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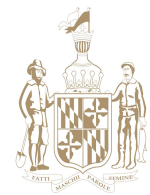
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy (GOCPP)

**Fiscal Year (FY) 2026
Project Safe Neighborhood Maryland (PSNM)
Grant Program**

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

Applicant Technical Assistance Call
Tuesday, August 26, 2025

gocpp.maryland.gov/grants/



General Housekeeping

- Subtitles and Translation Services are available by enabling Closed Caption and/or Interpretation in the navigation panel at the bottom of the screen 
- To ask questions, please type them in the chat. Panelists may ask you to unmute and clarify aloud if necessary
- The presentation will be posted to the [PSNM grant program page](#) on the GOCPP website

GOCPP- PSNM Team: Introductions



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Sharon Leason

Funding Manager

Sharon.Leason@maryland.gov

Courtney Thomas

Fiscal Specialist

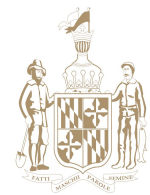
Courtney.Thomas1@maryland.gov



Technical Assistance Objectives

Understand key concepts related to submission of an application under PSNM, including:

- Goals and priorities of this program
- Eligibility
- Award information
- Application requirements
- Application review process



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PSNM Overview

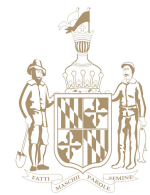
Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Overview

- Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) is a nationwide initiative aimed to reduce violent crime—particularly felonious firearm offenses and gang-related violence—through a research-driven, strategic, and collaborative approach. This includes enforcement, prosecution, deterrence, community engagement, and prevention and intervention strategies. The program brings together federal, state, local, and community partners to identify and address specific crime problems at the local level.
- The U.S. Attorney's Office plays a central leadership role in each PSN district, coordinating efforts among law enforcement agencies, community stakeholders, and local governments to develop and implement comprehensive crime reduction strategies. These offices facilitate collaboration and information sharing to help local jurisdictions address violent crime more effectively.

PSNM Overview continued

Maryland's Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative Overview

- Under Maryland's PSN Grant Program, the lead agency and its project partners will use grant funding to implement projects that emphasize the four core elements of the PSN initiative. Projects should focus on dismantling violent criminal networks, promoting collaboration and data sharing, and enhancing coordination among public safety agencies to ensure integrated deployment of tactics, resources, and intelligence.



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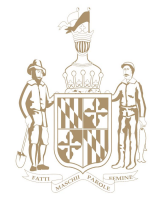
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PSNM 4 Core Elements

- 1. Community Engagement/Partnerships**
- 2. Prevention and Intervention**
- 3. Focused and Strategic Enforcement**
- 4. Accountability**

For additional guidance on these elements, refer to the [Project Safe Neighborhoods Blueprint for Success](#), a recommended resource for program planning and strategy development.

Funding Eligibility

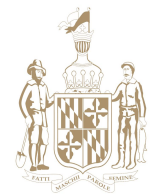


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The following entities in Maryland are eligible to submit no more than one (1) application for PSNM funding:

- Local and municipal governmental entities
- Local and municipal law enforcement
- State law enforcement
- State's attorney's offices



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Funding Eligibility

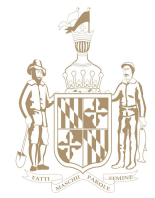
REQUIREMENT: The lead applicant is required to **develop a Project Safe Neighborhoods Task Force (PSN task force) plan** for their own jurisdiction/municipality to include the lead agency and their project partners. Any government entity is eligible to serve as the lead applicant and submit an application to include the following **required project partners**:

- Law Enforcement
- State's Attorney's Office
- U.S. Attorney's Office

Additionally, the following entities/resources must be considered as partners in each jurisdiction's application:

- Local school districts
- Maryland Department of Parole and Probation
- Institutions of higher education/research partner
- Social services providers
- Nonprofit organizations
- Faith-based communities
- Local neighborhood associations
- Washington-Baltimore HIDTA

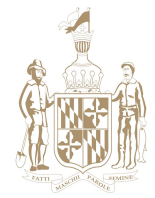
PSNM Goals



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- **Establish Sustainable Collaborations:** Develop and implement comprehensive violent crime reduction strategies in collaboration with federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, community-based organizations, and other key stakeholders to address the most urgent violent crime issues in targeted communities.
- **Foster Community Trust and Legitimacy:** Strengthen public confidence in law enforcement by promoting transparency, accountability, and community engagement in the development and implementation of violence reduction strategies and public education efforts.
- **Leverage Data and Intelligence:** Use data and intelligence to identify the primary drivers of violent crime and individuals at risk of victimization or offending, and implement strategies that focus on prevention, intervention, and improved outcomes.

