

Abstract : Violent Crime Intervention Fund

The purpose of the Violent Crime Intervention Fund (VCIF) grant program is to provide support to local law enforcement in developing and implementing proven public safety strategies to combat violent crime.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to work with the [University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service](#) to access training and technical assistance in crafting their VCIF grant project designs, submitting their applications, planning and implementing grant activities, and evaluating the impact of their programs.

Program Description

The state has made VCIF grant funding available for two project types: **Formula Based Grants** and **Competitive Collaborative Enhancement Grants**. **Each project type has its own specific Scope template. Please be sure your agency is using the correct Scope template for the project type you are applying.**

Formula Based Grants:

Each law enforcement applicant should refer to the funding formula plan to determine their overall budget for three years of programming to address the violent crime in their respective communities. The funding amount is based on the agency's reported crime rate.¹ Grant funding can support one or more of the following activities to address the agency's violent crime needs:

- Implementation of programming based on proven effective violent crime intervention models
- Hiring and training of specialized violent crime investigative units
- Purchase and application of new technology and equipment
- Law enforcement led partnerships with community organizations of their choice to directly disrupt or prevent violent crime

Competitive Collaborative Enhancement Grants:

Competitive Collaborative Enhancement funds may also be applied for on a first come, first served basis. The state has allocated a maximum liability per contract not to exceed \$2,000,000 for agencies applying for enhancement funds to address regionally specific needs to combat violent crime through a **collaborative, regional/multijurisdictional approach that includes sharing of intelligence and resources to effectively respond to the violent crime problem**. These projects should undertake evidence-based strategies that enhance community relationships, promote public safety, and hold violent offenders accountable.

¹ OCJP used the average of the past three years of TIBRS violent crime data as a point estimate for the total number of violent crimes per local law enforcement agency. See Solicitation for more information.

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Program Goals, Objectives, and Activities

Goals reflect what the program/strategy is trying to accomplish. Your scope can have one or multiple goals, depending on your project design. Goals can be stated broadly. Below are examples to choose from, and you may also create your own.

For **Competitive Collaborative Enhancement Funding scope**, please choose a Goal that applies to the region represented/served by your collaborative partnership.

- Improve communication with neighboring police departments
- Prevent juvenile violent crime [in X jurisdiction/neighborhood/community]
- Initiate more [crime type] investigations
- Improve trust and cooperation among law enforcement and [X community/region/neighborhood, etc.]
- Improve safety for citizens [in X community/region/jurisdiction]
- Improve forensic investigation capabilities for [crime type/region]
- Enhance identification of suspects and repeat offenders of violent crime
- Improve safety in [community/neighborhood/region]
- Improve ability to prosecute violent offenders [in X jurisdiction/community/region]
- Improve digital evidence processing for [crime type/region]

Objectives are strategies that describe the results to be achieved and help monitor progress toward program goals. You can have multiple Objectives for one Goal.

As with the Goals, for **Competitive Collaborative Enhancement Funding scope**, please choose Objectives that apply to the region represented/served by your collaborative partnership.

- Upgrade communications equipment for [for X unit/regional partners]
- Partner with [X community-based or local govt agency] to prevent/investigate/prosecute juvenile violent crime.
- Purchase ballistic equipment (shields,) [for X unit/ regional partners']
- Purchase forensic equipment and technology, hire forensic investigators, pay for training for officers on forensic investigation practices [for X unit/regional partners]
- Purchase/upgrade data analytics equipment and technology, hire and train analyst staff [for X unit/ regional partners]
- Training, equipment for documenting violent crimes for prosecution
- Purchase/upgrade digital evidence forensic equipment, hire and train staff in digital evidence collection and analysis
- Conduct outreach activities [in X community/neighborhood]
- Partner with [X community-based agency] to assess safety needs
- Conduct assessment of [X location/hotspot/neighborhood] for place-based interventions

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Activities are the specific way your agency (and collaborative partners in Enhancement projects) plans to achieve the Goals and Objectives. This is the work that will result in your program's Outputs. Examples of Activities will include conducting specific types of investigations, conducting X number of trainings for agents and staff, conducting X number of community prevention and public education programs, attending X coordination meetings, sharing intelligence in X way, and coordinating X type of investigations with prosecution.

Outputs: The output section of the scope should account for the activities identified. Examples could include the following:

- # Equipment purchased
- # Staff hired
- # New investigations as a result of this funding
- # Felony and misdemeanor arrests as a result of this funding
- # Identified/prioritized hotspots as a result of this funding
- # Trainings attended
- # Trainings provided
- # Community engagement activities