

PUBLIC NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Notice of Availability of Funds

Cops in Shops Summer Shore Initiative Federal Fiscal Year 2025

Take notice that the Department of Law and Public Safety (LPS), through the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) announces the following availability of non-competitive sub-award program funds:

A. Name of program:

Cops in Shops Summer Shore Initiative Federal Fiscal Year 2025

B. Purpose:

The ABC has applied for a block grant from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety (HTS). If awarded the block grant, ABC intends to make funds available, pursuant to this notice, to be used by qualifying municipalities to run the Cops in Shops program during Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2025.

Founded in 1991, and originally known as The Century Council, the Foundation for Advancing Alcohol Responsibility (Responsibility.org), is a national non-profit organization dedicated to combating underage drinking, the Cops in Shops program offers a unique approach to preventing the illegal purchase of alcohol by underage persons through a "partnership" of retail licensed establishments and the law enforcement community. The program also targets adults who purchase alcoholic beverages for underage individuals.

Specifically, undercover police officers work cooperatively with retail licensed establishments by posing as employees or patrons in the licensed premises to stop anyone under the age of 21 who attempts to purchase alcohol or use fictitious identification. The Cops in Shops program advertises and educates youth, adults and parents about the legal repercussions of underage drinking through the use of posters, decals, stickers (advertised at point of sale) and newspaper releases.

C. Available Funding:

The ABC has applied for a block grant from HTS for FFY 2025. If awarded the block grant, the ABC intends to make the funds available in this notice to be used to run the Cops in Shops Summer Shore Initiative 2025 in qualifying municipalities. ABC intends the initiative to be supported by FFY 2025 National Priority Safety Programs funding from the Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The ABC is seeking sub-award applications for this initiative. For **Summer Shore Initiative 2025**, the funds, subject to availability, will be awarded on a non-competition basis for the **program period of May 21, 2025 through September 15, 2025.**

The number of awards available and the amount of each award depends upon the number of applications received.

D. Organizations which may apply for funding under this program:

For the Summer Shore Initiative 2025, the ABC is seeking applications from municipal police departments throughout New Jersey that are shore communities, or serve as a gateway to shore communities, and undergo a large influx of vacationers during the summer months. These municipalities have observed an influx of individuals under the legal age to engage in alcoholic

beverage activity during the summer months when the seaside attractions lure people for vacations and weekend getaways.

The departments selected to implement this program will be encouraged to select retail licensed establishments based upon complaints and to seek out cooperating licensed premises. Agencies are required to submit letters of intent to participate from the retail licensed establishments that they plan to work with. The division recommends that two off-duty police officers be assigned to work in four-hour shifts. The ABC will reimburse the departments for their officers for overtime rate not to exceed \$60.00 per hour. Deterrence will be a major component of this effort. Cooperating retail licensed establishments will post signs and other materials warning underage individuals that the program can be operating at any time on the licensed premises. Program participants will be required to submit to the ABC weekly timesheets and arrest data to monitor the results of the program.

E. Qualifications needed by Applicant to be considered for funding:

For the Summer Shore Initiative 2025, municipalities in New Jersey that are a shore community or that may be considered a gateway to a shore community.

F. Procedures for Eligible Organizations to apply:

Proposal Format for Summer Shore Initiative 2025:

1. A letter from the municipal police department requesting funding for the program must contain the following:
 - a. A description of the municipality as a shore community or a gateway to a shore community;
 - b. That during the summer season, a noticeable influx of individuals under the age of 21 is seen in the municipality; and

- c. The names and addresses of the retail licensed establishments that will be cooperating with the municipal police department by participating in the program.
2. Letters of Intent by retail licensed establishments participating in the program
3. Applicant Information Form
4. All of the following documents signed by an authorized official of the municipality:
 - a. Application Authorization;
 - c. Federal Highway Traffic Safety Debarment Lobbying and Drug Free Workplace Certification;
 - d. Debarred and Suspension Certification with proof of compliance; and
 - e. Federal Single Audit Requirement and State Audit Certification with proof of compliance

Upon award, each entity will be required to submit a signed subgrant contract and award conditions. In addition, a municipal resolution authorizing the municipal police department to participate in the program and accept the funding.