PSNM Objectives and Deliverables



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Objectives:

1. Implement one or more evidence-informed strategies to prevent, respond to, and reduce violent crime.
2. Establish and support a jurisdictional PSN Team to carry out program activities and manage resource needs in coordination with all project partners and stakeholders.

Deliverables:

1. Periodic reports, presentations, and briefings for the statewide and/or jurisdictional PSN task force and community members.
2. If the proposed project supports activities for a research partner, a final analysis report of the program's implementation and outcomes is submitted to the Office at the conclusion of the award period.

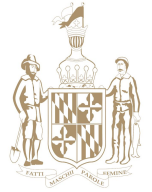


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Award Details

1. Due Date for Applications: Friday, September 12, 2025 11:59pm
2. Period of Award: October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026
3. Number of Awards: 1 - 2
4. Funding Range: \$100,000 - \$243,167
5. Last day to request a User ID is Friday, August 29, 2025



Program Narrative

All applicants are **required** to adhere to the word limits applied to each section of their narrative:

- Overall Organization Information (Word Limit: 500)
- Problem Statement/Needs Justification (Word Limit: 500)
- Program Purpose Area (Word Limit: 150)
- Project Design (Word Limit: 750)
- Goals & Objectives (Word Limit: 1,500)
- Data Collection Plan (Word Limit: 250)
- Grant Personnel (Word Limit: 500)
- Sustainability (Word Limit: 200)
- Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications Statement (Word Limit: 150)
- Budget Details and Spending Plan (Word Limit: 750)

GMS Word Count Feature

Grant Menu

Search

Face Sheet

Officers

Service Sites

Summary

Narrative

Budget

Budget Priority

Print

Documents

Activity Log

Save

Generate Report

Please remember to save your narrative every 15 minutes!
IMPORTANT CHANGES - See [GMS Application Instructions](#) for narrative guidance.

OVERALL ORGANIZATION INFORMATION (Word Limit: 500)

Provide the **following** information **about your organization** in the outline format below:

A. Mission Statement: State your agency's mission and upload your most recent Organizational Chart into the GMS.

B. Brief Overview: Include your organization's history, primary services, the client/community needs currently addressed, and highlight any key milestones and achievements in the field.

C. Key Organizational Information (in bullet format):

- i. Total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) employees
- ii. Total current organizational budget.
- iii. Percentage of your organizational budget this application is requesting.
- iv. Primary jurisdictions your organization serves (e.g., counties, cities, neighborhoods).
- v. Primary client population your organization serves and how long you have served this population.

Also, refer to the NOFA for any program-specific requirements that should be included in this narrative section.



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Provide the **following** information **about your organization** in the outline format below:

A. Mission Statement: State your agency's mission and upload your most recent Organizational Chart into the GMS.

B. Brief Overview: Include your organization's history, primary services, the client/community needs currently addressed, and highlight any key milestones and achievements in the field.

C. Key Organizational Information (in bullet format):

- a. Total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) employees within your organization.
- b. Total current organizational budget.

Design

Preview

Words: 120 Characters: 921

Problem Statement/Needs Justification:

Word Limit 500



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In lieu of the standard requirements outlined in the [GMS Application Instructions](#), applicants must clearly describe the violent crime issue(s) the proposed project will address. The narrative must include the following under the Problem Statement/Needs Justification:

- The specific violent crime problem(s) being targeted
- The data sources used to identify and analyze the issue
- The target enforcement area(s)
- The key project partners involved in implementation.

Problem Statement/Needs Justification:

Word Limit 500



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To further assist you must address the following:

1. What type(s) of violent crime issue(s), challenges, or drivers will your grant strategy address?
2. Which PSN Core Elements (Community Engagement, Prevention and Intervention, Focused and Strategic Enforcement, Accountability) will your strategy focus on?
3. Which geographic area(s) will your PSN strategy focus on, and what factors are driving violence in these areas?
4. What data was used to identify and assess the violent crime issue(s) in your jurisdiction?
5. Which agencies or types of agencies contributed to the violent crime assessment?
6. How has community and stakeholder input been incorporated into the development of your grant strategy?
7. How will the proposed grant funding support efforts to address the identified violent crime issue(s)?
8. What community resources (e.g., community-based organizations, social service agencies, public health or behavioral health providers) are available to support implementation and enhance impact?

