

SJI Newsletter

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SJI Awards FY 2018 Fourth Quarter Grants

The SJI Board of Directors met on September 10, 2018, at the Supreme Court of Nebraska to make decisions on quarterly grant applications and awarded a total of 11 new grants.

Five (5) [Strategic Initiatives Grants](#) were awarded: the [National Judicial Opioid Task Force](#) (NJOTF) to begin critical work on the impact of children and opioids in state courts; a final phase of the NJOTF core activities; the [National Center for State Courts](#) (NCSC) for continuity of operations planning updates in the wake of Hurricanes Irma, Maria, and Harvey; the NCSC for evidence-based public access policies; and the NCSC for building resilient and transformative courts through judge and staff development. One (1) Project Grant was awarded to the Colorado Judiciary for a peer-to-peer coaching initiative. Four (4) [Technical Assistance Grants](#) were awarded: a process re-engineering project for the New Mexico Court of Appeals; a technology strategic plan for the Pinal County, Arizona, Superior Court; development of a science bench book and webinars for judges for the [National Judicial College](#); and a domestic violence assessment for the Missouri Judiciary. One (1) [Curriculum Adaptation and Training \(CAT\)](#) Grant was awarded to the New York Unified Court System for a judicial faculty development training program.

The next deadline for grant applications is November 1, 2018 (FY 2019, 1st quarter).



FY 2019 Education Support Program

The Education Support Program (ESP) supports full-time state court judges and court managers to attend courses that enhance their knowledge, skills, and abilities which they could not otherwise attend because of limited state, local, and personal budgets. The National Judicial College (NJC) and the National Center for State Courts/Institute for Court Management (ICM) will administer the ESP program separately, in partnership and with funding from SJI.

COVERED COSTS

The Education Support Program (ESP) only covers the cost of tuition up to a maximum of \$1,000 per award. Awards will be made for the exact amount requested for tuition. Funds to pay tuition in excess of \$1,000, and other costs of participating in a course such as travel, transportation, meals, materials, and transportation to and from airports (including rental cars) at the site of the education program, must be obtained from other sources or be borne by the ESP award recipient.

ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS

Because of the limited amount of funding available, only full-time judges of state or local trial and appellate courts; full-time professional state or local court personnel with management responsibilities or on a professional career track; and supervisory and management probation officials in judicial branch probation offices are eligible for the program. Senior judges, part-time judges, quasi-judicial hearing officers including referees and commissioners, administrative law judges, staff attorneys, law clerks, line staff, law enforcement officers, and other executive branch personnel are not eligible. Applicants are limited to one ESP award every other fiscal year (i.e. if awarded an ESP in FY 2018, the applicant will remain ineligible until FY 2020), unless the course specifically assumes multi-year participation as part of a certificate program.

ELIGIBLE COURSES

Awards are only for courses presented by the NJC and ICM in a U.S. jurisdiction to participants in the U.S. or U.S. Territories. These courses are designed to enhance the skills of new or experienced judges and court managers. Participation during annual or mid-year conferences or meetings of a state or national organization does not qualify for ESP purposes, even though the conference may include workshops or other training sessions.

HOW AND WHEN TO APPLY

For NJC courses:

To seek an ESP to attend an NJC course, simply find the course you wish to attend on the NJC website: www.judges.org/courses, and click register. During the registration process, the website will ask whether you need a scholarship to attend. Simply follow the online instructions to request tuition assistance. If you have any questions about this process, you may contact NJC Scholarship Coordinator Rebecca Bluemer, at bluemer@judges.org or 800-255-8343. The NJC reserves the right to apply additional selection criteria.

For ICM courses:

To seek an ESP to participate in the ICM Fellows Program, submit a completed application to ICM Education Program Manager Amy McDowell, at amcdowell@ncsc.org. If you have any questions about this process, you may contact her at 757-259-1552 or via email.

To seek an ESP to participate in an ICM course, find the course you wish to attend on the ICM website: www.courses.ncsc.org, and click register. During the registration process, the website will ask if you need a scholarship to participate. Follow the online instructions to request tuition assistance. If you have any questions about this process, you may contact, ICM Director of National Programs Margaret Allen, at mallen@ncsc.org or 757-259-1581. ICM reserves the right to apply additional selection criteria.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF ESP AWARD RECIPIENTS

Recipients are responsible for disseminating the information received from the course, when possible, to their court colleagues locally and, if possible, throughout the state. The NJC and ICM may impose additional requirements on recipients.



National Judicial Opioid Task Force Holds First of Three-Part Webinar Series

The [National Judicial Opioid Task Force](#) (NJOTF), in collaboration with the [Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Training and Technical Assistance Center](#), held the first of three webinars earlier this month. The series is designed to help participants gain greater knowledge about how state courts can, and already are, working with prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs) to address the opioid crisis.

Part 2 of this series will address access to, and use of, information contained in PDMPs. Topics in the webinar will include:

- types of PDMP reports;
- court access of PDMP data;
- valuable uses of PDMP information in the justice system; and,
- other important topics.

To join this webinar on October 18th at 3:00 PM Eastern Time, follow this link:

<https://brandeis.zoom.us/j/132766241> (Advance registration is not required. Zoom software will be used for the presentation and may need to be downloaded before the webinar begins).

If you missed Part 1 in this webinar series, you can access it via the NJOTF website:

<https://pdmpassist.wistia.com/medias/c8m8cs9ruw> Courts and their stakeholders are encouraged to share this content and invitations to future webinars.



NJC Opens Registration for 2019 Courses

The [National Judicial College](#) (NJC) has announced its [2019 Course Calendar](#).

These in-person courses are popular and early registration is advised. Full course descriptions are available on the website and questions can be answered by calling (800) 25-JUDGE. Online courses and webinars are being updated and opened for registration as they become available. All courses listed are held at the NJC's headquarters in Reno, Nevada, unless otherwise noted. To register, simply search by title or topic area and register through the link provided.

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The State Justice Institute is a federally-funded, non-profit corporation established by federal law in 1984 to improve the quality of justice in the state courts.

Products and Resources

Since 2011, SJI has designated the library at the National Center for State Courts as the official repository of published work related to SJI-supported grant projects. You can search the ecollection online by using the term, State Justice Institute.

Share the News

SJI uses [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to promote the work of its grantees and also shares information of interest to the entire state court community. If your organization's work complements ours, let us know and we will share.