

## Review Process

The Weed and Seed Communities (WSC) Program guideline application process is highly rigorous. Applications are reviewed and assessed based on the strength and completeness of responses to each of the sections.

Notifications about the status of these applications will be sent to local applicant's corresponding United States Attorneys' Offices (USAOs). If a WSC application is approved at the review stage, CCDO will schedule a site "verification" visit to meet with members of the applicant community to review the strategy, verify crime data, examine copies of signed Memoranda of Agreement (MOAs), meet with the Steering Committee and tour the designated focus area.

Approval under the WSC guideline is valid for five calendar years starting October 1, 2007. If a site application is approved, the site will receive its initial funding during 2007. Approved sites will be eligible to apply for further funding throughout the balance of the five years -- subject to availability of Federal funds. An approved site will be allowed to use the Weed and Seed logo/tool kit of promotional materials during this period. WSC certification may also give sites priority in obtaining other discretionary Federal funding related to comprehensive community-based crime prevention strategies, as well as participating in various CCDO-sponsored trainings and receiving technical assistance.

If an applicant community does not receive WSC designation, but has an application that demonstrated strong local capacity and persistent high serious violent crime problems, the site may still be eligible, in consultation with the local USAO for its jurisdiction, for limited technical assistance from CCDO.