Project Design: Word Limit 750

In lieu of the standard requirements outlined in the [GMS Application Instructions](#), applicants must clearly describe the strategy that will be implemented to address the identified violent crime issue(s), the roles and responsibilities of key partners, and the data that will be collected and analyzed to inform and measure the strategy's impact.

Applicants must respond to the following questions:

- How will grant funding be used to implement your proposed strategy, and how does it align with the relevant PSN Core Elements (Community Engagement, Prevention and Intervention, Focused and Strategic Enforcement, Accountability)?
- Which agencies and representatives will participate in implementing the strategy, and what are their specific roles? Please ensure you include:
 - The U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO)
 - Law enforcement agencies (local, state, and/or federal)
 - The local State's Attorney's Office
 - Other PSN partners (e.g., community-based organizations, service providers, task force participants)
- Will your agency collaborate with a research partner to assist in the selection, implementation, and assessment of your PSN strategy?

Project Design: Word Limit 750

In lieu of the standard requirements outlined in the [GMS Application Instructions](#), applicants must clearly describe the strategy that will be implemented to address the identified violent crime issue(s), the roles and responsibilities of key partners, and the data that will be collected and analyzed to inform and measure the strategy's impact.

Applicants must respond to the following questions:

- How will grant funding be used to implement your proposed strategy, and how does it align with the relevant PSN Core Elements (Community Engagement, Prevention and Intervention, Focused and Strategic Enforcement, Accountability)?
- Which agencies and representatives will participate in implementing the strategy, and what are their specific roles? Please ensure you include:
 - The U.S. Attorney's Office (USAO)
 - Law enforcement agencies (local, state, and/or federal)
 - The local State's Attorney's Office
 - Other PSN partners (e.g., community-based organizations, service providers, task force participants)
- Will your agency collaborate with a research partner to assist in the selection, implementation, and assessment of your PSN strategy?

Budget

NOTE: In your application **narrative and budget**: 30% of the total request must be used to support gang task forces in the United States regions experiencing a significant or increased presence of criminal or transnational organizations engaging in high levels of violent crime, firearms offenses, human trafficking, and drug trafficking.



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Allowable Costs:

PERSONNEL

- Salary, wage, and fringe benefits for Project Coordinator and/or Analyst
- Overtime and fringe benefits for Sworn Law Enforcement
- Note: 30% limit on fringe benefits

OPERATING EXPENSES

- Office supplies and meeting costs for routine PSN task force meetings and community engagement activities.

TRAVEL

- PSN related training which can include airfare, lodging, meals/per diem, and ground transportation costs
 - Policies and procedures for meal reimbursement:
<https://dbm.maryland.gov/pages/mealtipreimbursement.aspx>
 - GSA per diem rate: <https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates>
- Mileage reimbursement for staff traveling to partner sites, community events, and enforcement coordination meetings.
 - Travel reimbursement rate (70¢ per mile as of January 1, 2025):
<https://dbm.maryland.gov/pages/fleetmanagementservices.aspx>



Budget

Allowable Costs Continued:

CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

- Contract with a university or research entity to assist with strategy design, performance measurement, and evaluation of outcomes.
- Funds to support partner community-based organizations or other partners in delivering portions of the proposed project that aligns with the PSN objectives.
- For Consultants, refer to the Consultant Rate section [below](#).

EQUIPMENT

(Threshold for equipment is \$10,000 per one single item.)

- See equipment threshold guidelines in the [GMS Application Instructions](#)

OTHER

- Other PSN-related costs



Budget

Unallowable Costs:

- Vehicles, vessels, or aircraft, including unmanned aircraft, unmanned aerial vehicles, and unmanned aerial systems
- Construction projects (other than penal or correctional institutions)
- Honorarium
- Lobbying costs (including membership fees to organizations whose primary activity is lobbying)
- Food/beverage (except for travel per diem)
- Prizes, rewards, entertainment (or any type of monetary incentive)
- Client stipends
- Gift cards
- Trinkets (items such as hats, mugs, portfolios, t-shirts, coins, and gift bags)

Note: There is **no match required for this funding source**. Do **NOT** enter a match into your budget. If you wish to show other financial or in-kind contributions to your program, it may be written into your narrative.

