

**NEBRASKA**

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COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT  
AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE



**Jim Pillen, Governor**

# **County Justice Reinvestment Grant SFY 2025 CJR Grant Fund Request for Application**

## **Award Period**

**July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025**

## **Award Amount**

**\$480,000**

## **Deadline**

**May 3, 2024, at 5:00 PM CST**

## **Contact Information**

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## **Introduction:**

These instructions are for applicants who wish to apply for competitive funds under the County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program. Applicable to all counties within the State of Nebraska operating an adult detention facility requesting and receiving funds distributed by the Commission with the intent to offset jail costs as set out in Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-1426.01 Cumulative Supplement 2015.

## **001 Purpose**

To establish procedures governing the distribution and management of the County Justice Reinvestment Grant program funds by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice. Counties may apply for grants one year after August 30, 2015.

## **002 Scope:**

Applicable to all counties within the State of Nebraska operating an adult detention facility requesting and receiving funds distributed by the Commission with the intent to offset jail costs as set out in Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-1426.01 Cumulative Supplement 2015.

## **003 Reference:**

Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-1426.01

## **Definitions:**

The following terms and definitions will be utilized for purposes of this chapter:

- **004.01** Average Daily Jail Population means the total number of individual post-adjudicated inmates days divided by 365. The total number of inmate days is a cumulative total of all days served by individual inmates during the fiscal year.
- **004.02** Custodial Sanctions are sanctions imposed by the court as outlined in Neb. Rev. Stat. §29-2266, consisting of up to three days in jail or up to thirty days in jail, as imposed by the court.
- **004.03** post-adjudication inmates mean inmates being held in the county jail who are serving sentences or custodial sanctions.

- 004.04 Commission is the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.
- 004.05 County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program Funding Formula is an apportionment based on the specific jail's percentage of the entire state jail inmate population.

**Funds Available (estimated amount):**

The Nebraska Crime Commission (NCC) will award \$480,000 for this solicitation. Applicants are advised to continue to strategically plan for future program development and sustainability of programs independent of County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program funding to ensure the long-term success of their programs.

**Match:**

Please note that Match is **not** required for County Justice Reinvestment Grant program funds. However, it is encouraged for sustainability purposes. If Match is included in the successful application, the amount indicated will be required to be met regardless of the dollar amount of County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program funds utilized. Match will be reviewed and monitored at the same level as County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program funds. Subgrantees contracting with non-profit agencies or service providers cannot require the contracting agency to provide the required matching fund amount.

**Project Period:**

**July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025**

**Projects:**

- **Projects will be reviewed as competitive applications.**
- **Start date for the initial year can be no earlier than 7/1/2024.**

**Correspondence:**

All grant correspondence from NCC is sent to the applicant's identified Project Point of Contact (PPOC) and/or other applicant-designated individuals as deemed necessary. For this reason, it is imperative to verify the submission of current and correct email addresses and contact information for the Project Point of Contact (PPOC), Secondary Point of Contact (SPOC), Financial/Fiscal

Point of Contact (FPOC), and Authorized Official (AO). Any changes to contact information for the PPOC, FPOC, and/or AO must be communicated to the County Justice Reinvestment Grant program Director and/or Grant Administrator as soon as possible. Failure to provide valid contact information can result in unnecessary delays and ineffective communication.

**Funding Process Timeline (tentative):**

Subject to change, applicants will be notified of any changes. The listed times are Central Standard Time (CST).

March 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2024	Solicitation Announced
<b>May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024</b>	<b>Application DUE in AmpliFund by 5:00 p.m. CST</b>
May 16 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Staff Review conducted
June 14 <sup>th</sup> 2024	The Executive Director final review
June 24 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Letters mailed to applicants advising of funding determination
May 24 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Award Contingencies due to the Crime Commission
May 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2024,	Nebraska Crime Commission Meeting in case of appeals
May 17 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Grant Award documents mailed and due to NCC within 30 days.

