Welcome!

Please note:

- This webinar is being recorded and will be posted on PCCD's website and YouTube channel once it becomes available.

- Please check your audio settings to make sure you can hear today's presentation using your computer or other device.

- We can't hear you.

- If you have any questions regarding today's presentation or the funding announcement, please email PCCD staff at RA-PCCD-OCJSI@pa.gov.

- A copy of PowerPoint Slides from today's session will be posted on PCCD's website.

Pennsylvania
**Commission on Crime
and Delinquency**

JUNE 13, 2024

PCCD Applicants Webinar:
Act 79 of 2018 Qualitative Research
Initiative

What we'll cover today:

1. PCCD Overview

2. About the Grant Program

3. Review of Funding Announcement and Application Process

4. Getting Started in the Egrants System

5. Anticipated Funding Timeline

6. Questions & Answers

Since 1978, PCCD has supported justice system improvements, victim services and compensation, and other initiatives responsive to the needs of practitioners, communities, and the Commonwealth.

PCCD invests in a wide range of programs aligned with our mission and strategic priorities.

In recent years, the agency has provided funding to support initiatives designed to address emerging and longstanding public safety challenges, including:

Preventing & Reducing Gun Violence

Victim Services & Compensation

School Safety & Mental Health

Criminal Justice System Improvements

Youth-focused Prevention

Addressing PA's Overdose Epidemic

Behavioral/Mental Health Initiatives

Children's Advocacy Centers

Juvenile Justice System Improvements

Law Enforcement Technology & Training

FY22-23 Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP)

Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program

In June 2022, the federal Bipartisan Safer Communities Act was enacted, establishing new provisions and funding streams focused on addressing gun violence and improving responses to behavioral health crises.

The Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP) is administered by the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (DOJ/BJA) and provides formula-based funds to states to implement state crisis intervention court proceedings and related programs + initiatives.

PCCD is responsible for administering federal SCIP funds and undertook a comprehensive strategic planning process to identify priorities for use of Pennsylvania's FY22-23 Byrne SCIP allocation.

PA's Byrne SCIP FY22-23 Funding Plan

PA's inaugural SCIP Funding Plan provides a roadmap for how PCCD will invest approximately $8.5 million in federal funds.

✓ **Objective 3.1**: Evaluate current implementation of Act 79 of 2018, a law requiring relinquishment of guns and other weapons by domestic abusers, by local jurisdictions and identify strategies to improve implementation.

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Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP)
FY 2022-2023 Allocation Funding Plan

Pennsylvania Commission on Crime & Delinquency (PCCD)
August 2023

Overarching Goals: Advance crisis intervention programs targeting risk factors likely to lead to gun violence + implement projects that support emerging issues and priorities.

Review of Funding Announcement

Act 79 of 2018 Qualitative Research Initiative

The goal of this solicitation is to evaluate current implementation of Act 79 of 2018 by local jurisdictions in Pennsylvania and identify strategies to improve implementation.

What is Act 79 of 2018?

Act 79 of 2018 went into effect on April 10, 2019, and marked a significant watershed moment for increasing protections for domestic violence victims/survivors in Pennsylvania.

This landmark bipartisan legislation established new requirements and procedures for firearm relinquishment in cases of Protection From Abuse (PFA) orders and convictions of misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence within 24 hours.

The law spurred a dramatic shift in practices for courts, victim advocates, and state and local law enforcement impacted by the law's provisions and responsible for carrying out its implementation in local jurisdictions.

More information on the changes implemented by Act 79 of 2018 can be found on the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence website.

Building on Previous Research

- More than 60,000 weapons relinquishment orders were granted between May 2019 and January 2023.

- Approximately 35% of PFA cases during this period resulted in a final weapons relinquishment order (13,504 cases).

- Successful retrieval of weapons occurred 85% of the time, with more than 90% being retrieved on the same day or before.

- Sheriffs' departments are largely responsible for weapons relinquishments, performing over 75% of retrievals across the Commonwealth.

