

Michigan Supreme Court
State Court Administrative Office (SCAO)

**Status Offense Diversion
Project: Grant Program and
Application Guidelines**

FY 2025 & FY 2026

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I. Status Offense Diversion Project – Grant Program

The Michigan Task Force on Juvenile Justice Reform (Task Force) issued their final report on July 22, 2022. One of the ten key findings of the Task Force was the Michigan lacks the policy framework and service infrastructure necessary to ensure that youth who are low risk of reoffending are diverted from the juvenile justice system statewide. As a result of this finding, the Task Force unanimously recommended (recommendation #8) that “All youth who commit status offenses shall be referred to a court officer, or another party designated by the local court, pre-petition, to conduct a validated risk screening. Youth screened as low risk are diverted to collaborative community programs or other services that are evidence-based or culturally approved by a Tribe if the youth is American Indian.” The Task Force further recommended “A state funded pilot program to remove status offenses completely from court jurisdiction shall be created in a diverse set of counties. Counties participating in the pilot program will provide services for diverted youth and shall receive technical assistance from the new SCAO Juvenile Justice Services Division.”

The FY 2025 Judiciary Budget provides authorization for the Status Offense Diversion Project and tasks SCAO with establishing the grant program for innovative, community-based diversion programs and services that work solely with youth for whom the court receives a complaint, referral, or petition for what is alleged to be a status offense. The purpose of the project is for selected courts to divert those youth towards community-based programs and services and away from formal juvenile court involvement and secure placement.

II. Grant Announcement

a. Summary

The State Court Administrative Office (SCAO), in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and the Michigan Committee on Juvenile Justice (MCJJ), seeks to award grant funding for up to five (5) juvenile courts in Michigan for the development of innovative pilot projects aimed at diverting status offenders away from formal juvenile court involvement and secure placement, and towards community-based programs and services.

Eligibility

Juvenile courts in Michigan that receive status offense referrals, complaints or petitions. Courts interested in partnering with other court/s to develop and implement a diversion program or service may also apply (only one application is necessary in this circumstance).

Grant Period

The Status Offense Diversion Project grant period will begin on April 14, 2025, and will end September 30, 2026.

These guidelines set forth the administrative and programmatic requirements for the SCAO Status Offense Diversion Project grant program for fiscal years 2025 and 2026.

b. Grant Process Timeline

The following is the timeline for the fiscal year 2025 and 2026 grant cycle:

- Application Period Opens: January 13, 2025, at 8:00 am EDT
 - *Q & A period will be open from January 13, 2025, at 8:00 a.m. EDT and ends February 13, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. EDT (see sub-section d. Grant Program Contact, for further details)*
- Application Period Closes: February 19, 2025, at 5:00 pm EDT
- Application Review and Award Notification Period: February and March 2025
- Grantee Contracting Period: March and April 2025
- **Grant Period Begins: April 14, 2025**
- FY 2025 Quarterly Report Due: July 15, 2025 (*reporting period 4/14/25 – 6/30/25*)
- FY 2025 Quarterly Report Due: October 10, 2025 (*reporting period 7/1/25 – 9/30/25*)
- FY 2026 Quarterly Report Due: January 15, 2026 (*reporting period 10/1/25 – 12/31/25*)
- FY 2026 Quarterly Report Due: April 15, 2026 (*reporting period 1/1/26- 3/31/26*)
- FY 2026 Quarterly Report Due: July 15, 2026 (*reporting period 4/1/26-6/30/26*)
- **Grant Period Ends: September 30, 2026**
- FY 2026 Final Report Due: October 10, 2026 (*reporting period 7/1/26 - 9/30/26*)

All grant applications must be for the entire grant period.

c. Grant Submission Instructions

All grant application materials must be submitted via email to: grants@courts.mi.gov **no later than 5:00 pm EDT on Wednesday, February 19, 2025**. Please use the following subject line for your emailed materials “FY 25 & FY 26 Status Offense Diversion Project Grant Program Application Materials.”

d. Grant Program Contact

Any questions pertaining to the grant program and process will be accepted from **Monday, January 13, 2025, at 8:00 a.m. EDT through Thursday, February 13, 2025,** at 5:00 pm EDT.

For any grant program questions, please contact: grants@courts.mi.gov

Please include “Status Offense Diversion Project” in your subject line to ensure prompt response.

