

Profile of Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Funding: Pennsylvania

The Pennsylvania State Advisory Group (SAG), is Pennsylvania's federally-mandated state advisory agency. The group administers the state's JJDP A funds and provides the governor, state legislature and other policy makers with recommendations for improving and supporting the state's juvenile justice system. The SAG helps determine how funds granted by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) should be expended, and reports regularly to the Governor and state legislature on the status of the state's compliance with the four core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP A).¹

The federal allocation of grant funding to Pennsylvania, has dropped significantly in recent years. Nationwide, since 2002 when the JJDP A was last reauthorized, federal juvenile justice funding has decreased by nearly 50%. In Pennsylvania, meanwhile, between FY2010 and FY2016 alone, the state experienced a 38% reduction in its formula and block grant allocations.² In FY2010 the state received \$1,473,100 through the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) program. For the past four fiscal years, however, that sum has been zeroed out in the federal budget Pennsylvania also received \$84,945 in Title V funding in FY2010. That funding source, however, has been earmarked for non-JJDP A purposes in recent years. The lone remaining source of formula and block grant funding, Title II, has also diminished. In FY2010, Pennsylvania received \$2,056,000 in Title II funding. In FY2016, that figure had decreased to \$1,335,791.

Formula & Block Grant Funding FY10:
\$2,140,945

Formula & Block Grant Funding FY16:
\$1,335,791

Decrease of 38% so far this decade.

Pennsylvania continues to use federal funds to enhance and improve their Juvenile Justice System. The state's focus is on implementing policy and practices that are driven around the principles of restorative justice, and have a performance-based focused.

This funding plays a critical role in Pennsylvania's ability to implement policy and practices to improve the juvenile justice system. Federal funding must be preserved and maintained to ensure that these goals are met and executed.

¹ The four core requirements of the JJDP A are: 1) deinstitutionalization of status offenders, (2) separation of adults and juveniles in secure institutions, 3) jail removal; and 4) reduction of the disproportionate number of minority youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system (DMC). For more about the four core requirements, go to: http://www.act4jj.org/about_requirements.html.

² All numbers are based upon data provided by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. This information is available at: <http://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov>.