

[Print This Page](#)**Agency Name:** Lubbock County**Grant/App:** 5813201 **Start Date:** 10/1/2026 **End Date:** 9/30/2027**Project Title:** Mediation Services for Juvenile Diversion**Status:** Application Pending Submission

Narrative Information

Introduction

The purpose of this funding is to support projects that prevent violence in and around schools; and to improve the juvenile justice system and develop effective education, training, prevention, diversion, treatment, and rehabilitation programs.

Certifications

In addition to the requirements found in existing statute, regulation, and the funding announcement, this program requires applicant organizations to certify compliance with the following:

Constitutional Compliance

Applicant assures that it will not engage in any activity that violates Constitutional law including profiling based upon race.

Information Systems

Applicant assures that any new criminal justice information systems will comply with data sharing standards for the Global Justice XML Data Model and the National Information Exchange Model.

Program Income

Applicant agrees to comply with all federal and state rules and regulations for program income and agrees to report all program income that is generated as a result of the project's activities. Applicant agrees to report program income through a formal grant adjustment and to secure PSO approval prior to use of the program income. Applicant agrees to use program income for allowable costs and agrees to expend program income immediately after PSO's approval of a grant adjustment and prior to requesting reimbursement of funds.

Deduction Method - Program income shall be deducted from total allowable costs to determine the net allowable costs. Program income shall be used for current costs unless PSO authorizes otherwise. Program income which the grantee did not anticipate at the time of the award shall be used to reduce the PSO award and grantee match rather than to increase the funds committed to the project.

Asset Seizures and Forfeitures - Program income from asset seizures and forfeitures is considered earned when the property has been adjudicated to the benefit of the plaintiff (e.g., law enforcement entity).

Twelve-Step Programs

Grant funds may not be used to support or directly fund programs such as the Twelve Step Program which courts have ruled are inherently religious. OOG grant funds cannot be used to support these programs, conduct meetings, or purchase related materials.

Resolution from Governing Body

Applications from nonprofit corporations, local units of governments, and other political subdivisions must submit a fully executed resolution with the application to be considered eligible for funding. The resolution must contain the following elements (see [Sample Resolution](#)):

- Authorization by your governing body for the submission of the application to the Public Safety Office (PSO) that clearly identifies the name of the project for which funding is requested;
- A commitment to provide all applicable matching funds;
- A designation of the name and/or title of an authorized official who is given the authority to apply for, accept, reject, alter, or terminate a grant;
- A designation of the name and/or title of a financial officer who is given the authority to submit financial and/or performance reports or alter a grant; and
- A written assurance that, in the event of loss or misuse of grant funds, the governing body will return all funds to PSO.

Cybersecurity Training Requirement

Local units of governments must comply with the Cybersecurity Training requirements described in Section 772.012 and Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code. Local governments determined to not be in compliance with the cybersecurity requirements required by Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code are ineligible for OOG grant funds until the second anniversary of the date the local government is determined ineligible. Government entities must annually certify their compliance with the training requirements using the [Cybersecurity Training Certification for State and Local Government](#). A copy of the Training Certification must be uploaded to your eGrants application. For more information or to access available training programs, visit the Texas Department of Information Resources [Statewide Cybersecurity Awareness Training](#) page.

Criminal History Reporting

Entities receiving funds from PSO must be located in a county that has an average of 90% or above on both adult and juvenile dispositions entered into the computerized criminal history database maintained by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) as directed in the *Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 66*. The disposition completeness percentage is defined as the percentage of arrest charges a county reports to DPS for which a disposition has been subsequently reported and entered into the computerized criminal history system.

Counties applying for grant awards from the Office of the Governor must commit that the county will report at least 90% of convictions within five business days to the Criminal Justice Information System at the Department of Public Safety.

Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR)

Eligible applicants operating a law enforcement agency must be current on reporting complete UCR data and the Texas specific reporting mandated by 411.042 TGC, to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for inclusion in the annual Crime in Texas (CIT) publication. To be considered eligible for funding, applicants must have submitted a full twelve months of accurate data to DPS for the most recent calendar year by the deadline(s) established by DPS. Due to the importance of timely reporting, applicants are required to submit complete and accurate UCR data, as well as the Texas-mandated reporting, on a no less than monthly basis and respond promptly to requests from DPS related to the data submitted.

Entities That Collect Sexual Assault/Sex Offense Evidence or Investigate/Prosecute Sexual Assault or Other Sex Offenses

In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 420.034, any facility or entity that collects evidence for sexual assault or other sex offenses or investigates or prosecutes a sexual assault or other sex offense for which evidence has been collected, must participate in the statewide electronic tracking system developed and implemented by the Texas Department of Public Safety. Visit DPS's [Sexual Assault Evidence Tracking Program](#) website for more information or to set up an account to begin participating. Additionally, per Section 420.042 "A law enforcement agency that receives evidence of a sexual assault or other sex offense...shall submit that evidence to a public accredited crime laboratory for analysis no later than the 30th day after the date on which that evidence was received." A law enforcement agency in possession of a significant number of Sexual Assault Evidence Kits (SAEK) where the 30-day window has passed may be considered noncompliant.

Compliance with State and Federal Laws, Programs and Procedures - Local Units of Government

Local units of government, including cities, counties and other general purpose political subdivisions, as appropriate, and institutions of higher education that operate a law enforcement agency, must comply with all aspects of the programs and procedures utilized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") to: (1) notify DHS of all information requested by DHS related to illegal aliens in Agency's custody; and (2) detain such illegal aliens in accordance with requests by DHS. Additionally, counties and municipalities may NOT have in effect, purport to have in effect, or make themselves subject to or bound by, any law, rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that would: (1) require or authorize the public disclosure of federal law enforcement information in order to conceal, harbor, or shield from detection fugitives from justice or aliens illegally in the United States, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii); (2) impede federal officers from exercising authority under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), § 1226(c), § 1231(a), § 1357(a), § 1366(1), or § 1366(3); (3) encourage or induce an alien to come to, enter, or reside in the United States in violation of law, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iv); (4) result in the illegal transport or movement of aliens within the United States, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(ii). Lastly, eligible applicants must comply with all provisions, policies, and penalties found in Chapter 752, Subchapter C of the Texas Government Code.

