



Cornerstone for Justice: How North Carolina Uses Byrne JAG Funding to Protect Public Safety, Prevent Crime and Reduce Recidivism

The Byrne Justice Assistance Grant program (Byrne JAG) is the nation’s cornerstone justice assistance grant program, supporting the federal government’s crucial role in improving state and local justice systems by spurring innovation and by testing and replicating evidence-based practices in crime control and prevention. States, localities and tribal nations are able to deploy Byrne JAG funding against their most pressing public safety challenges, to design complete programs or fill gaps, to leverage other resources and to work across city, county and state lines.

Byrne JAG funds may be invested across the criminal justice system for prevention, diversion, enforcement, courts, prosecution and defense, corrections, victim assistance, mental health and substance use disorder treatment, and other community-based support. Byrne JAG improves the administration of justice, reduces incarceration, enhances fairness, improves outcomes for the justice-involved and saves taxpayer money.

Byrne JAG in North Carolina:

In 2018, the North Carolina Governors Crime Commission invested in numerous successful initiatives. Examples include:

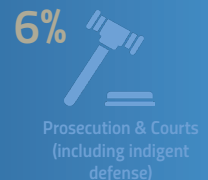
- Veteran’s Treatment Courts in Forsyth and Cumberland County which offer individualized and comprehensive treatment to veterans charged with misdemeanors or nonviolent felonies in an effort to lower the recidivism rate for veterans charged with nonviolent crimes. Court personnel collaborate with the VA medical center, local providers, peer mentors, educational providers and other community agencies to provide treatment.
- The Enhanced Data Integration Solution, through the North Carolina Department of Public Safety (DPS), State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) and North Carolina Data Exchange, is making legacy incident and arrest data previously stored at local levels available to the entire North Carolina law enforcement community. The data will be made available for investigative, analytical, and other law enforcement related purposes.
- Support for the Nash County Sheriff’s Office Gang and

With Byrne JAG funds, state and local governments have made remarkable strides in advancing data-driven practices in criminal justice.

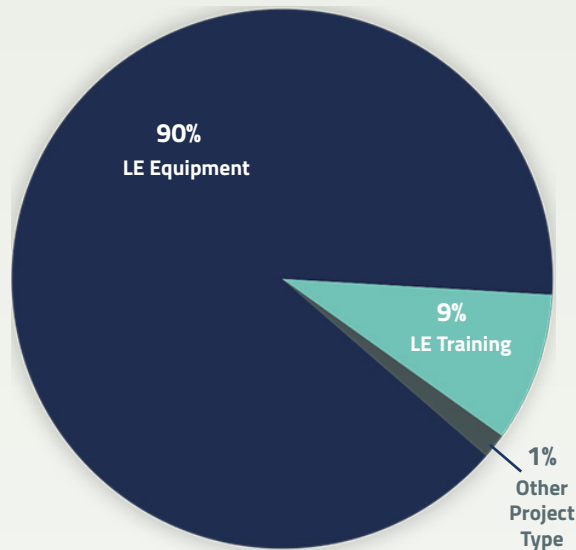
Grants are awarded based on a strategic plan developed in conjunction with the state’s system stakeholders.

North Carolina’s Investment By Purpose Area

Total Investment = \$3,800,000



North Carolina's Byrne JAG Investments by Project Type



Drug Task Force. This project allows law enforcement agencies within the 7th prosecutorial district to work efficiently with surrounding jurisdictions, save on labor costs and increase effective interagency communication. Since 2014, the Nash County Sheriff's Office alone has seized almost three quarters of a million dollars in controlled substances. Additionally, this program creates the opportunity for real time information sharing of investigated gangs and drug trafficking organizations among partnered law enforcement agencies which increases both officer and public safety. Since its initial funding in 2016, this program has yielded extremely positive results for communities across North Carolina and is now being assessed as the new model for task forces throughout the state.

How Byrne JAG Funding is Awarded:

Byrne JAG funds are awarded by a formula based on each state's population and crime rate. Sixty percent of a state's allocation is awarded to the state criminal justice planning agency (known as the State Administering Agency, or SAA) which, in turn, makes the funding available to local governments and non-profit service providers. The remaining 40 percent of the state's allocation is awarded by the U.S.

Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) directly to a number of local communities based on crime data.

Funding is authorized by Congress at \$1.1 billion, though annual funding has never reached that level. At its peak in FY02, Congress appropriated \$830 million. Until FY10 funding held steady at about \$500 million annually but has since dropped by about one-third. In FY18, the program was funded at \$340 million.

2018 Byrne JAG Spending Study:

Financial estimates and program examples were gathered as part of the 2018 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.

Byrne JAG supports the federal government's crucial role in spurring innovation and testing and replicating evidence-based practices nationwide.

States and local communities use Byrne JAG funds to address needs and fill gaps across the entire justice system.

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