



# COPS Fact Sheet

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COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

## Homeland Security Overtime Program

"THE MORE TIME AMERICAN  
LAW ENFORCEMENT  
PROFESSIONALS CAN SPEND IN  
THE COMMUNITIES THEY SERVE,  
THE SAFER THOSE COMMUNITIES  
WILL BE. MAINTAINING SAFETY  
FROM THE INCREASING THREAT  
OF TERRORISM REQUIRES  
EXPANDING LAW ENFORCEMENT  
PRESENCE."

CARL R. PEED  
COPS DIRECTOR

COPS developed the Homeland Security Overtime Program (HSOP) to increase the amount of overtime funding available to support community policing and homeland security efforts. As state, local, and tribal law enforcement embrace the challenges of securing our homeland, this is now more important than ever. HSOP supported programs that increased community safety and security and reduced public fear. HSOP grants supplemented the selected agencies' state- or locally-funded officer overtime budgets, increasing the amount of funding available for these critical functions.

### Securing our Homeland

HSOP offered state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies the opportunity to supplement their officer overtime budgets for a period of one year. HSOP grants could be used to pay officer overtime during homeland security training sessions and other law enforcement activities designed to help prevent acts of terrorism and other violent or drug-related crimes. Law enforcement agencies that had temporarily lost sworn officers to military reserve duty and wished to deploy other officers on an overtime basis to help address these

temporary vacancies were also encouraged to apply under this program. HSOP funds supported the overtime efforts of nonsupervisory, sworn personnel such as intelligence officers, crime analysts, undercover officers, and others working on homeland security or terrorism task forces.

### Funding Provisions

The National Strategy for Homeland Security, the Administration's road map for securing the homeland, highlights the key role that state, local, and tribal governments play in responding to a terrorist attack. In addition, terrorism preparedness and prevention have become key responsibilities for state, local, and tribal units. While all established policing agencies were eligible to apply for this program, priority consideration was given to applications that demonstrated the use of community policing strategies to prepare for or respond to acts of terrorism through officer overtime.

Law enforcement agencies could apply for funding amounts based on the size of the population they served or the size of their budgeted sworn strength at the time of application, according to the table below.

<u>Agencies serving populations:</u>	OR	<u>Budgeted sworn force:</u>	<u>Could apply for a federal share of up to:</u>
less than 24,999		1-49	\$25,000
from 25,000 to 49,999		50-99	\$50,000
from 50,000 to 99,999		100-199	\$100,000
from 100,000 to 249,999		200-499	\$250,000
from 250,000 to 499,999		500-999	\$500,000
from 500,000 to 999,999		1,000-1,999	\$1,000,000
more than 1,000,000		above 2,000	\$3,000,000

COPS offers a variety of publications, products, and training opportunities to advance community policing and support its grant programs. COPS publications and products offer insights and experiences from others in the field addressing specific problems, including:

- ✓ COPS Innovations:
  - Local Law Enforcement Responds to Terrorism:
  - Lessons in Prevention and Preparedness
- ✓ COPS Curriculum & Video:
  - Effective Management of Police Overtime

COPS also sponsors training opportunities and conferences to give law enforcement professionals an opportunity to learn, network, and exchange ideas. COPS publications and training opportunities are posted at COPS Online at [www.cops.usdoj.gov](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov).

Federal funds could be requested for up to 75 percent of the total requested additional overtime costs, with a minimum 25 percent local cash match. The match must have been a cash match, made from local, state, or other non-COPS funds and could not be paid through reallocating funds otherwise budgeted for specific law enforcement purposes. Overtime grants were awarded for a one year period.

*Waivers of the local match were not available for grants awarded under HSOP.*

HSOP grants could not be used to reimburse agencies for past overtime expenditures. These funds could be used only for nonsupervisory, sworn personnel and could not be applied toward civilian or reserve officer costs. HSOP funds were used to support officer overtime at the same pay scale that the agency would normally have used for locally funded overtime.

*Agencies could not rely on the availability of HSOP grant funding to reduce the amount of state or local funds budgeted for officer overtime in their current or future budget cycles.*

### **Funding in Fiscal Year 2003**

In Fiscal Year 2003, the COPS Office awarded approximately \$60 million through HSOP to 294 agencies in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

### **Contact COPS**

For more information, call the COPS Office Response Center at 800.421.6770, or visit COPS Online at [www.cops.usdoj.gov](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov).