

**HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA (HIDTA)  
DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

**PROGRAM PURPOSE:**

To augment federal efforts to control the introduction of drugs from Mexico into the United States by strengthening local and state law enforcement in the border area and by initiating or improving multi-jurisdictional projects. The Southern Forensic Laboratory provides the necessary forensic services for all casework referred by New Mexico HIDTA Initiatives. These services dedicate 100 percent of their time to include drug analysis, latent print analysis, and clandestine laboratory investigation services.

**AT A GLANCE**

**Fund Availability**

Total program funding available for the Southern Forensic Laboratory is \$215,861.

**Eligibility**

- Counties
- Municipalities
- Special Districts
- Indian Tribes & Pueblos
- Other Local Governmental Units
- Non-profit 501(c)3
- Individual
- Private Business
- School Districts

**Type of Aid**

- Grant
- Cooperative Agreement
- Service Contract
- Loan
- Technical Assistance

**Deadline to Apply**

Grant was awarded effective July 1, 2004 and ends June 30, 2005.

**Eligibility**

Counties, municipalities and state government entities are eligible if located in the affected and designated counties of Bernalillo, Chavez, Dona Ana, Eddy, Grant, Hidalgo, Lea, Lincoln, Luna, Otero, Rio Arriba, Santa Fe and San Juan counties. Regional multi-jurisdictional entities are also eligible.

**Special Conditions**

This is a discretionary grant program. Objectives are developed jointly between the state and local jurisdiction as the State is federally designated as the lead agency for the coordination of counter-narcotics enforcement programs. Previously, funds were channeled directly from the federal to the local governments. Applicants must show consistency with the state drug control strategy. Applicants must be located within the designated counties. The Southern Forensic Laboratory must dedicate 100 percent of their time to this initiative under the Southwest Border for personnel paid at 100 percent under this grant.

### **Use of Funds**

Funds are to be used for drug interdiction and counter-narcotics enforcement programs that fit within the State Comprehensive Narcotics Enforcement Program. Eligible costs include personnel, training, purchase of equipment and dogs, and the costs of creating joint powers agreements. Funds may not be used to replace other funds already allocated to such purposes. Grantees are encouraged to enter into joint purchase agreements and service agreements with other HIDTA grantees for cost effectiveness. The Southern Forensic Laboratory was awarded monies to fund salaries/benefits, overtime relating to Clandestine Laboratory investigations, physicals for the Forensic Scientists who are certified Clandestine Laboratory Investigators, purchase of forensic supplies needed for analysis of drugs, and expenditures relating to in-state travel for court appearances.

### **Funding Availability**

#### **Funding Potential**

The State received approximately \$4 million per year from the U.S. Department of Treasury approximately half of which is passed on to local governments. The other half is used for state system improvements as authorized in the work plan on which the federal grant is based.

#### **Range of Awards**

Start up grants range from \$20,000 to \$150,000. Grants are limited to \$150,000 for each agency or \$400,000 for multi-jurisdictional projects. The Southern Forensic Laboratory was awarded \$215,861.

#### **Funding Cycle - Duration**

Funds are provided on the basis of the federal fiscal year, after funds are received at the state level. Grant agreements typically span a twelve (12) time frame.

#### **Source of Funds**

These funds received by the Southern Forensic Laboratory are a 100 percent federal funds which require no match funds.

### **Application Process**

#### **Deadline**

Proposals and work plans from new and continuing applicants must be submitted to the department each spring for submission with the application to the federal government in June. The Southern Forensic Laboratory is notified by the HIDTA office located in Las Cruces, New Mexico via correspondence of the deadline which is approximately in early March of every year.

#### **How to Apply**

Localities should discuss proposal ideas with the Special Projects staff to ensure compliance with the State plan and then submit a work plan. The State incorporates approved local work plans into the total application package to the federal government. Award notification is in the fall. The Southern Forensic Laboratory prepares the grant application on a form provided by the HIDTA office. Once approved, the Southern Forensic Laboratory returns the form by the application deadline for their specific initiative.

**Selection Criteria & Decision Authority**

Preference is given to projects that are new or are implementing joint powers agreements for multi-jurisdictional projects. Innovative approaches are preferred. After review by a Department panel, the Drug Enforcement Advisory Council and the Joint Command Group of Operation Alliance, appointed by the Governor, make funding recommendations. The Department Secretary makes the final recommendation.

**Authorization**

Anti-Drug Abuse Act, U.S. Section 1005.

**Related Programs**

Drug Control Systems Improvement (DCSI), Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG), Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), Bulletproof Vest Program (BPV), Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Program, National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP), COPS Methamphetamine Initiative Grant Program, Paul Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act - National Forensic Science Improvement (NFSIA) and Southwest Border Prosecution Initiative (SWBPI).

**Information Contacts**

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