



# 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. COPS' HSOP will support programs that increase community safety and security, and reduce public fear. HSOP grants will supplement the selected agencies' state or locally-funded officer overtime budgets, increasing the amount of overtime funding available for these critical functions.

### Securing our Homeland

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

temporary vacancies were also encouraged to apply under this program. HSOP funds may support the overtime efforts of non-supervisory, sworn personnel such as intelligence officers, crime analysts, undercover officers, and others who work on homeland security or terrorism task forces.

### Funding Provisions

The National Strategy for Homeland Security, the Administration's roadmap 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 serve or the size of their budgeted sworn strength at the time of application, according to the table below.

<u>Agencies serving populations:</u>	<u>OR</u>	<u>Budgeted sworn force:</u>	<u>Were eligible to apply for a federal share of up to:</u>
under 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
over 1,000,000		above 2,000	\$3,000,000

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 be a cash match, made from local, state, or other non-COPS funds and may not be paid through reallocating funds otherwise budgeted for specific law enforcement purposes.

Overtime grants are awarded for a one-year period. In determining how much additional overtime funding to request, agencies were required to consider the one-year grant period, the amount of state or local funding that they will otherwise budget for officer overtime, their ability to meet the 25 percent local match for federally supported overtime, their past officer overtime expenditures, and their current and anticipated law enforcement needs that will require additional officer overtime beyond the state or locally-funded amount.

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

HSOP grants cannot be used to reimburse agencies for past overtime expenditures. These funds may only be used for non-supervisory, sworn personnel and may not be applied towards civilian or reserve officer costs. HSOP funds must be used to support officer overtime at the same pay scale that the agency would normally use for overtime that is locally funded.

*Agencies may 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***

The COPS Office awarded approximately \$60 million through HSOP to 294 agencies in all 50 states plus the District of Columbia.

### ***Contact COPS***

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

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).