

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS
Program Name: Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP)

FY 2017 Request

Total Funding: \$22.5M*
 Vs. FY 2016 Enacted: No Change

*In FY 2017, this program is requested as a carve-out of the Byrne Justice Assistance



Body armor, like seatbelts, saves lives.

Program Description

Purpose: To help save the lives of state and local law enforcement officers by providing funds to support the purchase of bulletproof vests by state, local and tribal law enforcement and public safety agencies.

Authorizing Legislation: Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998

Administering Agency: Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)

DOJ Strategic Objective 2.1: Combat the threat, incidence, and prevalence of violent crime by leveraging strategic partnerships to investigate, arrest, and prosecute violent offenders and illegal firearms traffickers.

Who can Apply for Funding: Any recognized unit of general government (states, counties, federally recognized tribes, cities, and local jurisdictions).

How Funds are Distributed: Reimbursement for up to 50% of the cost for qualifying bulletproof vests for public safety officers, with the remaining cost covered by the 50% match requirement. Since FY 2009, jurisdictions have been able to request a waiver of the match requirement based on financial hardship and receive up to 100% of the cost of each vest submitted for reimbursement. Funds are available for two years from the award announcement. There have not been sufficient funds for BJA to make awards to large jurisdictions since 2012 because of the requirement to fund qualifying units of local government with fewer than 100,000 residents first.

Program Goal:

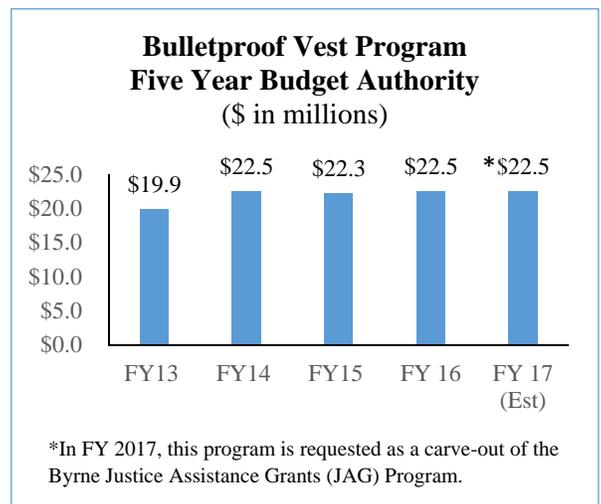
The BVP supports the purchase of body armor that has been tested and found to comply with applicable ballistic and stab standards promulgated by the National Institute of Justice's (NIJ) Standard 0101.06 Ballistic Resistance of Police Body Armor.

Accomplishments

- Since its inception in 1999, over 13,000 jurisdictions have participated in the BVP.
- Since December 2014, more than 1.2 million vests have been purchased at a cost of approximately \$303 million.
- In FYs 2014 and 2015, protective vests were directly attributable to saving the lives of at least 16 law enforcement and corrections officers (based on data collected by BJA).

FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program: N/A

FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program: N/A



Application and Award History

(\$ in millions)	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Amount Appropriated	\$19.9	\$22.5	\$22.3	\$22.5	[\$22.5]* Requested
Total Funding Awarded^	\$16.3	\$18.6	\$18.2	TBD	TBD
Number of Applications	5,081	4,763	3,975	4,800 Est.	5,000 Est.
Number of Vests	182,215	167,300	170,000 Est.	190,000 Est.	200,000 Est.

*In FY 2017, this program is requested as a carve-out of the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) Program.

^Total Funding Awarded does not include funds used for management and administration, peer review, or other authorized purposes.

For additional information, please visit: [Bulletproof Vest Partnership](#).