

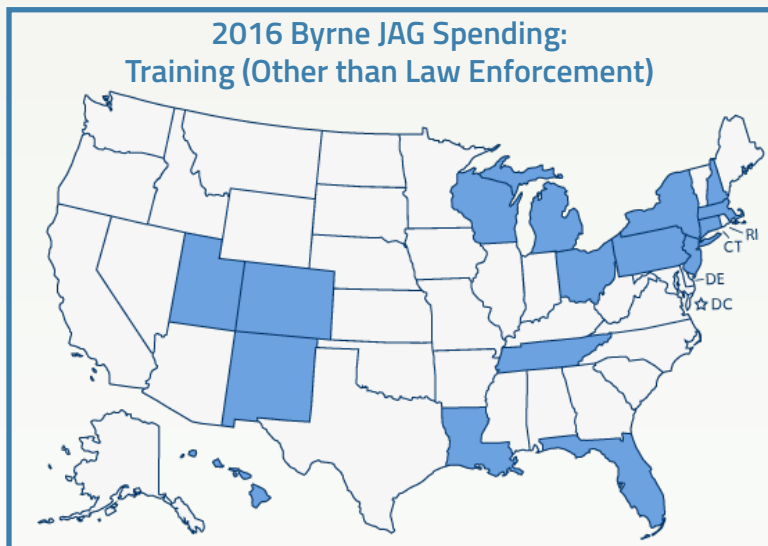
How States Invest Byrne JAG in Stakeholder Training

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. Byrne JAG is used broadly for law enforcement, prosecution, indigent defense, courts, prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, planning evaluation and technology, mental health services, and crime victim and witness programs. This breadth and flexibility means states and local communities can use Byrne JAG to balance resources and address problems across the entire criminal justice system, and to react quickly to urgent challenges and changing circumstances. The Byrne JAG program, administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), U.S. Department of Justice, provides grant funding to thousands of justice and public safety agencies and initiatives each year. To learn more about Byrne JAG visit: <http://www.ncja.org/ncja/policy/about-byrne-jag>.

2016 Byrne JAG Spending Study

Financial estimates and program examples were gathered as part of the 2016 Byrne JAG Spending Study conducted by the National Criminal Justice Association. Financial data was submitted by and qualitative interviews were conducted with all 50 states and the District of Columbia. This information was self-reported and additional states may also use Byrne JAG funds for a specific project type.



Support for Stakeholder Training Initiatives

Byrne JAG funding supported training initiatives for stakeholders, other than law enforcement, in at least 16 states, which are highlighted in dark blue on the map. This was an investment of over \$1.3 million in total Byrne JAG funding in 2016. These initiatives included: training for prosecutors on drug and gang cases, criminal law practices, procedure and investigations; public defender trainings; court advocate training; trainings for community corrections agencies; curriculum development and scholarships.

Examples of Non-Law Enforcement Stakeholder Training Initiatives

- In New Jersey, Byrne JAG funds support the Prosecutor's Supervision Training Initiative on investigating and prosecuting gang and drug cases, facilitated through the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice. The initiative offers training to state, county and local law enforcement officers engaged in the investigation of gangs, drugs and related violent criminal activity.
- Byrne JAG funding in New Hampshire is used to support a scholarship fund which allows court personnel to attend a regional drug court conference.

Byrne JAG grants are a catalyst for collaboration within communities and across states. This cross-jurisdictional model is being replicated across the country to tackle cross-boundary crimes, like drug and human trafficking and cyber crime, while saving money and increasing efficiency.

- In Massachusetts, Byrne JAG supports a network of victims' advocates in 20 courts throughout the state. Byrne JAG funds, blended with those from the Massachusetts Office of Victims Assistance, support court advocate training in helping victims navigate the paperwork associated with obtaining restraining orders, protective orders and child support orders.
- Byrne JAG funds in Ohio support training for community corrections staff agencies through the Ohio Community Corrections Association and the Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections. Funding supports outreach, scholarships and training for state and local community corrections agencies and related fields like courts, substance abuse providers, case managers, and behavioral health social workers.
- The Public Defenders Association of Pennsylvania uses Byrne JAG funds to enhance defense capabilities by hosting large training programs that provide intensive training on Trial Advocacy Skills; Litigation Skills for New Public Defenders and a Capital Case Program. These trainings are attended by Assistant Public Defenders from throughout Pennsylvania.
- Also in Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania District Attorney's Institute is using Byrne JAG funds to develop and offer educational materials and resources to prosecutors statewide. The trainings focus on criminal law practice, procedure, and investigation. This project also provides technical assistance to prosecutors and other related professionals on legal issues relevant to adults and juveniles.
- In Connecticut, Byrne JAG funds support the Department of Corrections in the development of a new supervision model for the state women's prison, York Corrections

Institution. Byrne JAG funding was used to develop training curricula, along with services to support a trauma informed and recovery oriented supervision and treatment model for female offenders. The new curricula developed with the help of Byrne JAG funds resulted in reduction in length of stay and generated cost savings.

- In Michigan, Byrne JAG funds support for the Michigan State Appellate Defender Office Appellate Investigation Project which provides training and investigation services to appellate-assigned counsel, who challenge unsound evidence and develop evidence that will support legal claims for exoneration or retrial.

How Byrne JAG Funding is Awarded:

Sixty percent of the overall Byrne JAG grant is awarded to the state criminal justice planning agency (known as the State Administering Agency or SAA), which, in turn, awards the funding, to local governments and non-profit service providers; the remaining 40 percent goes directly from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance to local communities based on population and crime data.

Funding is authorized at \$1.1 billion annually. At its peak in FY02, Congress appropriated \$830 million. In subsequent years, funding held steady at about \$500 million. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in FY09 provided a one-time boost of \$2 billion. Since FY10, funding has dropped by about one-third. In FY17 the program was funded at \$335 million.

States and local communities use Byrne JAG funds to address needs and fill gaps across the entire justice system – in prevention, enforcement, courts, prosecution, indigent defense, corrections, crisis intervention and behavioral health services, victim assistance, and other community-based supports and services.

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