Analysis of Weapons Relinquishments in Protection-from-Abuse Orders in Pennsylvania, 2019-2022

Review of Funding Announcement

Important Dates

- **July 3, 2024** – Final date to submit questions regarding this announcement.

- **July 9, 2024** – Applications due in PCCD's Egrants System.

- **August 2, 2024** – Applications presented to the Victims' Services Advisory Committee for initial approval.

- **September 11, 2024** – Applications presented to the Commission for final action.

- **October 1, 2024** – Project start date

Funding Availability

One (1) grant
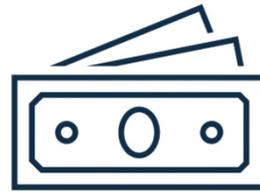
Budget not to exceed $500,000

Two-year project period

Eligible Applicants

Entities with experience, expertise, and credibility to conduct key project deliverables associated with this funding announcement.

- Institutions of higher education

- Nonprofit organizations

- Research agencies/institutions (including for-profit organizations)

Eligible & Ineligible Activities and Expenses

✅ Eligible:

Funds for the proposed program shall be used to implement project-related activities aligned with the project's goals, objectives, and key deliverables.

- Funds may only be used to pay for expenses directly related to the activities, management, and coordination of the project.
- Administrative costs are allowable; however, applicants are strongly encouraged to only budget for costs necessary for project implementation.

🚫 Ineligible:

- Prizes, rewards, entertainment, trinkets (or any type of monetary incentive)
- Client stipends
- Gift cards
- Food and Beverage
- Lobbying
- Land Acquisition
- Unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), including unmanned aircraft vehicles (UAV), and all accompanying accessories to support UAS or UAV
- Any unallowable costs listed in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide.

Objectives, Research Questions & Key Deliverables

Key Objectives

Objective 1

Conduct a comprehensive qualitative analysis of a subset of Pennsylvania counties' implementation of Act 79 of 2018 to provide context for findings from quantitative analysis previously conducted by PCCD/IUP, including determining local procedures for data collection and input.

Key Objectives

Objective 2

Assess community-level implementation of Act 79 through five critical lenses:

1. Victims seeking assistance from law enforcement and engaging in the PFA process in cases involving domestic violence with firearms
2. Law enforcement officers responsible for responding to cases of domestic violence where firearms are involved
3. Victim witnesses and victim services agencies helping clients navigating the PFA process while balancing safety considerations
4. Judges responsible for implementing Act 79's weapons relinquishment provisions within Pennsylvania's courtrooms
5. Sheriffs' offices and law enforcement agencies responsible for retrieval of weapons ordered to be relinquished as part of the PFA process

Key Objectives

Objective 3

Examine the effects of Act 79's weapons relinquishment requirements on victims' perceptions of safety and efficacy within the PFA process, including their willingness to seek protection, assistance, and intervention from the criminal justice system.

Objective 4

Recommend strategies for policy and practice changes at the state and local levels based on these findings and in consultation with key stakeholders most impacted by Act 79's provisions.

Research Questions

PCCD has outlined seven (7) questions which will help explore the implementation of Act 79 across Pennsylvania counties. These questions can be found in the **funding announcement** on the PCCD website.

Applicants should provide a detailed plan for their proposed qualitative research methods and activities designed to address these key research questions within their application.

Key Deliverables

1

Development and delivery of interim study reports with any preliminary findings.

2

Development and delivery of a final research report by the end of the project period, which includes a summary of key findings + recommendations.

Navigating the Application Process

Multi-Phased Process

Phase 1:
Application (Egrants)

Phase 2:
Application Review and Scoring

Phase 3:
Advisory Committee and Commission Approval

Phase 4:
Federal Approval (BJA)

Phase 5:
Project Implementation

Application Process

- Eligible organizations must submit applications using PCCD's Egrants System.
- Final recommendation of projects will be made following the receipt and review of applications in Egrants.

