



State Support for Law Enforcement Equipment and Technology Initiatives

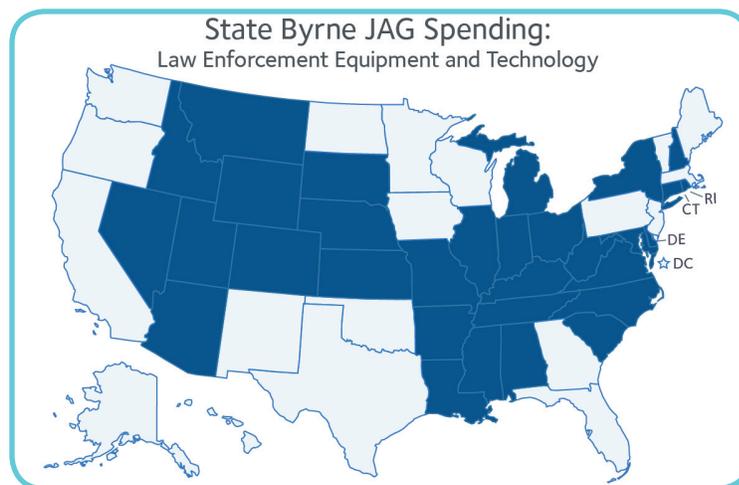
State Formula Spending for the Byrne JAG Program

The Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program

The cornerstone of federal support for state and local justice systems, the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant program (Byrne JAG) is a federal-state-local partnership enabling communities to target resources to their most pressing local needs. The Byrne JAG program, administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, provides grant funding to thousands of justice and public safety agencies and projects each year. Sixty percent of the overall Byrne JAG funding goes through the state criminal justice planning agencies known as State Administering Agencies (SAAs) while the remaining 40 percent goes to local direct award recipients. Designed to be flexible, Byrne JAG funds are used for a wide variety of public safety programming from prevention through reentry. To learn more about Byrne JAG, visit ncjp.org/byrne_jag.

Byrne JAG Support for Law Enforcement Equipment and Technology Initiatives

The 31 states highlighted in dark blue on the map below are among the states that reported using Byrne JAG funding for law enforcement equipment and technology related purchases in 2013-2014. These initiatives include body worn and dashboard cameras, license plate readers, forensic tools and equipment, computers and mobile laptops, and forensic investigator positions. Please note, this information is self-reported and there may be additional states using Byrne JAG funds for this purpose.



Examples of Law Enforcement Technology and Equipment Purchases

- In Alabama Byrne JAG funds were awarded to local law enforcement agencies for equipment and technology purchases. Awards supported investment in less-lethal weaponry, body cameras, vehicle dash cameras, and mobile laptop technology purchases.
- In Arkansas, Byrne JAG funds 200 small equipment and technology grants for local law enforcement agencies, for a variety of technologies including body worn cameras, digital radios and in-car computers.

ABOUT BYRNE JAG

The Byrne JAG program was funded at \$376 million in FY14. For many years funding levels hovered around \$500 million. Since FY10 funding for the program has been cut by one-third in the name of deficit reduction.

BYRNE JAG & EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

At least 31 states fund law enforcement equipment and technology projects with the state formula portion of Byrne JAG funding. These initiatives include body worn and dashboard cameras, license plate readers, forensic tools and equipment, computers and mobile laptops, and forensic investigator positions.



ABOUT NCJP

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- In Indiana, Byrne JAG funds were used to purchase equipment to create 3D virtual renderings of crime scenes for the Indiana State Police to ensure the state can capture and reconstruct details from a crime or crash scene.
- In Louisiana, Byrne JAG funds support forensic software and hardware purchases for the Louisiana Department of Justice Cyber Crime Unit to aid local law enforcement investigators with computer forensic investigations.
- In Maryland, Byrne JAG funds support equipment and technology purchases such as E-Ticket, license plate readers and closed circuit televisions placed in Baltimore City and Prince Georges County hotspots.
- In Michigan, Byrne JAG funds were used to purchase a high definition training simulator. The simulator is designed to significantly improve the law enforcement community's use of force knowledge as well as incorporate critical decision making processes needed to ensure the actions of officers are both legal and in compliance with local and state policies.
- In Montana, Byrne JAG funds support 12 law enforcement equipment grants that were used to purchase tough book computers and associated software, iPads and associated software, Tasers, portable handheld radios, electronic driver feedback signs, radar units, a hazardous material storage system, an evidence fuming chamber, and Live Scan finger print technology.
- In Ohio, Byrne JAG funds support two grants for law enforcement equipment purchases like radios, cruisers, desktop computers, servers, mobile data terminals, in-car and body-worn cameras, and electronic control devices. One solicitation focuses on small to mid-size agencies whose counties do not receive direct Byrne JAG awards.
- In South Carolina, Byrne JAG funds support a variety of equipment purchases to approximately 26 local agencies including bullet proof vest, Tasers, vehicles, computers, digital in-car video cameras, radio upgrades and a negotiation and emergency response enhancement system. Funding also supports software upgrades and equipment purchases for State Law Enforcement Division Computer Crime Center including forensic towers and desktop scanners and the purchase of a forensic video analysis system for the Charleston City Police Department.
- In Utah, Byrne JAG funds support equipment and technology purchases for, on average 90, small and rural law enforcement agencies annually. Over the past two years, the most common requests have been for in car cameras, body-worn cameras, bullet proof vests and mobile data terminals.

2013-2014 Byrne JAG Spending Study

Financial estimates and program examples were gathered as part of the 2013-2014 Byrne JAG Spending Study conducted by the NCJA Center for Justice Planning. Financial data was submitted by and qualitative interviews were conducted with all 50 states and the District of Columbia.