
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 472 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY BREWSTER, HUGHES, COSTA, LANGERHOLC AND LEACH,
MARCH 28, 2019

REFERRED TO LAW AND JUSTICE, MARCH 28, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, in general provisions, providing for
3 Municipal Police Enhancement Consolidation Grant Program and
4 establishing the Municipal Police Enhancement Consolidation
5 Grant Program Fund.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Chapter 23 of Title 53 of the Pennsylvania
9 Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a subchapter to read:

10 SUBCHAPTER D

11 MUNICIPAL POLICE ENHANCEMENT

12 CONSOLIDATION GRANT PROGRAM

13 Sec.

14 2351. Definitions.

15 2352. Establishment of program.

16 2353. Publication and notice of program.

17 2354. Award of grants.

18 2355. Applications for grants.

19 2356. Accreditation or consolidation incentives.

1 2357. Municipal Police Enhancement Consolidation Grant Program
2 Fund.

3 § 2351. Definitions.

4 The following words and phrases when used in this subchapter
5 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
6 context clearly indicates otherwise:

7 "Application." An application submitted under section
8 2355(c) (relating to applications for grants) for a grant under
9 the program.

10 "Commission." The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and
11 Delinquency.

12 "Consolidation." The process of consolidating two or more
13 municipal police departments under Subchapter A (relating to
14 intergovernmental cooperation) or by a contract for services.

15 "Fund." The Municipal Police Enhancement Consolidation Grant
16 Program Fund established under section 2357(a) (relating to
17 Municipal Police Enhancement Consolidation Grant Program Fund).

18 "Municipality." A city of the second class A, a city of the
19 third class, a borough, a township of the first class or a
20 township of the second class.

21 "Municipal police department." A police department that has
22 been organized and established by a municipality.

23 "Program." The Municipal Police Enhancement Consolidation
24 Grant Program established under section 2352 (relating to
25 establishment of program).

26 § 2352. Establishment of program.

27 The Municipal Police Enhancement Consolidation Grant Program
28 is established and shall be administered by the commission.
29 Grants provided under the program shall be used to improve and
30 enhance the capabilities of municipal police departments,

1 incentivize consolidation and provide training and other
2 appropriate resources to municipal police officers.

3 § 2353. Publication and notice of program.

4 The commission shall transmit notice of the availability of
5 grants under the program to the Legislative Reference Bureau for
6 publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin within 120 days from
7 June 30, 2020, for grants under the program for the fiscal year
8 beginning July 1, 2020, and by August 8 for grants under the
9 program for each fiscal year thereafter.

10 § 2354. Award of grants.

11 (a) Authorization.--The commission may award grants under
12 the program to municipal police departments for any of the
13 following:

14 (1) Consolidation.

15 (2) Achieving accreditation standards of the
16 International Association of Chiefs of Police.

17 (3) Training and certification of municipal police
18 officers.

19 (4) Community outreach programs.

20 (5) Enhanced mental health services for municipal police
21 officers.

22 (b) Additional grants.--A municipal police department with
23 no more than 10 police officers shall be eligible to receive
24 additional grants under the program in accordance with the
25 certification bonus point system under section 2356 (relating to
26 accreditation or consolidation incentives) for any of the
27 following:

28 (1) Consolidation.

29 (2) Achieving accreditation standards of the
30 International Association of Chiefs of Police.

1 (c) Grant limits.--The following apply:

2 (1) A grant under the program shall not be less than
3 \$5,000 nor more than \$15,000 per municipal police department.

4 (2) Grants may be awarded on a pro rata basis if the
5 total dollar amount of applications submitted under section
6 2355(c) (relating to applications for grants) exceeds the
7 amount of money appropriated by the General Assembly for the
8 program.

9 § 2355. Applications for grants.

10 (a) Instructions.--Within 120 days of June 30, 2020, for
11 applications for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, and by
12 September 1 for applications for each fiscal year thereafter,
13 the commission shall provide written notice of the application
14 instructions to the chief of each municipal police department or
15 the chief executive of each municipality.

16 (b) Applications.--Within 180 days of June 30, 2020, for
17 applications for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, and by
18 October 1 for applications for each fiscal year thereafter, the
19 commission shall provide applications to the chief of each
20 municipal police department or the chief executive of each
21 municipality.

22 (c) Submission.--A municipal police department seeking a
23 grant under the program shall submit a completed application to
24 the commission within an application period prescribed by the
25 commission. The application period shall remain open for 60 days
26 each year.

27 (d) Approval or disapproval.--The commission shall approve
28 or disapprove an application received under subsection (c)
29 within 120 days after the close of the application period. An
30 application which has not been approved or disapproved by the

1 commission within 120 days after the close of the application
2 period shall be deemed approved.

3 § 2356. Accreditation or consolidation incentives.

4 The commission shall establish a certification bonus point
5 system to provide additional grant funding to a municipal police
6 department which has achieved accreditation or consolidation.

7 § 2357. Municipal Police Enhancement Consolidation Grant
8 Program Fund.

9 (a) Establishment.--The Municipal Police Enhancement
10 Consolidation Grant Program Fund is established in the State
11 Treasury for the purpose of making grants under the program.

12 (b) Funding.--Grants under the program may be awarded from
13 money appropriated, allocated or otherwise made available to the
14 fund.

15 (c) Transfers.--If a tax is imposed on the extraction of
16 natural gas in this Commonwealth, the first \$10,000,000 of the
17 tax shall be deposited in the fund each year.

18 (d) Administration.--The following apply:

19 (1) Except as provided under paragraph (2), money in the
20 fund may not be used for expenses or costs incurred by the
21 commission for the administration of the program.

22 (2) The commission may allocate no more than \$500,000 of
23 unencumbered money remaining in the fund for the
24 administrative costs of the program.

25 (e) Grant allocations.--Money in the fund shall be allocated
26 as follows:

27 (1) Twenty-five percent of the money shall be used for
28 grants to municipal police departments that have achieved
29 consolidation.

30 (2) Seventy-five percent of the money shall be for

1 grants to municipal police departments for the following
2 purposes:

3 (i) Achieving accreditation standards of the
4 International Association of Chiefs of Police.

5 (ii) Training and certification of municipal police
6 officers.

7 (iii) Community outreach programs.

8 (iv) Enhanced mental health services for municipal
9 police officers.

10 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.