Applications must be submitted electronically in PCCD's Egrants System by 11:59 p.m. on July 9, 2024.
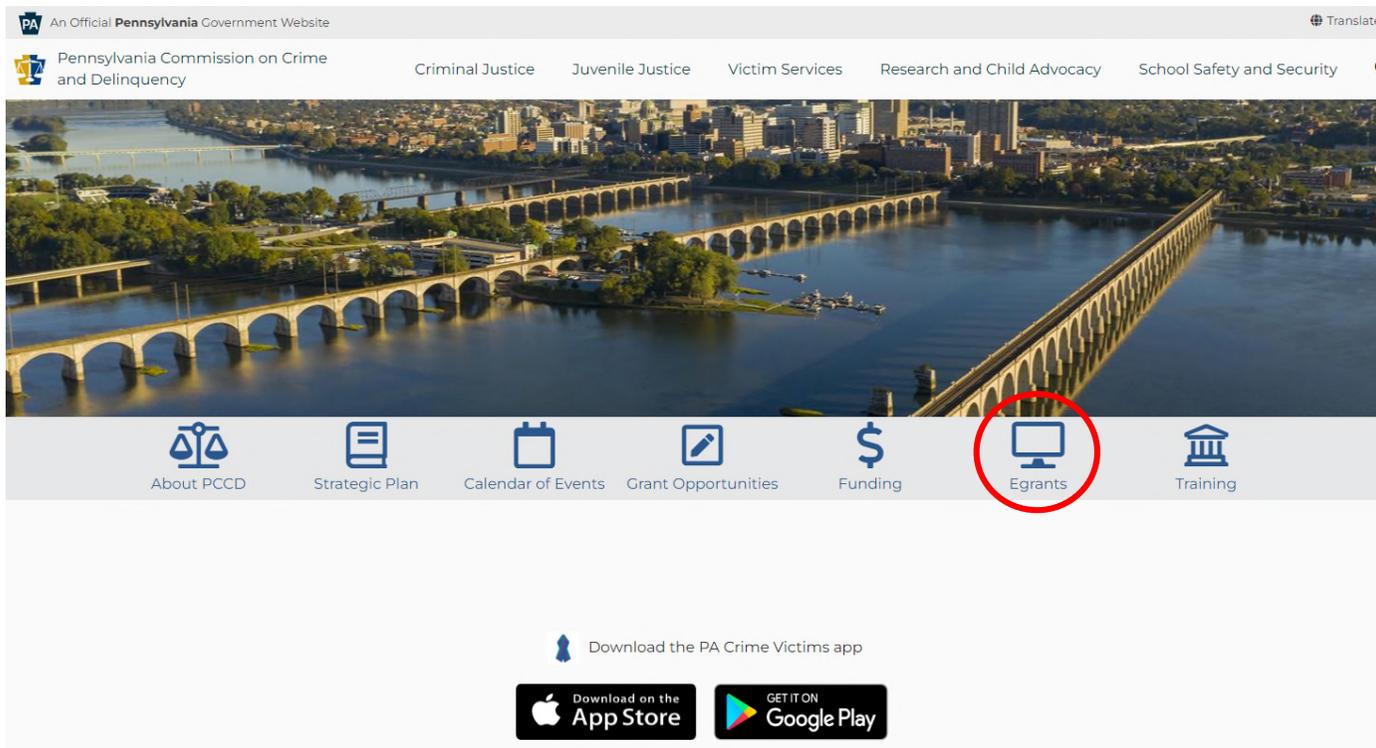
Getting Started in Egrants

Step 1: Create an Egrants account (see *Getting Started in Egrants* webpage + the PCCD Egrants Keystone Login Guide).

Step 2: Register your organization with Egrants.

Step 3: Request roles in Egrants (see Appendix A) to make sure you have the right users and permissions set up.

Egrants

Agency Registration

Complete the **Egrants Agency Registration Request Form**

PCCD Home Page → Egrants icon.

