

OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

Program Name: National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Act Record Improvement Program (NARIP)

FY 2017 Request

Total Funding: \$5.0M
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted: -\$20.0M

Federal Prohibitions on Purchasing Firearms:

1. Convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term greater than one year;
2. Fugitive from justice;
3. Unlawful user or addiction to any controlled substance;
4. Adjudicated as a mental defective or involuntarily committed to a mental institution;
5. Illegal/unlawful alien;
6. Dishonorable discharge;
7. Renounced U.S. citizenship;
8. Subject to domestic violence restraining order;
9. Convicted of misdemeanor domestic violence; or
10. Under indictment for a crime punishable by imprisonment for a term exceeding one year.

Program Description

Purpose: To keep guns out of the hands of those prohibited by federal or state law from purchasing or possessing firearms.

This is accomplished by supporting states and federally recognized tribes in their efforts to improve the completeness, automation, and transmittal of records to state and federal systems. The automation of records also reduces delays for law-abiding gun purchasers.

Authorizing Legislation: The National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Improvement Amendments Act of 2007, Pub. L. 110-180

Administering Agency: Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)

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

Who can Apply for Funding: States that are able to provide a reasonable estimate of records subject to the NICS Improvement Amendments Act's (NIAA) completeness requirements to the Attorney General. The state must also implement a program permitting persons who have had firearm purchase rights restricted for mental health reasons to have such rights restored. This program must be approved by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) to be eligible for funding. Federally recognized Indian tribes are also eligible applicants.

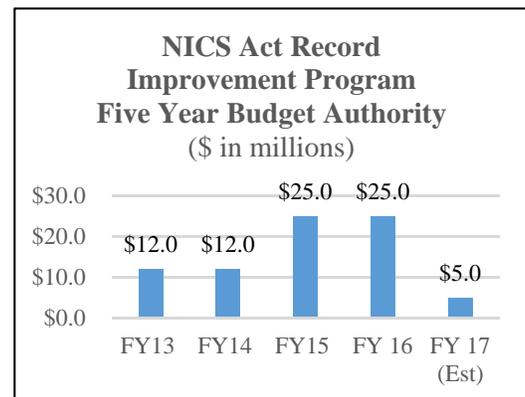
How Funds are Distributed: Awards are made as cooperative agreements for 24-month periods. BJS provides funding based on need and the extent to which the projects proposed address program priorities.

Program Goals: BJS seeks to further improve:

1. Record automation and transmittal to state and federal repositories;
2. Submission of domestic violence-related records (Convictions for misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence and restraining or protection orders); and
3. Submission of prohibiting mental health adjudications and commitments to state and federal repositories.

Accomplishments:

- State-submitted records in the NICS Index have increased over 363%, from just over 1.1 million records in January 2008, to over 5.1 million records at the end of 2014.
- State submission of mental health records has increased nearly 763%, from about 410,000 records in the beginning of 2008 to over 3.5 million records as of December 31, 2014.



- Several states have enacted promising practices, which involve identifying, collecting, maintaining, automating, and transmitting information that determines whether a person is prohibited by federal or state law from possessing or receiving a firearm, and that improves the availability of these records to national systems. Some practices focus on how to improve reporting of mental health information, while others address how to determine relevant records and how to facilitate broader national coordination.

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	\$12.0	\$12.0	\$25.0	\$25.0	\$5.0 Requested
Total Funding Awarded [^]	\$10.2	\$11.4	\$22.7	TBD	TBD
Number of Applications	17	18	22	TBD	TBD
Number of Awards	15	17	22	TBD	TBD

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

For additional information, please visit: [BJS NICS Act Record Improvement Program](#).