

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)

\$1 Billion to state, local and tribal governments for the hiring or rehiring of additional career law enforcement officers. Expected to fund an estimated 5,500 local police officers

Will provide 100% funding for approved entry-level salaries and benefits for 3 years for newly-hired, full-time sworn officer positions (including filling existing unfunded vacancies) or for rehired officers who have been laid off, or are scheduled to be laid off on a future date, as a result of budget cuts. There is no cap on the number of positions an agency may request, but awards will be limited to available funding. At the conclusion of this federal funding, agencies must retain all sworn officer positions awarded under the grant, and the grant funded positions should be added to the agency's budget with state and/or local funds, over and above the number of locally-funded positions that would have existed in the absence of the grant.

Grant applications are only accepted online through the COPS Office web site: www.cops.usdoj.gov and should be available for application by the end of March 2009.

No match requirement, but agencies must assume personnel costs after three years.

All monies must be encumbered by September 30, 2010.

Update:

The COPS Office in Washington, DC has received inquiries from local agencies regarding COPS Stimulus monies for officer training. It was made very clear that these funds are only available to hire officers and put them on the street. There are no funds for training in the COPS grant.

Another question received by the COPS Office was, should local law enforcement agencies be using a formula to determine how many officers they could potentially request through the COPS grant. We have been advised that there is no formula, no cap on the number of officers that could be hired, and that all applications will go directly to the COPS Office in Washington, D.C. The only caveat to the COPS grant was that at the end of the three years the local agency should be able to continue the employment of the officer(s).