Your agency must be properly registered in Egrants if you intend to apply for a grant.

*Authorized Officials are persons with contract signing authority; generally, the Executive Director or Head Administrator of the Agency.

Return completed form to RA-eGrantsSupport@pa.gov.

User Roles

Access to the Agency's grants are separated into six unique roles:

- **Financial Creator** can ***view and create*** fiscal information (manage budget section information, fiscal reports, etc.)
- **Financial Reader** can ***view*** fiscal information
- **Program Creator** can ***view and create*** program information (manage program section information, program reports, etc.)
- **Program Reader** can ***view*** program information
- **Submission** can ***submit*** grant forms like applications, modification, and continuations
- **User Manager** can ***manage user roles*** for the Agency's grants (*will still need other roles if performing other duties*)

User Registration Tip

Every agency must register **two users** in order to complete their grant application.

egrants

User Manager

Every agency should have an **Agency User Manager** security role.

- The User Manager approves role requests and maintains existing security for users already established within their agency.

- PCCD Home Page → Egrants icon
  User Manager Help Guide

Need Assistance with Egrants?

If you have questions, contact the Egrants Help Desk:

- Email: RA-EgrantsSupport@pa.gov

- Call: (717) 787-5887

- Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm

Other useful resources:

- Getting started in Egrants

- Applicant resources

- Grant application walkthrough

What's Required in the Application?

- ✓ Executive Summary
- ✓ Statement of Problem (10 points)
- ✓ Project Design & Implementation (35 points)
- ✓ Anticipated Project Outcomes & Impact (15 points)
- ✓ Capabilities & Competencies (25 points)
- ✓ Budget Detail (15 points)
- ✓ Required Attachments

NOTE: Applicants are **strongly** encouraged to carefully read and review the written funding announcement document <u>prior</u> to starting their Egrants application.

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Act 79 of 2018 Qualitative Research Initiative
_____
Fiscal Year 2022-23 Byrne SCIP Solicitation

Please Note: Applications are *only* accepted through PCCD's Egrants system. Applicants must register in Egrants prior to submitting an application. Applicants are strongly encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Egrants system and allow adequate time to prepare and submit an application.

Recommended Egrants Agency Registration Date:
Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Recommended Egrants User Registration Date:
Tuesday, July 2, 2024

Mandatory Egrants Application Deadline:
Tuesday, July 9, 2024

This funding guideline contains information not appearing in the Egrants application. Applicants are advised to print and review this document and refer to it while completing your Egrants application.

PCCD staff may only respond to questions to clarify the funding announcement. Questions must be sent via email to: RA-PCCD-OCJSI@pa.gov with "Act 79 Qualitative Research Initiative" in the subject line. All questions regarding this funding announcement must be received by close of business on July 3, 2024. PCCD staff will post responses to questions, as they are received, on PCCD's website. Select the appropriate funding announcement to view questions and answers.

For any technical or system questions, contact and ask for the Egrants Help Desk at (717) 787-5887 or (800) 692-7292, or by emailing RA-eGrantsSupport@pa.gov.

PCCD's Funding Process

PCCD grants are reimbursement based (i.e., money isn't provided "up front" for project expenses).

Grantees can only receive reimbursement funding for actual expenses approved by PCCD and DOJ/BJA.

In general, grant funds are designed to support project and program-related expenses, not general operating costs.

PCCD funding must supplement, not supplant existing funding sources/programs.

How to Ask Questions and Seek Support

How to Ask Questions

Today's webinar!

E-mail PCCD at RA-PCCD-OCJSI@pa.gov

Answers will be posted on PCCD's Funding Announcement Q&A webpage.

? Check the online Q&A document before asking a question. We might have already answered it.

Frequently-Asked Questions

Frequently-Asked Questions

Is there a mandated indirect cost rate?

Are there specific formatting requirements (page limits, font, spacing, etc.) for applications?

Are gift cards and/or stipends allowable expenses?

Thanks for joining us!