

PUBLIC NOTICE

LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Notice of Availability of Funds

State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2020 Body Armor Replacement Fund Grant Program

Take notice that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, the Department of Law and Public Safety (Department) hereby announces the availability of the following grant program funds:

a. Name of program: SFY20 Body Armor Replacement Fund Grant Program.

b. Purpose: The Body Armor Replacement Fund Grant Program is established to award grants to local law enforcement agencies, the Division of State Police, the Department of Corrections, the Division of Criminal Justice, the Juvenile Justice Commission, the State Parole Board, and the Administrative Office of the Courts for the purchase of body armor for their troopers, investigators, and eligible officers. N.J.S.A. 52:17B-4.4; N.J.A.C. 13:80A-1.1.

c. Available funding: Under N.J.S.A. 52:17B-4.4, the Legislature established the Body Armor Replacement Fund as a non-lapsing, revolving fund that is financed through the imposition of a \$1.00 fee added on all motor vehicle and traffic violation fines and penalties and on all forfeitures of bail. For SFY20, the amount of money available in the fund will be generated from fines and penalties collected between July 1, 2019, and June 30, 2020. In SFY20, the Department anticipates that approximately \$2,464,255 will be available for grant funds. The grant program is designed to

create a five-year body armor replacement cycle, to the extent practicable, for participating agencies. Every eligible agency that timely files an application will receive a base grant award of \$500 plus a pro rata share of the remaining available funds. The amount of each agency's pro rata share will depend upon the number of each agency's eligible officers (see State Body Armor Replacement Fund Rules for definition of eligible officer) in relation to the total of eligible officers as established from all of the annually filed applications. No matching funds are required.

d. Organizations which may apply for funding under this program: Local (municipal and county) law enforcement and correctional agencies that employ full-time, sworn, and permanently appointed correctional and law enforcement officers who have the power to arrest and who regularly exercise police powers regarding the enforcement of the general criminal laws of this State may apply.

In addition, the following State agencies that employ eligible troopers, officers, investigators, probation officers, and correction officers may apply: the Division of State Police; the Division of Criminal Justice; the Administrative Office of the Courts; the State Department of Corrections; the State Parole Board; and the Juvenile Justice Commission.

e. Qualifications needed by an applicant to be considered for funding: To be considered for funding, an eligible applicant agency must file a completed application online prior to the application deadline, request body armor for its eligible officers, troopers, and/or investigators, and certify that it will utilize grant funds to purchase body armor for its eligible officers, troopers, and/or investigators. Eligible applicant agencies must also have a written mandatory body armor

wear policy for uniformed officers, troopers, and/or investigators engaged in patrol or field operations.

f. Procedures and address for eligible organizations to apply: Applicants must complete a Body Armor Replacement Fund Grant Program application between **July 6, 2020, and August 31, 2020.** Applications are only available online at the following website: <https://www.nj.gov/oag/body-armor/>. A first-time applicant must establish an online account before it can complete an application. For first-time applicant assistance or for other questions, applicants should contact the Office of the Attorney General's Grants Development Section via at email BodyArmor@njdcj.org.

g. Deadline by which applications must be submitted: All applications must be completed and filed online **before 4:00 P.M., Friday, August 31, 2020.**

Please note that funding allocations and individual subaward amounts are subject to change. Subrecipients shall recognize and agree that both the initial provision of funding and the continuation of such funding under a grant agreement is expressly depending upon the availability to the Department of funds appropriated by the State or Federal Legislature from State and/or Federal revenue or such other funding sources, as may be applicable. A failure of the Department to make any payment under a grant agreement or to observe and perform any condition on its part to be performed under a grant agreement as a result of the failure of the State or Federal Legislature to appropriate funds shall not in any manner constitute a breach of a grant agreement by the Department or an event of default under a grant agreement and the Department shall not be held

liable for any breach of a grant agreement because of the absence of available funding appropriations. In addition, future funding may not be anticipated from the Department beyond the duration of the award period set forth in a grant agreement and in no event shall a grant agreement be construed as a commitment by the Department to expend funds beyond the termination date set in a grant agreement.