**County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program Purpose:**

Funds provided to counties under the County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program shall be used exclusively to assist counties in the event that their average daily jail population increases after August 30, 2015. In distributing funds provided under the County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program, counties shall demonstrate to the commission that their average daily jail population increased, using data to pinpoint the contributing factors, as a result of the implementation of Laws 2015, LB605. The commission shall grant funds to counties which have an increase in population compared to the average daily jail population of the preceding three fiscal years. In calculating the average daily jail population, counties shall only include post-adjudication inmates who are serving sentences or inmates serving custodial sanctions due to probation violations. Counties may apply for grants one year after August 30, 2015

## **Funding Eligibility**

- 005.01 All counties with adult detention facilities may apply if they are eligible to receive funds as specified in this section.
- 005.02 Counties are eligible to receive funds when.
- 005.02(A) Counties show an increase in population indicated by submission of data.
- 005.02(B) The increase in average daily jail population is a direct result of changes specified in Neb. Rev. Stat. 81-1426.01, and
- 005.02(C) Counties show the prioritization of funds received from the grant program for specified programs to reduce jail inmate population.

## **Grant Requirements**

- 011.01 Jail Data Collection: it is the responsibility of each county jail to collect data to be submitted to the commission annually. Data must be used in order to identify the contributing factors that increase the average daily jail population. In calculating average daily jail population, counties shall only include post adjudication inmates.
- 011.02 Data reports submitted to the Commission must contain, but are not limited to, the prioritization of the use of funds, objectives sought for the grant, and estimated savings and reduction in jail inmates.
- 012 If any one section of this chapter or any part of any section shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions thereof.

## **Apportionment Formula:**

- 006.01 Once eligibility criteria have been met, the apportionment formula will be based on the following:
- 006.01(A) The county's percentage of inmate population relative to the total capacity of jails in the state of Nebraska. Each county will receive the percentage of grant dollars directly proportional to that county's percentage of jail inmates of the total jail inmate population in the state.

- 006.01(B) Each county must identify and submit to the Commission its average daily post adjudicated inmate population for the three previous fiscal years prior to the effective date of Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-1426.01.
- 006.01(C) If the county shows an increase in its average daily post-adjudicated inmate population over the three previous fiscal years as determined in 006.01(B), they are eligible for an award of funds from the County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program.

### **Restrictions on Use of Funds**

- No funds appropriated or distributed under the County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program shall be used for the construction of secure detention facilities, secure treatment facilities, secure confinement facilities, or county jails. Grants received under this section shall not be used for capital construction or the lease or acquisition of facilities. Any funds appropriated to the County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program to be distributed to counties under this section shall be retained by the commission to be distributed in the form of grants in the following fiscal year.

### **Standard Grant Application Instructions:**

- Only electronic submissions through the Amplifund Pre-award platform will be accepted. Documents must be uploaded as PDFs, Word, or Excel documents. This platform requires users to register. If you already have a profile in the system do not create a new one. If you are unsure reach out to the contact on these instructions.

### **Application Process:**

- 007.01 Notification of the availability of funds shall be announced by the Commission through a Request for Application. Such notification will include application requirements and instructions. Funding amount will be calculated by the County justice reinvestment grant program formula.
- 007.02 Applicants must submit an application for funds that demonstrate the applicant is eligible for County Justice Reinvestment Grants by identifying how funds will be used, the objective sought for the grant, the estimated savings and reduction in jail inmates, and how the applicant is prioritizing the use of the funds for programs, services, and approaches that reduce jail populations and costs.

- 007.03 Applications must be received by the Commission by the deadline specified in the request for application.

