



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

SEP 01 2020

The Honorable Abby Finkenauer
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Finkenauer:

This responds to your letter to the Attorney General dated April 2, 2020, regarding the Department of Justice's plan for the distribution of emergency assistance to Iowa, using funds recently provided by Congress, pursuant to the "Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act" or the "CARES Act," (Pub. L. 116-136) to address the ongoing outbreak of coronavirus.

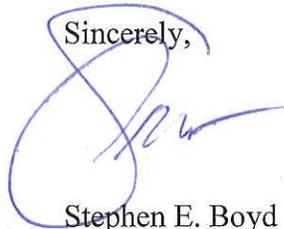
The Office of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) released the FY 2020 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) Program solicitation on March 30, 2020, and rapidly funded successful applicants as a top priority on a rolling basis as applications were received. The solicitation is available online at <https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/bja-2020-18553>, and the deadline to apply was May 29, 2020. The CESF Program provides \$850 million to assist eligible states, local units of government, and tribes in preventing, preparing for, and responding to the coronavirus. Allowable projects and purchases include, but are not limited to, overtime pay, equipment (including law enforcement and medical personal protective equipment), hiring, supplies (such as gloves, masks, sanitizer), training, travel expenses, and addressing the medical needs of inmates in state, local, and tribal prisons, jails, and detention centers.

The allocation of awards for the CESF Program is based on the congressionally mandated Byrne Justice Assistance Grant formula that was created as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005 (Pub. L. 108-447). This formula can be enhanced and adjusted in proportion to the relative amounts statutorily designated. Under this formula, the allocation for the State of Iowa is \$5,754,321, and the total allocation for local entities in Iowa is \$2,986,529. All of the state and local allocations are available online here: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/fy20-cesf-allocations>. The State of Iowa's funding request has been received and was processed on Friday, April 10. The grantee and congressional offices were notified accordingly.

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We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact this office if we may provide additional assistance regarding this or any other matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Boyd", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Stephen E. Boyd
Assistant Attorney General