

Analysis
Oregon Youth Authority
Second Chance Act Grant

Analyst: Linda Gilbert

Request: Approve the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention for up to \$1 million for a Second Chance Act grant for the Oregon Youth Authority to supplement Youth Reformation System implementation.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Analysis: The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) announced the 2016 Second Chance Act grant in January 2016. Up to three applicants will be awarded grants of up to \$1 million each. The application deadline is March 8, 2016. Awards would be announced no later than October 2016. The grant period is October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2018.

The grant is designed to help implement existing statewide plans to improve outcomes for youth in the juvenile justice system. The Oregon Youth Authority would apply to use funds to augment ongoing efforts to refine the Youth Reformation System (YRS). Grant requirements include objective risks and needs assessments; targeting higher-risk youth; addressing criminogenic needs; using services such as cognitive behavioral interventions and pro-social skill development; coordinating services across co-occurring needs such as mental health, substance use, child welfare, and education; developmentally appropriate supervision; and fidelity to evidence-based programs.

The agency would focus resources on training in the use of YRS tools, concentrating on poorly served youth, curriculum development, increasing reliability and consistency of assessments, and supporting automation of tools for decision making. The grant requires evaluation of recidivism to determine if the efforts have produced positive outcomes.

The OJJDP match requirement is 50% cash and in-kind services. The agency would meet the requirements with the existing YRS and research positions budget. As this grant supplements and accelerates current efforts, there is no ongoing obligation after the grant ends. If successful at the top amount, the agency would spend half the grant in the current biennium and the rest in 2017-19.

The Legislative Fiscal Office recommends approval of the request. If the grant is awarded, the Oregon Youth Authority may submit a request to either the Emergency Board or 2017 Legislative Assembly for a Federal Funds expenditure limitation increase, if needed, to support the expenditure of grant funds in the 2015-17 biennium.