



FUNDING FLORIDA LEGAL AID

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IMPROVEMENTS IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A. Grant Purpose

The purpose of the Improvements in the Administration of Justice (AOJ) Grant Program is to fund programs that support the process of operating the courts in an effective and expeditious manner. FFLA considers the following areas to be conducive to the administration of justice:

- Enhance civil legal services through innovative and cost-effective means;
- Provide direct civil legal services either to groups of clients currently underserved by legal aid providers, or in an area of representation (whether substantive or geographical) that cannot be or is not effectively served by individual qualified civil legal aid providers;
- Improve the operation and management of the court and justice systems;
- Public education and understanding about the law, including law related education;
- Innovative and transformative pro bono projects; or
- Otherwise promote the improvement of the administration of justice.

B. Applicant Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible to receive funds from FFLA an applicant must:

- be an organization that qualifies as an exempt organization under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), or otherwise demonstrate the **charitable** purposes of the proposed project.

Administration of Justice grants are not awarded to individuals. Please note that FFLA does not permit employees of grantees to be candidates for partisan elective public office nor hold a partisan elective public office without express written permission. Accordingly, applicants must advise FFLA in the grant application if any employee of the applicant is a candidate for partisan elective public office, holds partisan elective office, or to the knowledge of the applicant intends to be a candidate for partisan elective public office.

C. Specific Funding Criteria for Applications

FFLA will typically award grants for start-up funds or seed money over a one or two-year period. Applicants are encouraged to seek matching funds. FFLA typically will not fund direct service programs (e.g., drug treatment or counseling), established programs or replicas of established programs, local community groups, programs for which there is a governmental responsibility to provide funding, or provide continuing program support.

D. The Board of Directors and Awarding of Grants

Grant applications are reviewed initially by FFLA staff which makes funding recommendations to FFLA's Grants Committee. On occasion, FFLA staff will seek assistance from outside reviewers. Outside reviewers will be selected for their expertise in the subject matter of the application. The Grants Committee will recommend action to the Board of Directors of FFLA. The applicant will be notified in writing of the action taken by the Board of Directors within two weeks following the meeting.

E. Grant Specific Review Factors

AOJ grants typically are awarded for demonstration projects with replication potential, as start-up funds or seed money for a one- or two-year period, or for studies, commissions and other types of research. Applicants are encouraged to seek matching funds.

F. Data Collection and Reporting

Grantee is required to submit to FFLA an interim report and a final report regarding grant activities. All reports, including narrative, financial and statistical components, must be submitted through FFLA's online grant portal.

G. Grant Timeline

Grant applications open:	January
Grant applications close:	February
Grant funding approved:	Funding decisions will be made after grant review by FFLA staff and the BOD Executive Committee. Funding is approved at the March BOD Meeting.
Grant funding period:	April 1st – March 31st