Failure to meet the criteria of the program, submit a completed application packet with the time frame, and/or failure to accept the conditions of the grant are grounds for a denial of funding. Prior performance under the Cops in Shops Summer Shore Initiative will also be a factor in determining the awarding of funds. **Failure to use previously awarded funds under prior Cops in Shops Summer Shore grants and failure to abide by all conditions of the grant could result in a denial of funds for the present grant initiative.**

Application packets may be obtained online from the Office of the Attorney General, OAG Grants website at:

<https://www.njoag.gov/resources/grant-opportunities/notices-of-available-funds/>. Funds awarded

cannot be used for the following:

1. Construction, renovation or land acquisition
2. Supplanting federal, state or local funds supporting existing programs or activities
3. Purchase of equipment

Complete application packets for the program must be received at the ABC **no later than January 31, 2025**. No extension of the deadline will be considered. Failure to meet the deadline will result in the application being eliminated from funding consideration. Additional letters or other materials will not be accepted after the deadline.

The proposal should be sent to:

By Regular USPS Mail:

Lisa Lowe
Div. of Alcoholic Beverage Control
P.O. Box 087
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

By UPS/FedEx/In Person:

Lisa Lowe
Div. of Alcoholic Beverage Control
140 East Front Street, 5th Floor
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

By Email:

Lisa.Lowe@njoag.gov

Applicants will be notified of acceptance or denial on or about February 28, 2025.

Please be advised that Sub-recipients must comply (and must require any Sub-recipients or contractors to comply) with any applicable federal laws and regulations, as amended, including but not limited to: 23 U.S.C. Chapter 4, the Highway Safety Act of 1966, 2 C.F.R. Part 200, the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirement for Federal

Awards, as adopted and supplemented by the United States Department of Transportation at 2 C.F.R. Part 1201, and 23 C.F.R. Part 1300, the Uniform Procedures for State Highway Safety Grant Programs (recodified from 23 C.F.R. Part 1200). Sub-recipients must also agree:

- a) To comply with all Federal non-discrimination laws and regulations, as may be amended from time to time;
- b) Not to participate directly or indirectly in the discrimination prohibited by any Federal non-discrimination law or regulation, as set forth in 49 C.F.R. Part 21;
- c) To permit access to its books, records, accounts, other sources of information, and its facilities as required by the HTS, US DOT or NHTSA; and
- d) That, in the event it fails to comply with any non-discrimination provisions, HTS will have the right to impose such sanctions as it or NHTSA determine appropriate, including but not limited to withholding payments until compliance; and/or cancelling, terminating, or suspending the sub-award, in whole or in part.

G. Program Reporting Requirements

Within 3 days from the date of a detail, completed arrest citation and summary of arrest forms must be submitted. Also, completed monthly reimbursement forms must be submitted within 7 days from the end of that particular month. There may be additional reporting requirements contained in the grant conditions that must be adhered to.

H. Suspension of Funding

The ABC may suspend (in whole or in part) authority to drawdown or expend funds, terminate a sub-award or impose a sanction on a sub-award recipient for any of the following reasons:

1. Failure to adhere to the requirements, standard conditions, or special conditions placed on the sub-award;
2. Failure to submit timely reports;
3. Filing a false certification in reports or application;
4. Other good cause shown.

I. Subject to Appropriations

Please note that funding allocations and individual sub-award amounts are subject to change. Sub-recipients 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 LPS 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 LPS 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 LPS or an event of default under a grant agreement and LPS shall not be held liable for any breach of a grant agreement because of the absence of available funding appropriations. In addition, future funding shall not be anticipated from LPS 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 LPS to expend funds beyond the termination date set in a grant agreement.