

Overview

The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 103-322) authorizes the Department of Justice to make grants to increase deployment of law enforcement officers devoted to community policing on the streets and rural routes of this nation. The Tribal Resources Grant Program is a program developed to meet the most serious needs of law enforcement in tribal communities through a comprehensive grant program that will offer a variety of funding options. This program will enhance law enforcement infrastructures and community policing efforts in these tribal communities, many of which have limited resources and are affected by high rates of crime and violence.

The Tribal Resources Grant Program is part of a larger federal initiative which over the last four years, has resulted in the Departments of Interior and Justice working in collaboration to improve law enforcement in tribal communities. Funding has been appropriated to several DOJ agencies including the FBI, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), the Corrections Program Office (CPO), and the COPS Office. COPS is coordinating with these agencies as well as with the Office of Law Enforcement Services of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to ensure that limited resources are not spent on duplicative efforts.

A total of \$35,000,000 in funding will be available under the Tribal Resources Grant Program. The grant will cover a maximum federal share of 75% of total project costs up to specified Federal share funding cap depending on the funding category. A local match requirement of at least 25% of the total project costs is included in this program. A waiver of the local match requirement may be requested at the time of application. Waivers are reviewed on a case-by-case basis, based on a demonstration of severe fiscal distress. Tribes whose law enforcement service are exclusively provided by local policing agencies through contract arrangements are not eligible under this COPS program. However, tribes that do not meet the eligibility requirements for this program may be eligible to apply to the COPS Office Universal Hiring Program for police officer positions only.

Receiving an award under the Tribal Resources Grant Program will not preclude grantees from future consideration under other COPS grant programs for which they are eligible.

(The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) reference for this program is 16.710.)

Dated: March 27, 2002.

Carl R. Peed,

Director, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services; FY 2002 Community Policing Discretionary Grants

AGENCY: Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, Department of Justice.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) announces the availability of Universal Hiring Program (UHP) grants to pay up to 75 percent of the entry-level salary and benefits for newly hired, additional sworn officers over a three year grant term, up to a maximum of \$75,000 per officer. A minimum 25 percent local match, paid with state or local funds, is required. To qualify for funding, officers must be hired on or after the grant award start date. Funding will begin once the new officers have been hired on or after the date of the award, and will be paid over the course of the grant. At the time of application, applicants must agree to plan for the retention of each COPS-funded UHP position awarded with state, local or other non-COPS funds at the conclusion of federal funding, for a minimum of one full local budget cycle. The retention requirement cannot be satisfied through attrition. All policing agencies, as well as jurisdictions seeking to establish new policing agencies, are eligible to apply for this program.

DATES: The priority consideration deadline for UHP funding is May 24, 2002. The second and final deadline date for all UHP applications is June 21, 2002. All UHP applications must be postmarked by the final deadline date. Applications postmarked after the final deadline date will not be considered. All grant awards are subject to the availability of funds. In the event that UHP funding requests exceed available grant funds, applications may be considered in subsequent fiscal years. Since funding is limited under UHP, we encourage interested agencies to apply early.

ADDRESSES: To obtain a copy of an application or for additional information, call the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at 1-800-421-6770. The UHP application kit and

information on the COPS Office are also available on the Internet via the COPS Web site at: www.cops.usdoj.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Overview

The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-322) authorizes the Department of Justice to make grants to increase deployment of law enforcement officers devoted to community policing on the streets and rural routes of this nation. The Universal Hiring Program (UHP) enables interested agencies to supplement their current sworn forces, or interested jurisdictions to establish a new agency, through federal grants for up to three years. All policing agencies, as well as jurisdictions seeking to establish new policing agencies, are eligible to apply for this program.

Grants will be made for up to 75 percent of the entry level salary and benefits for each new officer over three years, up to a maximum of \$75,000 per officer, with a required minimum 25 percent local match to be paid with state or local funds. Funding will begin once the new officers have been hired on or after the date of the award, and will be paid over the course of the grant. Officers must be hired on or after the grant award start date to qualify for grant funding.

Waivers of the non-federal matching requirement may be requested under UHP, but will be granted only upon a demonstration of extraordinary fiscal hardship.

COPS grant funds must not be used to replace funds that eligible agencies otherwise would have devoted to officer hiring in the absence of the grant. In other words, any hiring under UHP must be in addition to, and not in lieu of, officers that otherwise would have been hired. At the time of application, applicants must agree to plan for the retention of each COPS-funded UHP position awarded with state, local or other non-COPS funds at the conclusion of federal funding, for a minimum of one full local budget cycle. The retention requirement cannot be satisfied through attrition.

An award under the COPS Universal Hiring Program will not affect the consideration of an agency's eligibility for a grant under other COPS programs.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) reference for this program is 16.710.

