

2020 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) Information FAQs

What is the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) Program?

The CESF program is new funding from the U.S. Department of Justice to assist eligible law enforcement, local, and state government agencies in their efforts to mitigate and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

How much funding is available?

The Commonwealth of Virginia will receive approximately \$16 million in total assistance.

Of that amount, the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), as the State Administering Agency, will receive approximately \$10.8 million to assist localities and state agencies in their mitigation and response efforts to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The remainder (\$5.3 million) has been set aside for specific localities, as determined by the U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). These localities are eligible to apply directly to the federal government for funding. The list of eligible localities can be found at:

<https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/fy20-cesf-allocations-va.pdf>.

The Commonwealth of Virginia and DCJS were not part of the decision-making process undertaken by BJA to determine which localities can apply for direct funding.

My locality IS included in BJA's list for the \$5.3 million. How do we get the money?

If your locality is listed, you need to apply to BJA for the available funds by May 29, 2020. The solicitation is available on the U.S. Department of Justice website:

<https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/bja-2020-18553>.

My locality IS NOT included on that list. Can we still apply for CESF funds?

Yes, your locality is invited to apply to the solicitation that DCJS will issue in the near future.

When and how will the \$10.8 million be available to localities and the state?

We do not have a definitive date but are working very hard to expedite the process. DCJS is currently drafting the application on behalf of the Commonwealth to submit to BJA. Although the application is due May 29, 2020, we intend to submit it as soon as possible.

Once BJA has approved our application and released the funds, DCJS will then issue a solicitation. DCJS is currently working with the administration to develop the plan and process for disseminating the funds as quickly and efficiently as possible. We recognize the need is great throughout the entire state and will provide additional guidance in the near future. Please stay tuned for more information.

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What can be purchased with CESF funds?

Allowable projects and purchases include, but are not limited to, overtime, equipment (including law enforcement and medical personal protective equipment), hiring, supplies (such as gloves, masks, sanitizer), training, travel expenses, and addressing the medical needs of inmates in state, local, and tribal prisons, jails, and detention centers.

Allowable projects can have occurred in the past, starting on January 20, 2020, as long as they meet the above criteria and were part of your effort to mitigate and respond to the pandemic.

I still have questions. Who can provide me with additional assistance?

Should you have additional questions or concerns please contact:

Albert Stokes, Grants Manager, at Albert.Stokes@dcjs.virginia.gov or

Mark Fero, Grants Compliance Supervisor, at Mark.Fero@dcjs.virginia.gov.