

Grant Policy

PSAP grants are authorized by G.S. 143B-1407(c) and require a PSAP Grant Agreement with the 911 Board. Funding reconsiderations may be considered by the NC 911 Board pursuant to GS 143B-1406(a)(4) and the Board's policies regarding funding reconsiderations.

A) Grant Priorities

The Board shall establish one or more priorities to be utilized in evaluating and awarding grants. Priorities shall be established not less than sixty (60) days in advance of advertising grant availability. Unless otherwise provided by law, the Board may identify a sum or a percentage of revenues to fund grants together with funding priorities.

B) Grant Cycles

The Board may establish one or more grant cycles in each fiscal year. The earliest may occur following notice of the 911 Board's proposed funding in December of each year. In establishing a grant cycle, the Board shall advertise grant availability, and operate the grant program in a manner that leverages local government budgetary processes and available funds. In the first quarter of the Board's fiscal year, the Board may allocate funds for grants as authorized by GS 143B-1405(c)¹ (from CMRS allocations) and GS 143B-1406(b)² (from PSAP allocations).

Grant cycles will be advertised as required by GS 143B-1407 and the Board's Rules. Applications shall be due no later than 90 days from the first day of the grant cycle, unless otherwise established by the Board.

Board staff will conduct a grant application process workshop which may be attended in person, subject to available meeting space, or electronically. Staff will review the application form, the priorities established by the Board, conduct a question and answer session, and identify submission requirements such as interlocal agreements, or similar activities pertinent to the grant process.

C) Grant Review and Evaluation

The Board's staff will review all grant applications prior to evaluation. Staff shall confer with grant committee regarding need for subject matter experts (SMEs) and take action to secure such services or other action as directed by the Executive Director. Staff shall advise the Grant Committee regarding funding reconsiderations and grant funding, any impact upon a grant applicant's future funding arising from the applicant's request, communications between staff and an applicant to clarify a grant application, and such other matters as relevant to the grant program.

¹ The 911 Board may reallocate funds under this subsection only once each calendar year and may do so only within the three-month period that follows the end of the fiscal year. If the 911 Board reallocates more than a total of three million dollars (\$ 3,000,000) to the PSAP Grant and Statewide 911 Projects Account in a calendar year, it must consider reducing the amount of the service charge in [G.S. 143B-1404](#) to reflect more accurately the underlying costs of providing 911 system services.

The 911 Board must make the following findings before it reallocates funds to the PSAP Grant and Statewide 911 Projects Account:

- (1) There is a critical need for additional funding for PSAPs in rural or high-cost areas to ensure that enhanced 911 service is deployed throughout the State.
- (2) The reallocation will not impair cost recovery by CMRS providers.
- (3) The reallocation will not result in the insolvency of the 911 Fund.

² The 911 Board must determine how revenue that is allocated to the 911 Fund for distribution to primary PSAPs and is not needed to make the base amount distribution required by subdivision (a)(1) of this section is to be used. The 911 Board must designate a percentage of the remaining funds to be distributed to primary PSAPs on a per capita basis and a percentage to be allocated to the PSAP Grant Account established in [G.S. 143B-1407](#). If the 911 Board does not designate an amount to be allocated to the PSAP Grant Account, the 911 Board must distribute all of the remaining funds on a per capita basis.

Effective date: 1 January 2019

Grant applicants shall appear before the Grant Committee, or the Board, at a date and time scheduled for oral presentations.

The Grant Committee will consider the applications and evaluate each application after applicants' oral presentations. Evaluation criteria shall include requirements of GS 143B-1407, priorities established by the Board and other criteria as necessary or proper. Following review and evaluation by the Grant Committee, staff shall prepare an action item for reporting out committee's deliberations including fiscal reviews, SME reports/advice, rationale for recommendation, and such other information as directed by the Grant Committee.

D) Grant Agreements

Grant agreements must be executed by the grantees and returned to the Executive Director with any necessary interlocal agreements or other necessary documentation within ninety (90) days of presentation to the grantee.³

E) Grant Funding Modifications

Grantees seeking additional funding through their grant agreements must submit an application in a grant cycle. In the event a grantee submits a request for additional funding as an amendment to a grant agreement, the Board and the Executive Director shall refer the request to the Grant Committee. The 911 Board Staff will review all requests. The Staff may request such other and further information as deemed necessary to fully consider the request. PSAPs shall provide such information as requested pursuant to GS 143B-1406(f).

PSAPs should not apply for a grant when part of the funding requested is an expense eligible for a funding reconsideration⁴. Grant applications presenting, or including, a funding reconsideration request shall be referred to the Executive Director and the Funding Committee⁵.

F) Grant Termination, Suspension, Close out

PSAP representatives shall attend 911 Board meetings to present their requests, provide additional information, clarification, and support their requests. The Funding Committee shall act without delay in any action taken, and shall make a recommendation to the 911 Board for action no later than the Board's May meeting.

The Executive Director will provide periodic reports on grantees' progress and funding. Upon closing out a grant, any remaining funds allocated to the grant shall revert to the grant fund.

G) Grant Committee Membership

The Board Chair may appoint two or more Board members, and other persons as the Chair determines upon recommendation of a Board member or the Executive Director. The Executive Director may, upon request of the Grant Committee or at the direction of the Board Chair, identify one or more subject matter experts to assist the Grant Committee with review and evaluation of grant applications. In the absence of a Grant Committee, grant applications will be reviewed and evaluated by all members of the 911 Board.

³ Board vote 8/26/16

⁴ Board vote 9/25/15

⁵ Board action 8/26/16