### **Review of Grant Application:**

- 008.01 All grant applications that were received by the appropriate deadline outlined in the Request for Application shall receive initial review by the Staff Review Team. Upon completion of the staff review, funding recommendations and summary comments will be sent to the Executive Director of the Commission.
- 008.01(A) In order to make a determination of eligibility for grant award, the staff review team will be looking for data that shows an increase in average daily jail population of post-adjudicated inmates, the county's prioritization of the use of funds for programs, services, and approaches that reduce jail populations, the objective sought for the grant, and the estimated savings and reduction in jail inmates.
- 008.01(B) In the event that there are questions arising from the application, the staff review team shall contact the applicant to request further information.
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- 008.02 The Executive Director will conduct a final review of the grant application to ensure that the applicant is eligible to receive funds. The Executive Director shall take the grant proposal and recommendations from staff review under advisement and make the final funding decision.
- 008.03 Upon issue of the final decision, the Executive Director or his or her designee will notify applicants within ten (10) working days of the final decision.

### **Acceptance of Funds:**

- 009.01 Applicants who are approved to receive aid from the Commission will be required to accept the grant award subject to the conditions outlined in this chapter and specified by the Commission.
- 009.02 Applicants who are required to meet contingencies articulated by the Commission will have thirty (30) days from the notification of application approval to satisfy the requirements. Exceptions to the thirty (30) day deadline may be allowed on an individual basis, approved by the Executive Director of the Commission.
- 009.03 After contingencies have been approved by the Executive Director of the Commission, the applicant will be notified within ten (10) working days of the approval.
- 009.04 Once all the steps have been taken to award and approve all grant applications, applicants who have been awarded funds will adhere to all reporting requirements as outlined in this chapter and in Neb. Rev. Stat. 81-1426.01 Cumulative Supplement 2015.



## **Request for Further Review**

- 010.01 Applicants may request further review of the reinvestment grant award by the Crime Commission. Review is limited to the following grounds: Partial denial of reinvestment award requested, or full denial of reinvestment award requested.
- 010.02 The basis for review shall be limited to one or more of the following grounds: The decision being reviewed was biased, arbitrary, or prejudiced against the applicant county, the decision being reviewed was reached without following procedures outlined in this chapter, or the decision being reviewed was reached without adherence to statutory requirements as specified in the County Justice Reinvestment Grant Program act, (81-1426.01).
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- 010.03 Notice of a request for review must be made in writing and submitted to the Executive Director within ten (10) working days of receipt of the denial of reinvestment award requested. Notice of a request for further review shall identify the basis of the request and will inform the Executive Director of the intent to file a full written request for further review.
- 010.04 A full written request for further review will detail the basis for the review and include an explanation of why the reinvestment grant application satisfies the requirements of this chapter. The full written request for further review will be submitted to the Crime Commission within (20) working days of the notice of request for further review.
- 010.05 The burden of demonstrating that the Executive Director's award decision should be reversed is on the party filing the request for further review. The burden of proof shall be by a preponderance of the evidence.
- 010.06 Should the applicant filing the request for further review fail to meet deadlines established in section 010 of this chapter, the request for further review will be considered waived or the reinvestment grant decision shall be final.

- 010.07 The hearing shall be conducted before the Commission at its next available quarterly meeting. The Commission will take into consideration the written request for further review of the appellant, all recommendations for funding made during the application review process and testimony from parties made during the further review hearing. The final request decision shall be determined by a majority vote of the Commission.
- 010.08 All decisions made by the Commission shall be final.

### **Reporting Requirements**

- 011.01 Jail Data Collection: it is the responsibility of each county jail to collect data to be submitted to the commission annually. Data must be used in order to identify the contributing factors that increase the average daily jail population. In calculating average daily jail population, counties shall only include post adjudication inmates.
- 11.02 Data reports submitted to the Commission must contain, but are not limited to, the prioritization of the use of funds, objectives sought for the grant, and estimated savings and reduction in jail inmates. Community Corrections Division Annual Report 2023-2024 | 7
- 012 If any one section of this chapter or any part of any section shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions thereof.

Bryan Tuma, Executive Direct

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