



TOBACCO GRANT PROGRAM

The Office of the Attorney General established the California Department of Justice Tobacco Grant Program in 2017 to provide annual funds to local enforcement agencies throughout California. To date, the Tobacco Grant Program has distributed approximately \$124 million dollars in grant funding to approximately 260 grantees through a competitive process. This grant cycle, the Tobacco Grant Program will make available a total of \$26.8 million dollars in grant funding to promote a healthier California by reducing illegal sales and marketing of cigarettes and tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, to minors.

Eligibility Criteria

Any local public agency within the State of California that has authority to enforce tobacco-related state laws or local ordinances is eligible to apply. This may include law enforcement agencies, cities, counties, public K-12 districts, and public college districts.

Grantees may use grant funds to enforce a local ordinance or state law related to the illegal sale and marketing of tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, to minors and youth. These enforcement efforts may include, but are not limited to:

- Retailer compliance checks
- Retailer training programs
- Public education outreach
- Parent engagement and education
- Tobacco retail license inspections
- Preventing and deterring use of tobacco products in impermissible areas
- Hiring an officer to focus on tobacco enforcement and education efforts

Funding Details

For Fiscal Year 2021-22 a total of \$26.8 million in grant funding is available statewide to support local enforcement efforts to reduce the illegal sale of tobacco products to minors (Please note: The funding amount is subject to change pending final approval of the State's FY 2021-22 budget).

- Selected public agencies will be funded for a two-year to three-year grant cycle. Funding amounts will be evaluated based on the submitted grant proposal.
- The Tobacco Grant Program is a reimbursement grant. The California Department of Justice will reimburse selected public agencies for approved expenditures upon receipt of approved invoices and proof of payment.
- Selected public agencies will be required to submit a resolution from their governing body authorizing acceptance of the grant funding.

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- Selected public agencies may not use awarded funds to supplant existing state, local, or federal funds used for the same purpose.

Funding for the Tobacco Grant Program was a result of the passage of the California Healthcare, Research and Prevention Tobacco Tax Act of 2016 (Prop. 56) increasing taxes on cigarettes and other tobacco products by \$2.00 starting in April 2017. The initiative allocates a portion of annual revenue to the California Department of Justice.

Grant Proposal

Eligible agencies must submit a completed application to the California Department of Justice by April 14, 2021. Grant proposals may be mailed or emailed. No late applications will be accepted.

Mailed proposals must be received or postmarked by the deadline.

Emailed proposals must be submitted to TobaccoGrantRFP@doj.ca.gov. Email submissions must be received by 11:59 p.m. on the due date noted above.

Grant applications will be assessed for their potential to improve enforcement of laws relating to the sale, marketing, and use of tobacco products to minors.

A grant application must include both of the following documents:

- Completed proposal template
- Completed budget detail excel sheet

Incomplete grant applications will be disqualified and not reviewed by the Merits Review Committee.

Public agencies that propose to develop partnerships with law enforcement agencies or hire full time law enforcement personnel must include a letter of intent from the partnering law enforcement agency as part of the grant application.

To learn more about the Tobacco Grant Program, or to obtain a copy of the Request for Proposal and view related informational documents, please visit: oag.ca.gov/tobaccogrants.

Questions regarding the application process may be directed to the California Department of Justice at TobaccoGrantRFP@doj.ca.gov.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



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The Tobacco Grant Program is available statewide to support local enforcement efforts to reduce the illegal sale of tobacco products to minors. Below is a list of examples of local law enforcement agencies that are eligible to apply.

Eligible local law enforcement entities

- City police departments, county sheriffs' offices, and school police departments that propose, by way of example, to engage in the following:
 - Conducting minor decoy and shoulder tap operations directed at tobacco retailers, including for electronic cigarettes/vape products;
 - Conducting tobacco retailer license inspections;
 - Conducting tobacco-related enforcement operations targeting locations where minors are likely to be present, such as playgrounds, youth sports events, baseball stadiums, school and college campuses, public transit systems, or vehicles with a minor present; and
 - Providing education classes or diversion programs for tobacco retailers to help ensure that they understand and comply with state and local tobacco laws.
- Local public prosecutors, including city attorneys, county counsels or district attorneys who propose efforts such as:
 - Decreasing underage access to tobacco products through prosecuting cases involving sales and marketing over the internet of tobacco products to youth under 21; and
 - Investigating potential violations and taking enforcement action to ensure tobacco compliance.
- Public school districts, public college districts, and law enforcement agencies under contract with school districts that apply propose to take steps like:
 - Hiring, training, and supporting officers who focus on enforcement of tobacco laws on school campuses and during school-sponsored events.

Note: Public school districts that propose to develop partnerships with law enforcement agencies or hire full time law enforcement personnel must include a letter of intent from the partnering law enforcement agency as part of the grant application.