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**COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT
AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

FY 2026 Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Enhancement (EB) Request for Application (RFA) Announcement

Pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute §43-2404.02(3)(e), the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (Nebraska Crime Commission) is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications from eligible counties and tribes in Nebraska.

PROJECT PERIOD

July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

DEADLINE

January 9, 2025, by 5:00 p.m. (CST)

CONTACT INFORMATION

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, contact:

Erin Wasserburger, Division Section Director | 402.471.3450 | Erin.Wasserburger@nebraska.gov
Jessica Svoboda, Grant Administrator | 402.910.7815 | Jessica.Svoboda@nebraska.gov
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In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Nebraska will provide reasonable accommodation with respect to a grant application to persons with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact the Nebraska Crime Commission at 402.471.2194 (TTY 1.800.833.7352)

Release Date: November 14, 2024

OVERVIEW

Pursuant to NRS §43-2404.02, the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program (CBA) shall be apportioned as aid in accordance with a formula based on the total number of residents per county and federally recognized or state-recognized Indian tribe who are twelve years of age through eighteen years of age and other relevant factors as determined by the Commission. Funds not awarded through the CBA Request for Application (CBA RFA) will be distributed as the Enhancement (EB) grant.

Enhancement funding is distributed on a competitive basis to eligible counties and tribes with a demonstrated need in the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid funding areas. This announcement is an extension of the FY2026 CBA RFA released October 29, 2024. Please refer to the [CBA RFA](#) for detailed funding purpose, funding limitations, funding requirements, and application instructions. All CBA requirements and restrictions apply. **Applicants must be able to demonstrate additional need in the funding areas.**

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants are limited to individual counties, multiple counties, federal or state recognized Indian tribes, or any combination of the entities listed. These listed entities are herein referred to as communities. If two or more communities' partner on a single application, there must be one community designated as the Lead County/Lead Tribe to receive and disburse grant funds. Counties and tribes may contract and sub-award to private or non-profit agencies to administer programs and services with Community-based Juvenile Services Aid funds. The Lead County/Lead Tribe is responsible for all funds and must adhere to all requirements and contingences as outlined by the Nebraska Crime Commission.

To be eligible for funding, applicants are required to develop, adopt, and submit a comprehensive youth services plan (community plan) to the Nebraska Crime Commission. **Funding requests must directly align with the priorities identified in the community plan.**

PRIORITY

Priority in awarding EB funds will be given to those counties and tribes able to justify an additional need for funds in the funding areas, prioritizing direct services such as diversion, excessive absenteeism prevention and intervention, mental health services, and other services that will divert youth from the system. Additionally, EB requests that will make CBA funded staff salaries complete will be given a high priority. New programs will only be considered if the application justifies a need for the community, there is a sustainability plan in place, and if the community has demonstrated their ability to spend down previously allocated grant funds.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND FORMAT

Applications are due no later than **January 8, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.** (CST). Late applications will not be accepted.

All applications shall be submitted electronically **through the AmpliFund application portal**. All documents must be typed on the Word application template with unedited formatting. Save the Word document in PDF format (save as PDF). **Scanned copies will not be accepted**, other than signatures. Prior to submitting the application, have all documents from the Required Documents Checklist in Appendix E completed and ready. **All documents are required for a complete application and must be submitted at one time.**

AmpliFund application portal link:

<https://ne.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/e8d016bf-be03-4660-b02a-2cff055ad891>

For technical assistance with the AmpliFund application portal, please contact Nebraska AmpliFund Support at (844) 735-0239 or support@ne-amplifund.zendesk.com. Applicants may also access resources and chat with AmpliFund Support staff through the AmpliFund Customer Support Portal at <https://ne-amplifund.zendesk.com>.

The Crime Commission reserves the right to reject any or all applications, to waive informalities and minor irregularities in applications received, and to accept any portion of the application, or all items proposed, if deemed in the best interest of the State of Nebraska to do so. Failure of the applicant to provide information requested in this Announcement or the grant application may result in the disqualification of the applicant. The fact that an applicant meets eligibility requirements and applies for eligible services does not guarantee funding.

Acceptance of Application Content: The final contents of the approved application become contractual obligations of the grant award issued to a successful applicant.

FUNDING LIMITATIONS

Insurance Opt-Out Plans and Stipends

Only basic fringe benefits are considered allowable by the Crime Commission. This includes insurance benefits offered by the agency (health, life, professional liability, etc.), FICA, unemployment insurance, workers compensation, costs of leave, and pension/retirement. **Cafeteria or opt out plans, benefits, or incentives are not considered allowable expenses and will not be reimbursed.** This applies even if the agency has optional fringe benefits approved under Section 125 of the IRS Internal Regulations. **Stipends and other cash in lieu of benefits are not allowable.**

[Refer to the FY 2026 CBA RFA for additional funding limitations.](#)

GRANT REVIEW AND SCORING

The following criteria will be considered when awarding Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Enhancement funds: the amount of funds available; the priorities described in this solicitation; the county/tribe's ability to consistently spend down previous grant awards; county/tribe's ability to consistently meet financial and programmatic reporting requirements and deadlines; prior measurable performance/effectiveness of programs; data-based and/or evidence-informed merit of the proposal, and a commitment to sustainability plans and/or match funds, such as funding personnel fringe or partially funding the programs.

All eligible applications will be evaluated and scored on the completeness and clarity of the grant application, and if the budget request is necessary, reasonable, and allowable. **Do not assume the grant reviewers know this information; provide detailed answers within each application.**

The following is a list of criteria:

Attachments:

- Attached Community Plan
- MOUs (if applicable)
- Application Signed

Section 1: Applicant Information

- Applicant provides all information requested. Appropriate signatures are included. Financial officer cannot be the same person as project director.
- Whether the project or program is within the scope of the grant.
- The applicant's eligibility.
- History of deobligation

Section 2: Program Narratives: Program narratives should be complete enough to give the reviewer a clear picture of the who, what, when, where, and how in describing what the program is and who it is serving.

- Clearly describes an identified community need and makes a connection on how this proposed program will meet the need. (5 points)
- Clearly describes the proposed program and includes the proposed project's purpose and intended impact,

include the geographic area served, direct services provided, and a description of the target population to be served and the number of youths who will be served. (10 points)

- Clearly describes how the program will build on the strengths, abilities, and assets of the youth, and what promising practices will be used. (5 points)
- Clearly describes how the youth enter and leave the program. (2.5 points)
- An explanation of how this project's funding will continue after the grant funds cease is clearly presented. Any sources of definite future funding are identified. If future funding is uncertain, potential sources for funding are stated. If this project is not to continue after the grant, a clear explanation is given. Strategies to cultivate future funding sources are provided. (2.5 points)

Section 3: Budget: Budget narratives should accurately explain project costs that are reasonable, necessary, and otherwise allowable. The budget narrative should be mathematically sound and correspond clearly with the information and figures provided in the Budget tables. The narrative should explain how the applicant estimated and calculated all costs, and how those costs are necessary to the completion of the proposed project.

- Budget tables completed correctly and fully. (5 points)
- A narrative is provided which details, matches and justifies the amounts included in the budget form clearly. (10 points)
- Rates are reasonable and consistent with that paid for similar work in other state or local governments. If the position is funded partially by the grant the % of salary is identified. Other sources of funds are clearly identified which fund the proposed program. (5 points)
- Clear description the proposed expenditures set forth in the project budget are allowable, reasonable, and cost effective. (2.5 points)
- Detailed budget breakdowns are complete, clear description of how request is necessary to meet the goals and outcomes of the program. (2.5 points)

Total Points: 50