

§ 3797m. Use of grants**(a) In general**

A State or unit of local government that receives a grant under this subchapter shall use the grant to do any one or more of the following:

(1) To carry out all or a substantial part of a program intended to improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science or medical examiner services in the State, including such services provided by the laboratories operated by the State and those operated by units of local government within the State.

(2) To eliminate a backlog in the analysis of forensic science evidence, including firearms examination, latent prints, toxicology, controlled substances, forensic pathology, questionable documents, and trace evidence.

(3) To train, assist, and employ forensic laboratory personnel, as needed, to eliminate such a backlog.

(b) Permitted categories of funding

Subject to subsections (c) and (d) of this section, a grant awarded for the purpose set forth in subsection (a)(1) of this section—

(1) may only be used for program expenses relating to facilities, personnel, computerization, equipment, supplies, accreditation and certification, education, and training; and

(2) may not be used for any general law enforcement or nonforensic investigatory function.

(c) Facilities costs**(1) States receiving minimum grant amount**

With respect to a State that receives a grant under this subchapter (including grants received by units of local government within a State) in an amount that does not exceed 0.6 percent of the total amount made available to carry out this subchapter for a fiscal year, not more than 80 percent of the total amount of the grant may be used for the costs of any new facility constructed as part of a program described in subsection (a) of this section.

(2) Other States

With respect to a State that receives a grant under this subchapter in an amount that exceeds 0.6 percent of the total amount made available to carry out this subchapter for a fiscal year—

(A) not more than 80 percent of the amount of the grant up to that 0.6 percent may be used for the costs of any new facility constructed as part of a program described in subsection (a) of this section; and

(B) not more than 40 percent of the amount of the grant in excess of that 0.6 percent may be used for the costs of any new facility constructed as part of a program described in subsection (a) of this section.

(d) Administrative costs

Not more than 10 percent of the total amount of a grant awarded under this subchapter may be used for administrative expenses.

(e) Backlog defined

For purposes of this section, a backlog in the analysis of forensic science evidence exists if such evidence—

(1) has been stored in a laboratory, medical examiner's office, coroner's office, law enforcement storage facility, or medical facility; and

(2) has not been subjected to all appropriate forensic testing because of a lack of resources or personnel.

(Pub. L. 90-351, title I, §2804, as added Pub. L. 106-561, §2(c)(1), Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2789; amended Pub. L. 107-273, div. B, title V, §5001(b)(4), Nov. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 1814; Pub. L. 108-405, title III, §311(a), Oct. 30, 2004, 118 Stat. 2276.)

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 108-405, §311(a)(1), substituted “shall use the grant to do any one or more of the following:

“(1) To carry out”

for “shall use the grant to carry out” and added pars. (2) and (3).

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 108-405, §311(a)(2), substituted “for the purpose set forth in subsection (a)(1) of this section” for “under this subchapter” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 108-405, §311(a)(3), added subsec. (e).

2002—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 107-273, §5001(b)(4)(A), inserted “or unit of local government” after “A State”.

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 107-273, §5001(b)(4)(B), inserted “(including grants received by units of local government within a State)” after “under this subchapter”.

§ 3797n. Administrative provisions**(a) Regulations**

The Attorney General may promulgate such guidelines, regulations, and procedures as may be necessary to carry out this subchapter, including guidelines, regulations, and procedures relating to the submission and review of applications for grants under section 3797k of this title.

(b) Expenditure records**(1) Records**

Each State, or unit of local government within the State, that receives a grant under this subchapter shall maintain such records as the Attorney General may require to facilitate an effective audit relating to the receipt of the grant, or the use of the grant amount.

(2) Access

The Attorney General and the Comptroller General of the United States, or a designee thereof, shall have access, for the purpose of audit and examination, to any book, document, or record of a State, or unit of local government within the State, that receives a grant under this subchapter, if, in the determination of the Attorney General, Comptroller General, or designee thereof, the book, document, or record is related to the receipt of the grant, or the use of the grant amount.

(Pub. L. 90-351, title I, §2805, as added Pub. L. 106-561, §2(c)(1), Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2790.)

§ 3797o. Reports**(a) Reports to Attorney General**

For each fiscal year for which a grant is awarded under this subchapter, each State or unit of local government that receives such a