inst. Code, § 1454, subd. (b)(3)(B)

11. Does the CBO need to be identified in the application?

An applicant does not have to identify the CBO in their proposal. However, it is the applicant's responsibility to determine their need and goals and to lay out a clear plan for how to address the identified needs and meet the goals. Although the specific CBOs may not be identified in the application, the nature of the services to be provided should be clearly articulated.

12. How can applicants demonstrate that they experience high rates of juvenile arrests and racial or ethnic disparities?

It is the applicant's responsibility to explain the need in its jurisdiction and to include available data and supporting documentation to demonstrate that need. What data is available to any given jurisdiction and how that is presented in the proposal is entirely a local decision.

13. Who is eligible to be a direct service provider?

CBOs are eligible to receive the 90 percent pass through funding. Eligible CBOs must be non-governmental and non-law enforcement/probation to receive these funds as a service provider.

14. Does a service provider have to provide each of the following services: diversion, alternatives to arrest, educational services, mentoring services, behavioral health services, and mental health services?

It is not necessary for any one service provider to offer all of these services. However, the service provider must provide one or more of these services. It is the applicant's responsibility to assess the local need for services and determine what services to provide and how best to provide them.

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15. Can YRG funds be used to provide services to a youth regardless of the youth's immigration status?

Yes.