

**Transformative Youth Justice Hubs RFA
Applications Due July 30, 2025 12:00 pm EST
RFA Questions and Responses**

Questions may have been edited for clarity and/or to avoid duplication.

Question #1: If the "backbone" organizations are not going to have to be providing the services, will the collaborating partners be able to provide the services?

Answer: Yes, collaborating partners can provide services, as long as they align with the hub activities as outlined on page 8 of the RFA.

Question #2: If the collaborating partners can provide services, what is the amount that can be allocated to those partners for services?

Answer: There are no set parameters for the allocated amounts to collaborative partners.

Question #3: If the collaborating partners are able to receive payment for providing services, do those funds come out of the \$1,000,000 designated for the "backbone" organization?

Answer: Yes – the total amount allocated for each successful application/award is capped at \$1,000,000.

Question #4: Can you please let me know if this is for funded programs only?

Answer: Applicants do not need to be currently grant funded by any other grant program.

Question #5: I reviewed the RFA, and it appears that governmental agencies (such as DSS) are not eligible to apply; applicant eligibility is limited to non-profits, local municipal education agencies and institutes of higher education. I'm wondering if there is an appropriate entity involved in the Regional Youth Justice Committee that might be interested or maybe BOCES?

Answer: Applicants should discuss potential partners in their own regions.

Question #6: Is it permissible for the RFA to involve more than one county? We have operations in 2 adjoining counties and would like to create a hub that involves both.

Answer: Yes, applicants can coordinate amongst local counties.

Question #7: The Project Narrative (questions 1-7) directions do not indicate a length limit, though font and line spacing are delineated. Was this an oversight, or is there no page limit for the project narrative?

Answer: There is no page limit.

Question #8: Given the uncertainty around federal funding, does DCJS have a contingency plan should the Title II Formula Grant Program funds be cut? If so, what would that look like for grantees?

Answer: As of now, this federal funding is posted, therefore the Division is proceeding accordingly. However, the Division will continue to closely monitor the availability of this federal funding.

Question #9: As we continue reviewing project requirements, we seek clarification on the applicable regulations for awardees/funded partners of this RFA. Are there any aspects of Executive Order 14173 which may apply to this project? If so, could you provide guidance on any specific compliance measures which may be required in accordance with Executive Order 14173?

Answer: As always, DCJS will continue to work with grantees on complying with any federal regulations that are in place at the time of the award.

Question #10: Are there any specific staffing structures required, recommended, and/or preferred for the implementation of Transformative Youth Justice Hubs? If so, could you provide details?

Answer: There are no specific staffing structures required. Each grantee should identify their plan for staffing structures. Appendix: Transformative Youth Justice Models of the RFA outlines examples and models that can be used as a guide.

Question #11: What does DCJS consider an area of service? Is it county-level or neighborhood-specific? If it is up to the grantee to determine, will certain types of service areas be given greater weight?

Answer: The range of the service area should be determined by the applicant. As outlined in the RFA document DCJS is seeking to implement two urban and two rural hubs. As such, these distinctions will be given greater weight.

Question #12: Youth and families are listed as collaborative partners. Can grant funds be used to pay stipends to participating youth and families?

Answer: Yes, stipends will be an allowable expense for participating youth and families.

Question #13: Can community events that promote awareness to challenges faced by youth be considered a “hub activity” and funded by the grant (e.g. Community Safety event, Housing Symposium)?

Answer: Community events designed to promote or advance the activities of the HUB will be an allowable expense under the grant program.

Question #14: Increase of equity is a core goal of this work, and on pg. 6 of the RFA, it is noted that “At minimum, the by-laws must include the values of *equity*, will evidence, accountability, and innovation.” Given that the funding for this effort is federal – and given the current administration’s hostility to efforts designed to increase equity – is there concern that this emphasis could put the funding at risk?

Answer: The RFA is in line with DCJS currently approved three-year plan as required by the Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention Act.

Question #15: Will DCJS honor an applicant’s 21% Indirect Cost Rate (IDC)?

Answer: If an agency has a federally approved indirect cost rate and can provide proof, then DCJS will honor that rate. If there is no federally approved rate, then a 15% de minimus rate will be allowed.

Question #16: How is the HUB going to be formed?

Answer: HUBS will be formed utilizing a single coordinating fiscal body. It is up to the grantee to identify how they will develop and utilize cross-system collaboration and partners to develop the HUB to meeting identified goals and objectives. Please refer to Appendix: Transformative Youth Justice Models of the RFA for examples that may be utilized in the development and formation of HUBs.

Question #17: Will a community-based agency be connected to a fiscal/coordinating partnership?

Answer: A community-based organization should make a connection to a fiscal/coordinating partnership as part of their application submission. DCJS will not be making these connections for community-based organizations.

Question #18: What is the geographic area that the HUBs will serve?

Answer: The RFA outlines that there will be two urban and two rural hubs formulated out of this grant. It is up to the applicant to identify which geographic region the proposed HUB will serve within those parameters.

Question #19: What services will the HUBs be expected to provide?

Answer: See page 8 of the RFA, outlining HUB activities.

Question #20: How many agencies form a HUB?

Answer: There is one fiscal/coordinating partner of the RFA. There is no set number of agencies who will participate in HUB activities. Page 8 of the RFA outlines required and suggested collaborative partners and agencies locally.

Question #21: Does the hub submit one RFP or does each agency submit its own.

Answer: One application should be submitted per Hub.