III. Selection Process and Criteria

a. Grant Review Panel

All timely submitted grant applications will be reviewed by a panel of individuals and considered for funding.

b. Grant Considerations

The Status Offense Diversion Project seeks to award up to five (5) eligible courts with grant awards of up to \$100,000 for newly developed and innovative diversion programs, or diversion expansion projects to include programs or services that work solely with youth whom the court receives a complaint, referral, or petition for what is alleged to be a status offense (e.g., runaway, incorrigibility, and truancy). Consideration will be given to applications that can show the sustainability of their proposed diversion programming after the conclusion of grand funding. This includes incorporation of expenditures eligible for reimbursement under the Child Care Fund (CCF). The intent of the pilot program is for the selected courts to divert youth charged or alleged to have committed a status offense away from formal juvenile court involvement.

c. Maximum Grant Award and Payment Information

The one-time maximum grant award is for up to \$100,000.

This is a cost reimbursement grant. Recipients will submit quarterly reimbursement requests to the SCAO for grant costs incurred in the previous quarter.

d. Notification

SCAO will send applicants written notice via email of the receipt of applications as well as the final determinations regarding grant awards.

e. Grant Agreement and SIGMA Registration

All applicants receiving an approved award determination must sign a grant agreement before disbursement of any grant funds. The grant agreement will be sent for signature via DocuSign. Additionally, all grantees are required to become a registered vendor in the State of Michigan's SIGMA financial system. You may access the SIGMA Vendor Self Service website at: <https://sigma.michigan.gov/PRDVSS1X1/Advantage4>

f. Source of Funds

This project is made possible via a partnership between the SCAO, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, and the Michigan Committee on Juvenile Justice. Funding is provided via US Department of Justice Title II funds and is subject to all related restrictions and requirements including, but not limited to, those found in USC 2 CFR 200. Recipients will be required to be registered with SAM.gov and certify they are not debarred or suspended from receiving federal funds before entering into a grant agreement. **This is one-time grant funding.**

IV. Grant Application Guidelines and Requirements

a. Program Criteria

All applicants must agree to and meet the following criteria:

- Comply with application process requirements
- Agree to a SCAO audit of financial records related to the grant program, if requested

- Comply with grant program, financial and data reporting requirements (see sub-section b. Data Collection Requirements)
- Program is required to provide services only to youth with status offense referrals, complaints, or petitions
- Program will be a newly developed and innovative diversion program, or an expansion of a current diversion program specifically for youth with status offense referrals, complaints, or petitions
- Must divert youth charged or alleged to have committed a status offense away from the formal juvenile court involvement and secure placement
- Must agree to not use grant funds to supplant existing funding for diversion program that works with status offenders
- Applications must provide data to demonstrate the court's need for a Status Offense Diversion Project Grant, including, but not limited to the number of status offense petitions the court receives on average per year, the percentage that it represents of the court's total delinquency petitions, the number of youths expected to be served through the pilot program, and other desired outcomes

b. Data Collection Requirements

Courts that receive grant funding will be required to report on standard performance measures along with measures that are developed specifically for the proposed program. Awardees of this grant will be required to work with MDHHS's evaluator and SCAO to identify and generate the specific program measures. Data will be collected and evaluated on a quarterly basis over the duration of the grant award. The standard measures include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Number of referrals/complaints/petitions received for status offenses during the reporting period
 - Referral/Complaint/Petition received for Truancy
 - Referral/Complaint/Petition received for Incurability
 - Referral/Complaint/Petition received for Runaway
- Demographics (including age/race/ethnicity)
- Number of youths selected for program
- Average length of time in program
- Success Rate of Program (successful and unsuccessful)
- Number of youths who receive a new referral, complaint, or petition during the reporting period

c. Application Format and Content

The grant application must contain the following items listed below:

1. Status Offense Diversion Project Grant Application FY 2025 & 2026
2. Grant Application – Budget Worksheet (must be prepared using the provided budget

detail worksheet)

3. Budget Line-Item Narrative (must be prepared using the provided budget detail worksheet)
4. An Appendix containing relevant supporting documentation. Each item in the applicant's Appendix must be clearly labeled.

d. Fiscal Management

All proposed costs are subject to SCAO approval and must be reasonable, allowable, allocable to, and necessary for the performance of the federal award.

Budget Components and Template

All applicants must complete the provided line-item budget and budget narrative template, which include the following components:

- Personnel – Wages and Salaries
- Personnel – Fringe Benefits
- Contractual
- Supplies
- Equipment
- Travel
- Operating Expenses
- Participant Support Costs
- Indirect Costs

All proposed costs must be consistent with the requirements of [2 CFR 200](#) including limits on executive compensation and consultant rates.

- [DOJ Grants Financial Guide 2024](#)—includes examples of allowable and unallowable costs

Further guidance on budget development and definitions of financial terms can be found on the budget documents themselves.

Supplanting of Existing Funds. No expenditures shall be made with awarded grant funds that would result in the supplanting of existing funding received for operation of the Status Offense Diversion Project.

Membership dues/fees. No expenditures shall be made with awarded grant funds for costs associated with membership dues or fees including professional credential maintenance of Status Offense Diversion Program staff.