Dated: March 15, 2002.

Carl R. Peed,

Director, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Civil Rights Division; Office of Special Counsel, for Immigration Related, Unfair Employment Practices; Immigration Related Employment Discrimination; Public Education Grants

AGENCY: Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice.

ACTION: Notice of availability of funds and solicitation for grant applications.

SUMMARY: The Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices (OSC) announces the availability of funds for grants to conduct public education programs about the rights afforded potential victims of employment discrimination and the responsibilities of employers under the antidiscrimination provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), 8 U.S.C. 1324b.

It is anticipated that a number of grants will be competitively awarded to applicants who can demonstrate a capacity to design and successfully implement public education campaigns to combat immigration related employment discrimination. Grants will range in size from \$40,000 to \$100,000.

OSC will accept proposals from applicants who have access to potential victims of discrimination or whose experience qualifies them to educate workers, employers and the general public about the antidiscrimination provisions of the INA. OSC welcomes proposals from diverse nonprofit organizations such as local, regional or national ethnic and immigrants' rights advocacy organizations, labor organizations, trade associations, industry groups, professional organizations, or other nonprofit entities, including state and local government agencies, providing information services to potential victims of discrimination and/or employers.

Application Due Date: May 20, 2002.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Patita McEvoy, Public Affairs Specialist, Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices, 1425 New York Ave., NW., Suite 9000, P.O. Box 27728, Washington, DC 20038-7728. Tel (202)

616-5594, or (202) 616-5525 (TDD for the hearing impaired). OSC's e-mail address is: osc.crt@usdoj.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Special Counsel for Immigration Related Unfair Employment Practices of the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice announces the availability of funds to conduct cost-effective public education programs concerning the antidiscrimination provisions of INA. Funds will be awarded to selected applicants who propose cost-effective ways of educating employers, workers covered by this statute, and/or the general public.

Background

The Immigration and Nationality Act protects work-authorized individuals from employment discrimination based on their citizenship status and/or national origin. Federal law also makes knowingly hiring unauthorized workers unlawful, and requires employers to verify the identity and work authorization of all new employees. Employers who violate this law are subject to sanctions, including fines and possible criminal prosecution.

Employers of four or more employees are prohibited from discriminating on the basis of citizenship status or national origin in hiring, firing, recruitment or referral for a fee, and prohibits employers from engaging in document abuse in the employment eligibility verification process.

U.S. citizens and certain classes of work authorized individuals are protected from citizenship status discrimination. Protected non-citizens include:

- Temporary Residents;
- Legal Permanent Residents;
- Refugees;
- Asylees.

Citizens and all work authorized individuals are protected from discrimination on the basis of national origin. However, this prohibition applies only to employers with four to fourteen employees. National origin discrimination complaints against employers with fifteen or more employees remain under the jurisdiction of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission pursuant to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. 2000e, *et seq.*

In addition, under the document abuse provision of the law, employers must accept all forms of work authorization and proof of identity allowed by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) for completion of the Employment Eligibility Verification (I-9) Form. Employers may not prefer or require one

form of documentation over another for hiring purposes. Requiring more or specific documents to prove identity and work authorization may constitute document abuse.

OSC is responsible for receiving and investigating discrimination charges and, when appropriate, filing complaints with specially designated administrative law judges. OSC also initiates independent investigations of possible immigration related job discrimination.

While OSC has established a record of vigorous enforcement, studies by the U.S. General Accounting Office and other sources have shown that there is an extensive lack of knowledge on the part of protected individuals and employers about the antidiscrimination provisions of the INA. Enforcement cannot be effective if potential victims of discrimination are not aware of their rights. Moreover, discrimination can never be eradicated so long as employers are not aware of their responsibilities.

Purpose

OSC seeks to educate both workers and employers about their rights and responsibilities under the antidiscrimination provisions of INA. Because previous grantees have developed a wealth of materials (e.g., brochures, posters, booklets, information packets and videos) to educate these groups, OSC has determined that the main focus of the program should be on the actual delivery of these materials to educate further both potential victims and employers. OSC seeks proposals that will use existing materials effectively to educate large numbers of workers or employers about exercising their rights or fulfilling their obligations under the antidiscrimination provisions. OSC will, of course, consider any proposal that articulates and substantiates other creative means of reaching these populations.

Program Description

The program is designed to develop and implement cost-effective approaches to educate potential victims of employment discrimination about their rights and to educate employers about their responsibilities under INA's antidiscrimination provisions.

Applications may propose to educate potential victims only, employers only, or both in a single campaign. Program budgets must include the travel, lodging and other expenses necessary for up to two program staff members to attend the mandatory OSC grantee training (2 days) held in Washington, DC at the beginning