



DAVE YOST
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

NOTICE OF GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Ohio Court Technology Grant Application Instructions

**Application Deadline
April 19, 2026**

Background

Ohio law requires the Ohio Attorney General's Office (AGO) to provide funding to courts and clerks of the court of common pleas, whether elected or appointed, for technological services including the provision of hardware and software. The funds are to support local Ohio courts by providing financial resources to aid in the implementation of technology-based projects.

Grant Summary

The AGO is requesting Ohio Court Technology Grant applications to fund new or improvement technology projects throughout Ohio in eligible counties. The AGO will consider grant awards to applicants who are eligible and complete a grant application.

Project periods may not exceed 24 months and must begin on or after June 1, 2026. Funding notifications are anticipated at the end of April 2026.

Eligibility

Ohio courts and clerks of the court of common pleas are eligible to submit one application containing one technology-focused project for funding consideration.

Eligible courts must complete the online application located at <https://grants.ohio.gov/>. Authorized individuals must have or create an [OHID](#) account to apply.

Applicants must meet each of the following eligibility requirements:

- Reside in a county with a total population of less than 125,000, based on the most recent federal census.
- Be authorized by an appropriate authority to apply.
- Be compliant with all the following state-mandated provisions or the funding request is to bring the court into compliance with the provision(s):
 - Online dockets for Common Pleas as required by 134th GA, HB 567
 - Electronic filing as required by 135th GA, HB 305; ORC 1901.313
 - Electronic reporting of dispositions to BCI (either through the FTP "FileZilla" service or OHLEG eDisposition Portal)
 - Compliance with [Superintendence.pdf](#) Rule 5(E) and (F) with either a plan in place or in development at the time of application.

Grant Applications and Considerations

Funding Priorities

The following are identified as funding priorities and project considerations for this grant cycle. Applying in response to a priority does not guarantee funding.

A. Applicant Priority Considerations:

- Becoming compliant with state law and the provisions in the Eligibility section.

B. Project Considerations:

- Previous Technology Grant funding and/or NCHIP grant funding may be a factor dependent upon available funding and applications received. However, all eligible courts and clerks of court are encouraged to apply for eligible projects.
- Projects that utilize technology to modernize operations and increase efficiency and responsiveness to the public and assist with maintaining compliance with state law. Examples include funding to implement e-filing as an upgrade to Case Management System (CMS) or through third-party vendor.
- Projects that support the judicial system with enabling technology infrastructure for essential services for the administration of justice. Funding for new or major upgrades to a CMS to improve case flow processing, address backlogs, access to records, security of records, public access to the courts, electronic disposition reporting to BCI and/or electronic information sharing at the local level.
- Ongoing maintenance costs associated with operating criminal livescan fingerprint devices can be allowable grant costs.
- Local contributions are not required but, if committed, should be included in the application's Implementation Plan. Grant funding shall not supplant local funding.

Rights and Limitations

There is no maximum request. However, to the extent requests exceed funding, the AGO reserves the right to limit award amounts by application to maximize the impact of the limited funds available.

The AGO reserves the right to refuse to fund applicants, propose different funding amounts in appropriate circumstances, and decline to fund any applicants should the AGO not find any proposals acceptable.

Furthermore, the AGO reserves the right to terminate a grant agreement and recoup any funds misspent by an applicant or not spent effectively by an applicant to complete the applicant's proposal. The AGO may conduct site visits to observe and evaluate grant programs. The AGO reserves the right to audit any recipient to ensure compliance with the terms set forth in the application or grant agreement.

Ineligible Costs

This grant will not support reimbursement for prior purchases. Additionally, this cycle of the Technology Grant will not support staffing costs, security-related expenses, and will only fund new or upgraded technology systems.

Required Attachments

A quotation from the vendor(s) for costs associated with the project must be submitted with the application by the deadline. Quotes must be valid and detailed with a breakdown of expenses to assess reasonableness of costs and include the vendor's information. The required format for quotes is PDF. Applications received by the deadline without quotes will not be considered for funding. Quote(s) should match the total amount of grant funding requested.

Certification of compliance with all eligibility provisions must be downloaded from the grant system, completed and submitted with the application. Applications received by the deadline without the certification form will not be considered for funding.

Application Criteria

Applicants should respond to the following information within their application. Applicants will have up to 2,000 characters to respond to each question. To be competitive, applicants should clearly communicate their responses and provide detail in these sections. One or two sentences are typically not sufficient for a quality response.

- (1) *Project Summary*: Provide a summary explaining the project, overall objective(s), expected measurable outcome(s), and must include the proposed project start and end dates.
- (2) *Project Impact*: Explain the project's expected impact and value to the public. The objective should include how the project will meet requirements as well as affect access to services and administration of justice.
- (3) *Severity of the Problem*: Detail the severity or urgency of the issue such as impending changes, challenges or issues.
- (4) *Implementation Plan*: Provide a detailed implementation plan. The plan should include a project timeline or key milestones, describe project tasks, funding source(s) for long-term maintenance including committed local support, staff members that will be involved in the project and the source of funds for additional staff as needed, etc.
- (5) *Application Criteria*: Confirm the applicant entity is compliant with all state-mandated provisions in the Eligibility section or detail how the proposed project meets the funding priority of becoming compliant. If applicable to the project, detail how it aligns with any of the project considerations in the Grant Application section.

