

**STATE OF ARKANSAS  
ACCOUNTABILITY COURT FUNDING  
JUVENILE SPECIALTY COURTS  
FY2016-2017 COMPETITIVE GRANT SOLICITATION**

**Notice of Intent to Apply:**

Prior to submitting a completed grant application, applicants are required to submit a Notification of Intent to Apply for applicable base funding via email or letter to Arkansas Community Correction (ACC). The Notification of Intent shall specify the amount of basic funding that will be requested in the grant submission pursuant to the Specialty Court Funding Formula basic funding allocation. This will allow ACC and AOC to determine how much additional funding above the base funding formula that may be awarded to applicants in addition to their base request that will be included in the grant application. Refer to instructions in the Competitive Grant Solicitation for details on submitting the Notice of Intent to Apply.

**Application:**

Juvenile Specialty Courts applying for an Arkansas Accountability Court Grant must include the following components in the application:

1. Summary
  - a. Juvenile Detention and DYS commitment Reduction Plan Estimates
  - b. Description of target population
  - c. Specialty Court Team
  - d. Identified need for specialty court funding
  - e. Description of how proposed grant funding will provide improvements in Juvenile Drug Courts by implementing "Sixteen Strategies" and/or Evidenced-Based Programs to improve the effectiveness of Juvenile Drug Courts
2. Specialty Court Advisory Committee Commitment
3. Timeline for Program Implementation
4. Proposed Budget

Components of the application requirements are briefly discussed below. Each section of the application submitted must include a heading that corresponds to the headings listed below.

### **1. Summary**

The summary will serve as a stand-alone document that will be shared with the Accountability Court Grant Committee that provides a brief description of the Juvenile Specialty Court proposed plan to divert offenders from juvenile detention or state juvenile/treatment facilities, including an estimated reduction goal in detention and commitments, along with an estimated costs savings in a fiscal year. The summary shall also include a brief description of the target population following the “Sixteen Strategies” for Juvenile Drug Courts (*Note: Juvenile Specialty Courts are currently capped at 25 participants at any time due to staffing limitations*).

A list of the Juvenile Specialty Court Team shall be included that complies with the recommended team members outlined in the “Sixteen Strategies” for Juvenile Drug Courts. The team members shall be listed by profession and include contact information (physical and email addresses, and phone numbers).

The summary will identify the need for grant funding and describe how the grant funding will assist in implementing the “Sixteen Strategies” or Evidenced-Based Program(s), which will ultimately lead to a reduction in detention and commitments in the judicial district.

### **2. Specialty Court Advisory Committee Commitment**

Applicant and members of the Specialty Court Team must attach a statement signed by each member stating the program will incorporate data collection, standards and evaluation criteria requirements that may be adopted by the Specialty Court Advisory Committee.

### **3. Timeline for Program Implementation**

Proposal should include an estimated timeline for implementation of the plan including task to be completed, individual(s) responsible and estimated time from commencing program to completion. The timeline should include major milestones of the project such as training, implementing new reporting system, beginning of services, development of MOU's, etc.

#### **4. Proposed Budget**

Using the template and forms provided, include a detailed budget and brief narrative justification of how grant funds will be used to assist in implementing the “Sixteen Strategies” and/or Evidenced-Based Program(s) to reduce detention or commitments in your judicial district. Applicant should include a statement that the Accountability Court Grant funds will not be used to supplant existing county-funded programs.

All grant funds shall be deposited with the county in the judicial district where the Juvenile Specialty Court is located. In judicial districts having more than one county with an approved Juvenile Specialty Court, the judge may designate the treasurer of one of the counties in the district to receive the grant funds. The treasurer designated by the court shall maintain a separate account of all grant funds and expenditures by program funded.

#### **Application Scoring (not to be included in grant submission)**

Plans will be reviewed and applications for implementation funding will be scored according to completeness and accuracy of the application with respect to the following elements:

- a. Summary - Total of 70 points to include:
  - Reduction plan (20 points)
  - Description of Target population (10 points)
  - Description of Juvenile Specialty Court Team (5 points)
  - Description of Identified Need – Gaps in Sanctions/Services (15 Points)
  - Funding for “Sixteen Strategies” or Evidence Based Practices (20 points)
- b. Specialty Court Advisory Committee Commitment (10 points)
- c. Timeline (5 points)
- d. Budget (15 points)

All grant awards made will include all requirements contained in the Accountability Court Grant Funding Announcement document even though they are not specifically reiterated in the application.