Each local unit of government, and institution of higher education that operates a law enforcement agency, must download, complete and then upload into eGrants the [CEO/Law Enforcement Certifications and Assurances Form](#) certifying compliance with federal and state immigration enforcement requirements. This Form is required for each application submitted to PSO and is active until August 31, 2027 or the end of the grant period, whichever is later.

Compliance with State and Federal Laws, Programs and Procedures – Nonprofit Organizations

Each non-profit 501(c)(3) organization must certify that it does not have, and will continue not to have any policy, procedure, or agreement (written or unwritten) that in any way encourages, induces, entices, or aids any violations of immigration laws. Additionally, the organization certifies that it does not have in effect, purport to have in effect, and is not subject to or bound by any rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that would: (1) encourage the concealment, harboring, or shielding from detection of fugitives from justice or aliens who illegally came to, entered, or remained in the United States, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii); (2) impede federal officers from exercising authority under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), § 1226(c), § 1231(a), § 1357(a), § 1366(1), or § 1366(3); (3) encourage or induce an alien to come to, enter, or reside in the United States in violation of law, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iv); (4) result in the illegal transport or movement of aliens within the United States, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(ii). Lastly, the organization certifies that it will not adopt, enforce, or endorse a policy which prohibits or materially limits the enforcement of immigration laws, and will not, as demonstrated by pattern or practice, prohibit or materially limit the enforcement of immigration laws.

Each non-profit organization must download, complete and then upload into eGrants the [CEO/NGO Certifications and Assurances Form](#) certifying compliance with federal and state immigration enforcement requirements.

Overall Certification

Each applicant agency must certify to the specific requirements detailed above as well as to comply with all requirements within the PSO Funding Announcement, the *Guide to Grants*, the *Grantee Conditions and Responsibilities*, any authorizing or applicable state and federal statutes and regulations to be eligible for this program.

X I certify to all of the application content & requirements.

Project Abstract :

This project serves as an early intervention and diversion strategy to prevent youth from entering or becoming further involved in the juvenile justice system, whether related to delinquent behavior or truancy. The Office of Dispute Resolution offers trauma-informed mediation services in a secure, neutral atmosphere where students, families or caregivers, and school administrators work to overcome underlying issues contributing the the youth's behavior. Mediation helps in solving of issues such as family instability, transportation obstacles, and school-related concerns, all of which have a direct impact on a student. By resolving these issues outside of formal legal processes, this approach supports positive juvenile outcomes while decreasing justice system involvement.

Problem Statement :

Supporting Data :**Project Approach & Activities:**

The Office of Dispute Resolution (ODR) will receive referrals from Municipal Courts, Justice Courts, and School Districts for students who are engaging in delinquent behavior and/or truant. These referrals may be received both before and after filing with the court. This project is an early intervention and diversion technique aimed at preventing adolescents from joining or becoming involved in the juvenile court system. Once referred, a mediation session will be set with the parent, student, and a neutral third party to assist with problem solving and developing a plan to address the student's behavior. Additional meetings/mediations may be organized with school officials or other parties involved in the problem-solving process.

Capacity & Capabilities:

Since the 1990s, the Office of Dispute Resolution provides youth mediation and problem-solving services. Currently, ODR assists teens and their families who are involved in the legal system with truancy, attendance, and other juvenile difficulties. Additionally, over the course of around 10 years, ODR has developed close ties with both schools and students by training Peer Mediators and facilitating Peer Mediations in two nearby high schools. In addition to having years of expertise in conflict resolution, trauma-informed practices, and adolescent involvement, ODR staff members are skilled at guiding mediation sessions that deal with issues relating to attendance and other school-related issues. In order to provide integrated services and efficient referrals, the office maintains cooperative partnerships with nearby school districts and justice courts. ODR has the ability to successfully offer mediation services that assist homeless adolescents and lower truancy rates thanks to these established ties and organizational skills. An indicator of ODR's success is the inclusion of the office's juvenile diversion plan as an example on the Texas Municipal Court Education Center's webpage.

Performance Management :

This project aims to keep youth out of the juvenile justice system. Additionally, it attempts to give families with resources and assistance that promote long-term success. Tracking student attendance, following up the completion of mediation agreements, and determining whether referred students stay out of court will all be used to gauge success. To guarantee that youth and families are assisted throughout the plan's execution, ODR personnel will gather and preserve data on all referrals, mediation sessions, and follow-ups.

Target Group :

All youth who participate in delinquent behavior and/or are at risk of truancy will be the focus of services. Youth who are more likely to be experiencing housing instability, family conflict, or school-related difficulties will be given priority in this project.

Evidence-Based Practices:

The Office of Dispute Resolution's experience in mediation services within the legal system puts it in a position to successfully apply this evidence-based strategy, even if every community faces different obstacles. The proposed project is in line with state and federal recommendations for reducing truancy and avoiding needless court participation among youth through combining problem-solving mediation with continuous monitoring and resource linkage. Additionally, while working with at-risk youth, trauma-informed techniques are regarded as best practices. Youth, families or caregivers, and school representatives can safely resolve conflicts, find resources, and create workable agreements in a regulated yet supportive setting through mediations.

You are logged in as **User Name:** TXDisputeResolution