

FY26 Congressionally Directed Spending Request Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Subcommittee Guidance

Office of Senator Jeanne Shaheen

The information below reflects the updated guidance received from the Senate Appropriations Committee for fiscal year (FY) 2026 with respect to congressionally directed spending (CDS) requests. Should you have any questions, please contact Senator Shaheen's office at appropriations_shaheen@shaheen.senate.gov or call 202-224-2841.

Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies

The CJS Subcommittee will accept CDS requests in the following accounts:

- **“Department of Commerce; National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST); Scientific and Technical Research Services (STRS); External Projects”;**
- **“Department of Commerce; NIST; Construction of Research Facilities; Extramural Construction”;**
- **“Department of Commerce; National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); Operations, Research, and Facilities (ORF); Special Projects”;**
- **“Department of Justice; Office on Justice Programs; State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance; Byrne Discretionary”;**
- **“Department of Justice; Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS); COPS Law Enforcement Technology and Equipment”;** and
- **“National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Safety, Security and Mission Support”.**

The Subcommittee recommends that CDS projects create private sector jobs, advance research and development, or save lives. CJS CDS projects should not be viewed as continuous funding sources and should be distinct from competitive grant opportunities at the relevant agencies. As a general matter, funding should be for one-time costs that do not create permanent resource requirements for the recipient. CDS projects should be viewed as a way to jump start or complete an activity – not sustain it over time. Requests should budget for only one year of funding and not multiple years.

NIST STRS, External Projects:

The Subcommittee will accept CDS requests for NIST STRS. Projects should address scientific, technological, and standards-related research and technology development, limited to equipment, initial salaries, and limited contracting. There must be a clear, demonstrable nexus to the research component of the project and to a NIST research program. Construction projects will not be accepted. NIST allows minor alterations in terms of “retrofits,” based on how the agency utilizes STRS internally, including electrical and/or HVAC upgrades, and other minor modifications (e.g., expanding a door or putting up a partition wall). Anything that

could be considered new construction (e.g., pouring a foundation or erecting walls or a roof) is not allowable.

NIST Construction of Research Facilities, Extramural Construction:

The Subcommittee will accept CDS requests for NIST Extramural Construction projects for non-Federal research facilities, including for projects at research institutions and colleges and universities. However, given the significant investments necessary for construction projects, only a very limited number of projects will be supported on an annual basis.

NOAA ORF, Special Projects:

The Subcommittee will accept CDS requests for NOAA ORF. Projects should address fisheries, marine mammals, ocean, coastal issues, climate, weather, atmospheric research, data acquisition, and forecasting programs. Construction projects will not be accepted.

DOJ Byrne Discretionary:

The Subcommittee will accept CDS requests for Byrne Discretionary projects. Projects should provide additional personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance, and information systems. All projects must have a nexus to the criminal justice system, and funding cannot be used for land acquisition or construction. For additional guidance on allowable expenses, please refer to the most recent [Byrne Discretionary solicitation](#). CDS requests funded in a final bill will be subject to the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#).

DOJ COPS Law Enforcement Technology and Equipment:

The Subcommittee will accept CDS requests for COPS Law Enforcement Technology and Equipment for the development of technologies and automated systems to assist law enforcement agencies in investigating, responding to, and preventing crime. Recipients shall include State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments and their public agencies (for example, police and/or sheriff's departments).

Allowable activities are limited to the statutorily allowable purpose areas under the [COPS Office statute](#), including the procurement of equipment, technology, or support systems, and the development of new technologies to assist recipient entities in reorienting the emphasis of their activities from reacting to crime to preventing crime. For additional guidance on allowable expenses, please refer to a recent [COPS Technology and Equipment Program solicitation](#). CDS requests funded in a final bill will be subject to the requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#), and the applicable Award Owner's Manual.

NASA Safety, Security and Mission Support (SSMS):

The Subcommittee will accept CDS requests for NASA SSMS. Projects should focus on science education, research, and technology development related to NASA's

mission. Medical research projects and projects at NASA- owned Visitor Centers or a State's designated Space Grant Consortium will not be funded. This account cannot fund construction but may be used for equipment, research funding, or education programs.