

FY 2010 General Funding FAQs

1. Question: Which grant programs were funded by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) in FY 2010?

Answer: In FY 2010, COPS allocated more than \$600 million to assist law enforcement to hire new officers, update technology, strengthen school safety, assist tribal territories, prosecute child sexual predators and enhance methamphetamine reduction efforts and other community policing initiatives. The 2010 grant programs included:

<i>COPS Grant Program</i>	<i>Total FY'10 Funding Available</i>	<i>Grant Announcement Date</i>
COPS Hiring Program	\$298,000,000	TBD
Community Policing Development (CPD)	\$12,000,000	TBD
Tribal Resources Grant Program (Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation)	\$40,000,000	September 15, 2010
Secure Our Schools (SOS)	\$16,000,000	TBD
Child Sexual Predator Program (CSPP)	\$24,000,000	TBD
Tribal Methamphetamine Initiative	\$5,000,000	TBD
Sponsored Programs		
Methamphetamine Initiative	\$35,385,000	Ongoing
Safe Schools Initiative	\$2,610,000*	Prior to Sept. 30, 2010
Technology Program	\$170,223,000	Ongoing

*Funds provided by the Office of Justice Programs (OJP).

2. Question: My agency applied for a COPS grant and I want to check on the status of the application. How long does it take for an application to get processed and funded?

Answer: The application review and processing time varies depending upon the specific grant program. The average processing time for an application is two to four months and includes several stages of programmatic and budget review. Missing, incomplete or incorrect information on an application can significantly increase an application's processing time. **Please note that all FY 2010 COPS grant announcements will be made on or about September 30, 2010.** COPS award recipients as well as agencies not selected for funding will be notified in writing.

3. Question: My agency received a 2010 COPS award. How much time do we have to accept our award?

Answer: Your agency has **90 days from the date listed on the award congratulatory letter included in your award package** to return the signed Award Document to the COPS Office. Failure to return the signed Award Document within the 90-day timeframe will result in your agency being unable to access grant funds, and may result in the withdrawal of your agency's grant award.

4. Question: Once my agency receives its award package from the COPS Office, when can we begin drawing down funds?

Answer: Within a few weeks after returning your agency's signed Award Document to the COPS Office, you may request to be a Grant Payment Request System (GPRS) Drawdown Specialist by accessing the GPRS website (<https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov/gprs/login>) and selecting the option to self-register. You will need to know your OJP Vendor number, which can be found on your award document. After requesting to register, the COPS GPRS Registrar will validate the request. If the registering Drawdown Specialist is not listed as a point of contact on the grant, the COPS GPRS Registrar will email your Government Executive (GE) or Law Enforcement Executive (LE)/Agency Executive for approval. We will accept a response from the GE or LE via email. If you are already registered in GPRS, and would like to add your new grant to your username, please email the COPS GPRS Registrar at COPSGPRSRegistration@usdoj.gov and include your username, vendor number and grant number. After the request is approved, a confirmation e-mail is sent to the Drawdown Specialist with notification that the requestor has been granted access to GPRS as a Drawdown Specialist. Once the confirmation e-mail is sent, the Drawdown Specialist will be granted access to GPRS. Once access is granted, the Drawdown Specialist will use the User ID entered during the self-registration process and a temporary password (sent in the confirmation e-mail) to log into GPRS. You must also complete the Automated Clearing House (ACH) Vendor Form, which includes your account information, and which must be returned to the Office of Justice Programs prior to drawing funds.

5. Question: My agency must withdraw from a COPS grant award. How do we request to withdraw?

Answer: Prior to sending a withdrawal request, the COPS Office strongly encourages you to contact your COPS Grant Program Specialist at 800.421.6770. While a withdrawal sometimes cannot be avoided, your COPS Grant Program Specialist is available to discuss all options available to your agency to ensure successful grant implementation.

Grantees who still wish to withdraw must submit a written request to the COPS Office to withdraw from their award. The letter must be on official department letterhead and signed by your jurisdiction's highest ranking law enforcement executive or government executive. The letter should clearly identify that your agency wishes to withdraw from the grant award, and include your agency's ORI number, grant number, and the reason(s) for the withdrawal. The original signed letter should be sent to the COPS Office at the following address:

U.S. Department of Justice, COPS Office
Grants Administration Division
ATTN: [Insert Program Name] Control Desk
145 N Street, NE, 11th Floor
Washington, DC 20530

6. Question: How can I learn about current or future funding opportunities from the COPS Office?

Answer: There are several ways that agencies may learn about current funding opportunities from COPS:

- You may contact the COPS Office Response Center by email at askCopsRC@usdoj.gov or by telephone at 800.421.6770. Representatives can work with you to provide guidance on funding opportunities that may be available.
- You may visit the COPS website [Grants & Funding page](#) for new funding opportunities as they become available. We recommend that you visit the COPS site frequently to stay abreast of new information.
- You may monitor [Grants.gov](#) for future COPS Office funding [opportunities](#). [Grants.gov](#) allows agencies to find and apply for competitive grant opportunities online. If you are interested in COPS funding opportunities, please use the [Grants.gov](#) search engine. To expedite your search, please enter the COPS Office CFDA number, 16.710.

7. Question: My agency would like to apply for a COPS grant. How can we obtain an application?

Answer: All FY 2010 grant programs have closed and there are no current grant programs open for funding at this time. The COPS FY 2011 budget has not yet been finalized; therefore, information is not currently available about FY 2011 funding opportunities. You may sign up for future COPS updates and available funding opportunities online at the following link: **Future COPS Updates and Funding Opportunities**, or by contacting the COPS Office Response Center at 800.421.6770.

8. Question: Is there any information available about possible FY 2011 funding for the COPS Office?

Answer: For informational purposes only, President Obama's budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2011 has been released; however, there are several congressional phases before final approval. The President's budget request includes \$600 million for the COPS hiring program, a \$300 million increase from the hiring program being offered in 2010. These funds, in the form of competitive grants, will enable state, local, and tribal police agencies to enhance their community policing efforts and increase the number of officers available for targeted patrol and other proven strategies designed to prevent and reduce crime.

You can find additional information on how the Fiscal Year 2011 budget proposal impacts state, local and tribal law enforcement at www.justice.gov/jmd/2011factsheets/ or by calling the COPS Office Response Center at 800.421.6770.

9. Questions: Who should we call if we have questions about our COPS grant?

Answer: The COPS Office Response Center provides information on programs, grants, and application assistance for the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. The COPS Office Response Center also assists COPS grantees with financial questions and grant-related inquiries about COPS programs. Contact the COPS Office Response Center or your state-assigned COPS Grant Program Specialist at 800.421.6770, or by e-mail at askCopsRC@usdoj.gov.