

**Administrative Office of the Courts**  
**NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY**  
**NOFO #: FO-2026MY-JFSCIP-017**  
**NOFO Issued: *March 18, 2026***



**Department Juvenile and Family Services**

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**FY2026 Mid-year Foster Care Court Improvement Program Child Welfare Grant**

Funds have been appropriated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, to provide financial assistance to state and local units of government, non-profit organizations, institutions of higher education, and local courts in Maryland to assist with improving safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes **for children, youth, and families involved in the child welfare system**. The Administrative Office of the Courts, Juvenile and Family Services, administers the grant.

**Grant Purpose**

The Foster Care Court Improvement Program (FCCIP) continues to pursue efforts at improving how the courts handle child welfare cases, with attention to national best practices, state and federal guidelines, and practices implemented locally in jurisdictions throughout the State. *Projects must be currently implemented or be a short-term initiative.*

- Provide trauma responsive services and supports to parents, caregivers, and youth
- Support provided to make alternative dispute resolution (ADR) processes more accessible
- *Support program continuation efforts*
- Offer education, training, or professional development
- *Research and data projects*

**Eligible Applicants**

- State and Local Governments *within the state of Maryland*

- Non-Profit Organizations *within the state of Maryland*
- Institutions of Higher Education *within the state of Maryland*

**Availability and Awards of Funds**

The availability of funds is contingent upon the provision of funds in the Maryland Judiciary budget by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. Applicants who are awarded funding will receive notice by May 29, 2026.

**Match Requirements**

No match required.

**Funding Cycle: June 1, 2026 – September 30, 2026**

**Special Requirements**

Grant-funded Program staff will collaborate with Judiciary staff who manage the FCCIP Child Welfare Grants. All grantees must adhere to all state and federal regulations, grant terms and conditions, and reporting and auditing requirements.

**APPLICATION SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

**Application Due: **April 24, 2026, by 5:00pm****

**Documents:** Scanned PDF submitted by email only  
**Email - Subject Line:** **“NOFA, Applicant Name, Grant Program”** *(Please submit emails with the Subject Title as described.)*

Delivery Address: [DJFS.Childwelfare@mdcourts.gov](mailto:DJFS.Childwelfare@mdcourts.gov)

**Grant Submission Checklist**

- Signed Grant Application
- Attachment 1: Proposed Budget with Justification
- Attachment 2: Certified Assurances
- Attachment 3: Audit Certification

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- Attachment 4: Subrecipient Organizational Capacity Questionnaire
- Support Letter Required. Non-court applicants are required to upload (2) support letters. At least one support letter must come from a court sent to [DJFS.Childwelfare@mdcourts.gov](mailto:DJFS.Childwelfare@mdcourts.gov) directly from the author.
- Most Recent Organizational Chart
- Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate (NICRA) Document (if applicable)
- Proof of 501(c)(3) Status (for non-profits)

**Additional Terms & Requirements**

- General Grant Conditions and Child Welfare Special Conditions under the Foster Care Court Improvement Program (FCCIP) Funds effective October 1, 2021.
- Applicant needs to be a legal entity registered in SAM.gov. Throughout the entire period of the grant, the Subrecipient must maintain a valid Unique Entity Identifier and current registration in SAM.gov.

**Questions:** Email

[DJFS.Childwelfare@mdcourts.gov](mailto:DJFS.Childwelfare@mdcourts.gov) or call 410-260-1259

**APPLICATION FORMS AVAILABLE**