Example Grant Program

Title: Community Outdoor Space Improvement Program (COSI) **Fictitious Program**

Purpose: To improve the physical appearance and functionality of public outdoor spaces

Eligibility: County Government Agencies

This will be used to highlight the summary and organization information.



COSI Project Summary Samples

Good:

Lennig County's "Play Space For All" project will improve the accessibility of five, county-owned playgrounds by adding in ADA compliant features and play structures to encourage use by all county residents. Grant funds will be used for construction and maintenance costs. (A fill in the blank paragraph is in the GMS Application Instructions.)

Not so great:

This project will make playgrounds better.



COSI Organization Information Samples

Good: Mission Statement & Overview: Lennig County Parks and Recreation, founded in 1995, creates inclusive, accessible spaces to promote health and social integration. We operate 30+ parks and facilities, offering diverse programs for physical health and community engagement. Recent ADA improvements at two parks in 2023 resulted in a 20% increase in usage by residents with disabilities.

Population Served: Those individuals with disabilities, seniors, and families, serving this population in Lennig Co. for 20 years.

Total number of clients served across all programs:

i. Brief:	ii. Intermediate	iii. Extended
1. SFY23: 25	1. SFY23: 20	1. SFY23: 14
2. SFY24: 30	2. SFY24: 22	2. SFY24: 17
3. SFY25: 35	3. SFY25: 25	3. SFY25: 20
4. SFY26 Projections: 45	4. SFY26: 30	4. SFY26: 25

Key Organizational Information:

- Total number of full-time equivalent (FTE) employees: 45
- Total current organizational budget: \$3.2 million
- Percentage of organizational budget this application is requesting: 12%

Not so Great: Lennig County Parks and Recreation has managed the area's parks for 30 years and has 45 employees.



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**Problem Statement/Justification
and Project Design please follow the NOFA
and not the GMS Application Instructions.**



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Program Purpose
Goals and Objectives
Data Collection Plan
Grant Personnel
Applicant Disclosure
Budget Plan and Spending Plan

Same as prior NOFA requirements.

Be sure to follow the word limits and guidelines in the [GMS Application Instructions](#).

Required Documents

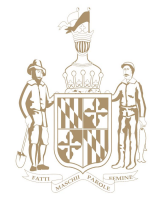
The following documents are **required** to be submitted with your application:

- Certified Assurances
- Certification Regarding Lobbying
- **New: Most Recent Organizational Chart**
- Screenshot of SAM.gov/Unique Entity Identifier Registration
- **New: Current W-9**
- Certificate of Applicable Financial Reporting Requirements and Required Financial Report Uploading
- Determination of Suitability to Interact with Minors Form
- Subrecipient Organizational Capacity Questionnaire and Required Attachments

