

MEETING DATE: February 11, 2021

AGENDA ITEM: H

TO: BSCC Chair and Members

FROM: Ricardo Goodridge, Deputy Director, ricardo.goodridge@bscc.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program (CESF)
Request for Applications Extension: **Requesting Approval**

Summary

This agenda item requests Board approval to extend the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) program application due date to March 12, 2021 to allow eligible counties additional time to apply for funding.

Background

The CESF program is administered by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). CESF provides federal funding to states, local governments, and tribes to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus. CESF uses include, but are not limited to, overtime, equipment (including law enforcement and medical personal protective equipment), hiring, supplies (such as gloves, masks, sanitizer), training, travel expenses (particularly related to the distribution of resources to the most impacted areas), and addressing the medical needs of inmates in state, local, and tribal prisons, jails, and detention centers.

CESF Application Process

At the September 2020 meeting, the Board authorized staff to develop a Request for Applications (RFA) totaling \$41,763,011. Key RFA components include:

- Eligible applicants are California Counties.
- Funds awarded under the CESF Program must be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus with a focus on meeting CESF re-entry related needs.
- Counties must pass-through at least 20 percent of the CESF award to nongovernmental community-based organization(s) impacted by coronavirus and providing services in the county.
- Counties are required to establish a CESF Local Advisory Committee that at a minimum includes representatives from non-governmental community-based organizations, Tribes, and cities within the county that are impacted by the proposal.
- Successful applicants will be funded from March 31, 2021 to January 31, 2022.

The BSCC released a non-competitive, formula-based RFA on November 20, 2020 (Attachment H-1). The RFA was open to California Counties and 24 applications were received by the February 1, 2021 proposal due date. Thirty-three counties did not respond to the RFA (Attachment H-2). (Lassen County was not eligible to receive funding because of funds that were already made available to the county through a local BJA allocation.)

As with prior funding opportunities, information about the grant program was shared through the BSCC's electronic listserv and through county partners. It is unclear why a larger number of counties did not apply for funding. To allow interested applicants additional time to apply for funding, the CESF proposal due date would be extended 30-days to March 12, 2021. If significant funds remain after this date, staff will bring a funding recommendation to the April 9, 2021 Board Meeting for further allocation.

Recommendation/Action Needed

Staff recommends that the Board extend the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) program application due date to March 12, 2021 to allow eligible counties additional time to apply for funding.

Attachments

H-1: CESF Request for Applications

H-2: CESF Eligible Counties with Missing Applications