

FAQS

RFP for a National Scan of Community-based Diversion Initiatives

THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION

The questions and responses below follow from the informational webinar held on June 24, 2021. They relate to the opportunity described here: [Foundation Seeks Grant Proposals for Scan of Community-Based Juvenile Diversion Initiatives](#)

Are there any resources that Casey will be able to share, such as programs it has already identified?

The Foundation has limited information about community-led diversion initiatives. Whatever it has, it will share with the selected grantee.

For the three past performance recommendations, are these simply names and contact info with a short description of the project or are they letters of recommendation from our partners?

Please provide letters of recommendations.

Is there any interest in the inclusion of tribal programs?

Casey is interested in tribal programs.

Are there any restrictions on subcontractors?

There are no restrictions on subcontractors or subgrantees. Please identify prospective subcontractors and/or subgrantees in the proposal, if possible.

Is this the first time that this initiative has been done or is there an example of a previous project that you'd like to have this modeled after?

Casey has conducted national scans before, but unrelated to community-led diversion. An example related to another body of Casey work is here: <https://www.aecf.org/blog/report-identifies-and-explores-home-visiting-programs-for-justice-involved>

Are you prioritizing contractors from the South or Southwest?

Yes. The Foundation defines the south and southwest to include Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

The RFP suggest an emphasis on south and southwest. Are you targeting any states? Can we prioritize states in sampling?

The Foundation defines the south and southwest to include Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia. Among this list, Casey is not targeting any specific state over any other.

The proposal has a 10-page limit plus attachments. Of the elements listed in the RFP bullet points, what is considered an attachment and what counts towards the 10-page limit?

Examples of attachments would include resumes of key staff, letters of support and/or recommendation and product samples.

What needs to be included in the letter of interest?

The letter should name of the organization and state that the organization intends to apply for the RFP.

Often community-based organizations have difficulty evaluating and researching their programs. Do you envision it being okay if a large number of the organizations looked at don't have traditional evaluations or metrics of success?

Yes, Casey is comfortable if the community-led diversion initiatives do not have traditional evaluations or metrics, but the organization selected to conduct the scan will need to identify the best way to show the efficacy of the initiatives.

Could you tell us a bit about your expectations on outreach? Can we tap into the JDAI network?

The applicants need to outline their plan to identify grassroots and small neighborhood-based initiatives that may not be mentioned in the available literature or known by national stakeholders and plan to follow-up with initiatives that may not have responded to the initial outreach efforts.

Yes, the organization may tap into the JDAI network or any other networks connected to the Juvenile Justice Strategy Group or the Foundation.

Are Government agencies eligible to apply?

Yes.

To what extent are you looking for youth voice in the development of the survey (i.e. focus groups, feedback to developed questions, etc.)?

The applicant needs to show how they will engage the voice of young people, particularly youth impacted by the system, in the development of the instrument and selection of community-led diversion initiatives.

Is there a template you would like us to follow for the budget? Also, is there a guideline regarding the indirect rate or indirect costs?

There is neither a budget template nor guidelines regarding the indirect costs, other than the 15% cap on indirect costs or overhead.

Is there a cap on indirect costs? If there is, what is it?

There is an 15% cap on indirect costs.

Is the budget considered an attachment, or is that part of the 10-page limit?

The budget should be included in the 10-page limit.

Is an abstract needed for the letter of intent?

No.

We understand that we are to conduct a national survey of organizations that provide diversion for youth and then identify 10-15 initiatives based on the survey answers. Could you clarify if we are supposed to do any additional qualitative work with those 10-15 organizations. How extensive should the summary of those 10-15 initiatives be?

The Foundation expects the grantee to speak with leaders of the initiatives to gain more complete information than may be in the survey responses.

Can you share the link to the RFP?

<https://assets.aecf.org/m/blogdoc/aecf-diversionscanrfp-2021.pdf>

Is the requirement 10-point font, or is that the minimum font size?

The requirement is 10-point font.

What is the base and ceiling of the award amounts?

The range of the grant is \$75,000–100,000 for up to a one-year grant period.

Are the prior national scans you referred to publicly available on the Foundation's website?

An example related to another body of Casey work is here: <https://www.aecf.org/blog/report-identifies-and-explores-home-visiting-programs-for-justice-involved>

How often are new RFPs issued throughout the year?

There is no set standard for issuance of RFPs. They are issued as necessary.

Who could we contact if we have questions?

Please send any questions to Jaquita Monroe, jmonroe@aecf.org.

Some CBOs may be reluctant to partner with outside researchers to share their efforts, data, plans, etc. What role will the Casey Foundation play in relationship building?

While Casey is looking for an organization that has a plan to engage neighborhood-based organizations, the Foundation would support relationship building as needed.

I see you are searching for programs in the SW and south, would this include South Florida? In the south, but southeast.

The Foundation includes Florida in its definition of the south and southwest. The full list includes Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

In the deliverable, do you anticipate the contractor doing an analysis of all data received from every organization that responded to the survey as well as the smaller list of organizational profiles?

Casey is not looking for an in-depth analysis of all data received, but may request to see the raw data.

Could you say what states you are including in the Southwest region?

While the scan is national and not limited to states in the southwest region, the RFP asks that both the south and southwest be prioritized geographical regions. The Foundation defines the south and southwest to include Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

Are there specific points granted for high-risk populations such as kids in foster care?

No, however, one of the goals of the scan is to identify community-led initiatives that work with young people who may have experienced the child welfare or justice system and youth who may have engaged in more serious behavior.

Is experience in juvenile justice required?

While experience with the juvenile justice system would be helpful, it is not required.

How many grantees will be selected?

One.