



SJI Newsletter

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Principles On Fines, Fees, and Bail Practices

The Conference of Chief Justices/Conference of State Court Administrators (CCJ/COSCA) National Task Force on Fines, Fees, and Bail Practices recently released an 8-page report titled, [Principles on Fines, Fees, and Bail Practices](#).

The principles each fall into one of the following seven categories:

- Structural and Policy-Related Principles
- Governance Principles
- Transparency Principles
- Fundamental Fairness Principles
- Pretrial Release and Bail Reform Principles
- Fines, Fees and Alternative Sanctions
- Principles; and, Accountability Principles

Categories and principles are expected to be refined as the Task Force and its stakeholders work through existing and emerging issues on court fines, fees, and bail practices, including pending legislation and cases in individual states.

The [Task Force](#) originated in 2016 from the [Conference of Chief Justices](#) and the [Conference of State Court Administrators](#). Collaboration at the time identified a need to: develop recommendations and tools to promote the fair and efficient enforcement of the law; ensure no person is denied access to the justice system based on lack of economic resources; and, develop policies relating to legal financial obligations that promote access, fairness, and transparency. SJI, along with the DOJ/ Bureau of Justice Assistance, has provided grant funding to support the work of the Task Force.



SJI 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.



The Intersection Between Prostitution, Human Trafficking, and Victimization Among Justice-Involved Women

The [Human Trafficking and the State Courts Collaborative](#) recently added a [new resource](#) a webinar by the [National Resource Center on Justice Involved Women](#) and the [Center for Court Innovation](#) that explores the nexus between prostitution, human trafficking, and victimization among justice involved women. Over 200 participants registered for the original webinar, and it continues to be shared weekly.

Content included:

- Strategies that justice system stakeholders can take to identify women who may be victims of exploitation and human trafficking;
- Tools to address their needs; and,
- Ways the justice system and its partners can collectively improve their response to these women.

The full [webinar](#) is available online as are the materials and additional resources.



NACM Annual Meeting Registration Now Open

Registration for the [National Association for Court Management \(NACM\)](#) Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia, July 22-26, 2018, is now open.

Early Bird registration (available through May 15th) is advised as recent meetings have generally filled, resulting in a waitlist. For this meeting, attendees will need to register for the event first, before reserving their accommodations.

SJI has committed to supporting specific tracks at the meeting, including those educational sessions that support SJIs [Priority Investment Areas](#).

The Mind the Gap theme will help attendees engage in the practical application of mindfulness in order to anticipate and respond to gaps while addressing the challenges that face courts.

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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 organizations work complements ours, let us know and we will share.