

TASK FORCE ON SPECIALTY COURTS

Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301
<https://www.oregonlegislature.gov>



RECOMMENDATION PROPOSAL

For questions or assistance filling out this form, please reach out to task force staff:

jules.dellinger@oregonlegislature.gov or patricia.pascone@oregonlegislature.gov.

Please submit one form per policy recommendation. There is no limit on the number of forms you may submit for discussion.

Task force members are encouraged to collaborate. If you collaborate, please submit one form per recommendation and list all group members' names.

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| Name(s) of submitter(s) |
| Heidi Moawad, Mult Co |
| Proposal number and draft number (as applicable): |
| |
| What problem are you trying to solve? |
| The uncertainty of grant funding, burden of too many processes |
| Title of proposal (25 words or less): |
| Streamlining Funding through Accountability |
| Task Force Study Topic (eligibility, accountability, administration, funding): |
| Accountability and Funding |
| Detailed description of proposal (50 words or more): |



Although we continue to call ourselves Specialty Courts, in reality, there's nothing "special" about what we do anymore. The work of meaningfully trying to divert participants from the court system is now business as usual for most judicial districts in Oregon and indeed, around the country.

The notion, then, of these courts not being part of CSL and instead needing to request grant funding every other year seems unnecessary once a court is established and has proven its concept.

Funding at CSL, instead of requiring grants, gives all systems partners assurances that the program will not be at risk of termination and can help those system partners meaningfully invest their own time and resources into a particular court.

A "new" specialty court probably should have to go through two grant funding cycles to prove its concept, and then once the early results show the concept is working, we can switch over to the accreditation model that has been discussed in our task force meetings.

If Grant Funding remains the only way to fund our courts, then we need to figure out a way to meaningfully meld the grant process with the accreditation process: either by requiring only one on opposite years, or by making them the same process altogether.

Enforcement:

How will the legislature make sure the policy is followed, if applicable?

Reporting mechanisms:

What information will be collected so the legislature knows if the policy is working as intended?

Agency responsible for implementation:

CJC/OJD