Application Review Process

Representatives selected by the Attorney General's Office will review all applications and make recommendations for awards, with the AGO administration having the final say on the selected submissions. The review committee and/or the Attorney General's Office may make use of

resources beyond the materials submitted in each application and/or request additional information or documentation from applicants.

Requests for additional information from applicants will include a due date by which applicants must respond. The Ohio Attorney General's Office reserves the right to make exceptions to these requirements and consider modifying program guidelines on a case-by-case basis.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated using a combination of the Applicant Priorities, Considerations and Evaluation Criteria to create a recommended funding-priority list using the following criteria. Funds will be awarded to projects until available funds are exhausted.

To what extent does the project:

- Align with the funding priority and project considerations.
- Positively impact the public with new or improved services.
- Address a severe or pervasive need.
- Request a funding amount that is reasonable and accurately reflects the project.
- Demonstrate a well-designed implementation plan.

Reporting Requirements

Successful applicants must submit annual reports and a final report upon project completion. If selected for funding, exact due dates will be determined based on the approved project timeline. Projects may have additional AGO reporting mandates to ensure completion of the project prior to expiration of the grant funds.

Following procurement, installation, and implementation of the purchase or upgrade, the successful applicant must provide written notification of completion and documentation of paid expenses to the AGO. All projects must be operational and in active use by May 31, 2028.

Courts will provide documentation of the expenditure on all funds awarded or return remaining funds within 30 days of the end of the contract or project completion, whichever comes first.

Failure to Comply

Failure to comply with reporting requirements or other aspects of the grant agreement could result in the termination of the award and reimbursement of grant funds to the AGO.

Payment of Grant

Successful applicants will receive payment one-time within 30 days following receipt of a fully executed Grant Award Agreement.

Successful applicants must be registered as a Payee in the [OhioPays system](#) to receive grant funds by EFT or check. Applicants must ensure contact and organizational information is accurate and up to date at time of application. OhioPays registration instructions are [available here](#).

You must log into the OhioPays system using your personal OH|ID. Visit [Create an Account | OHID](#) to create or update your account. OH|ID is your personal account (it is for you, not for your organization). If you have technology issues, please call 877-644-6771.

Terms and Conditions

Successful applicants will be required to do the following, as applicable:

- Utilize program funds to implement the project as proposed.
- Meet all stated objectives of the grant award.
- Execute a Grant Award Agreement with the AGO.
- Provide confirmation of the execution of a contract for services or confirmation of the purchase of all items made with grant funds to the AGO within 30 days after receipt of grant funds, if requested.
- Provide the AGO close out documentation of the project including copies of the vendor invoices and proof of payment within 30 days of the end of the contract or project completion, whichever comes first.
- Provide the AGO, upon request, any activity and financial reports related to the project.
- Utilize funds to address authorized purposes and costs only. Ongoing maintenance costs of a funded project beyond the project period is the responsibility of the receiving court.
- Notify the AGO in writing immediately of a decision to decline the grant award.
- Notify the AGO of any changes to the contact information submitted within the application.
- Successful applicants may be included in future outreach and promotional materials, as determined by the AGO. Additionally, news releases and articles released throughout the program period by the AGO may include informal updates about the program, as applicable.

Application Submission

All requests for funding must be received by the deadline through the online application system accessed here: [Funding Opportunities | The Ohio Grants Partnership](#). Follow the steps below. Additional resources are available on the website to support the application process.

Authorized individuals must have an OH|ID account to apply. Visit [Create an Account | OHID](#) to create or update your account. OH|ID is your personal account (it is for you, not for your organization). If you have technology issues, please call 877-644-6771.

Steps to create an OH|ID account

1. Visit [Create an Account | OHID](#). OH|ID is your personal account (it is for you, not for your organization).
2. When registering, please use the same email address you intend to use when completing the grant application form.
3. Once your OH|ID credentials are created, you can log into the [Ohio Grants Portal](#) and complete your application.

Steps to Apply

1. Visit <https://grants.ohio.gov/fundingopportunities.aspx>.
2. Locate the “**FY26 Ohio Court Technology Grant**” and click the corresponding hyperlink.
4. Review the information and click Apply.
5. To proceed, you must log in using your OH|ID (Ohio’s Digital Identity Standard). If you do not have an OH|ID, you will need to create one (see above) to access and submit the application.

Key Considerations

- Only one application may be submitted.
- Applicants must respond to all required fields on the application.
- The primary contact and the name of the Administrative Judge are required to be included in the application contacts.
- Required attachments must be included with the application by the deadline. Applications without the required attachments submitted by the deadline will not be considered for funding.
- Applications will be accepted from **March 6, 2026, through April 19, 2026**. Late applications will not be accepted.

Contact Information

Questions regarding this request may be submitted to:

Mary Cannon, Director of Grants Management

Ohio Attorney General’s Office

Finance Department

mary.cannon@ohioago.gov

614-466-6729