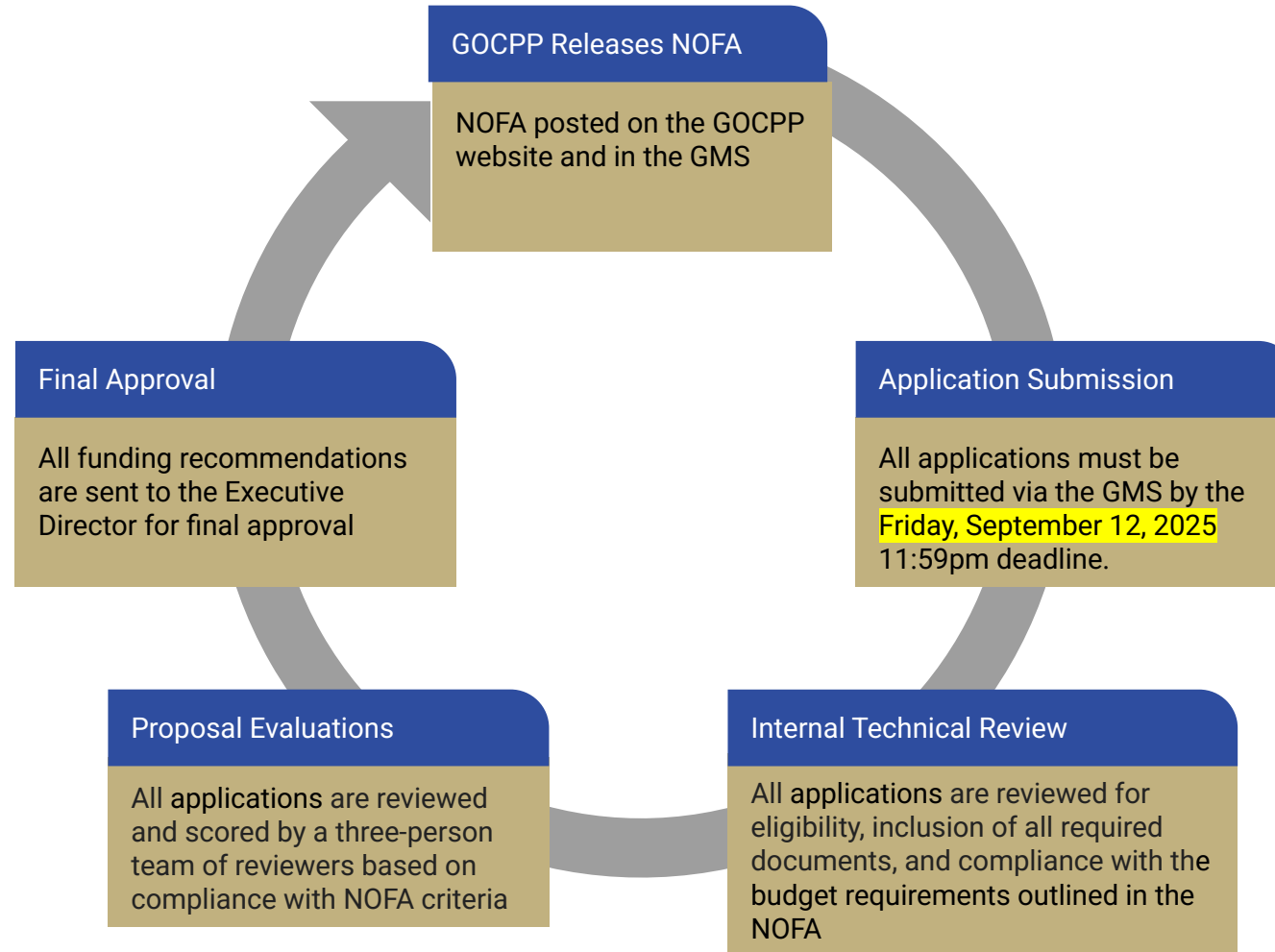


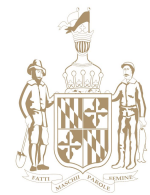
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Application Process Overview



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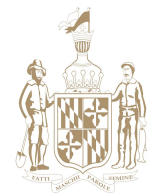


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Application Technical Review

1. An internal reviewer will assess the following components of the application:
 - Applicant eligibility
 - Submission of all required documents (**points will be deducted from the final score for each missing required document**)
 - Budget compliance
 - If the applicant requests more than the maximum allowable, **points will be deducted from the final score**
 - Unallowable costs will be identified and those costs will be deducted from the final award if the application is approved for funding
 - Compliance with new word limits applied to each section of the application
 - Text that exceeds the word limit will be redacted prior to the scoring review.
 - Application addresses a priority funding area and bonus points will be assigned



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Application Scoring Review

1. Each eligible application will be assigned to a three-person team that will review and score the application based on compliance with the criteria outlined in the NOFA
2. Each reviewer will score each section of the application, calculate a final score, and make a funding recommendation
3. The three scores will be used to calculate a preliminary score
4. **Bonus and deduction points will be applied to the preliminary score to calculate the final score**
5. Applications will be ranked based on final score and funding amounts will be assigned
6. Those applications recommended for funding will then be submitted for review and approval by the GOCPP Executive Director
7. Once the recommendations have been approved, applicants will be notified and applications will be processed for award



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QUESTIONS?



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Any Feedback?

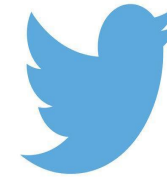
Please use the below link to complete our FY26 NOFA TA Survey so that we can improve our calls in the future.

Link: <https://forms.gle/1VsrUarByPyYYnSq5>

Connect with Us!



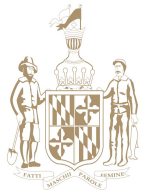
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Grants Management System - Technical Support:

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