

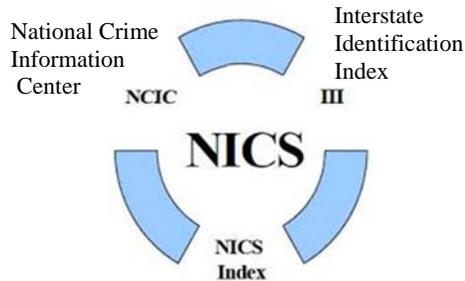
OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

Program Name: National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP)

FY 2017 Request

Total Funding: \$50.0M
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted: +\$2.0M

NCHIP supports multiple criminal history record databases and systems used to run a “NICS” background check:



Program Description

Purpose: To improve the nation's safety and security by enhancing the quality, completeness, and accessibility of criminal history record information and by ensuring the nationwide implementation of effective criminal justice and noncriminal justice background check systems.

Authorizing Legislation: The Crime Identification Technology Act of 1998 (CITA), Pub. L. No. 105-251, 112 Stat.1871 (1998), codified at 42 USC Section 14601 et seq, as well as several other statutory provisionsⁱ

Administering Agency: Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)

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 Funds: States and federally recognized Indian tribes. Only the agency designated by the governor to administer the NCHIP program can apply from each state.

How Funds are Distributed: The distribution of NCHIP funding is competitively awarded based on need rather than population or other formula-based methodology. Awards are made for up to 18 months. Funds are also allocated for national initiatives.

Program Goals: BJS is supporting states' efforts to:

1. Replace old and outdated systems so they can continue electronically contributing critical information such as fingerprint-based arrests, prosecutor and court dispositions, protection orders, etc. Modern well-functioning systems are essential to ensuring accurate, timely, and complete records.
2. Integrate systems to improve access to and exchange of information among criminal justice agencies, including law enforcement, courts, prosecutors, and corrections.
3. Ensure that comprehensive data are available to support background checks on persons employed or licensed for sensitive positions such as in airports, government facilities, law enforcement agencies, or with vulnerable populations including children, the elderly, or the disabled.



Accomplishments

- **Increased participation in national system:** Since 1993, the number of states participating in NCHIP's Interstate Identification Index (III) grew from 26 to all 50 states and the District of Columbia. There are over 88 million fingerprint-supported criminal history records accessible through III and available at the time of a background check.

- **National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS):** Developed, in part, through NCHIP funding, the NICS now supports about 20 million checks annually at the presale stage of firearms purchases.
- **Domestic Violence and Protection Orders:** States can submit data and flag criminal history records showing convictions for domestic violence or protection orders against people. All 50 states, the District of Columbia, and two territories are submitting records of active protection orders to the NCIC Protection Order File.

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

FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program: The use of appropriated funds will adhere to any priorities or limitations that might appear in House and Senate reports. Once BJS has obligated all of the funds that can be dedicated for these purposes, it will seek to obligate the remainder of funds in a manner authorized under the Crime Identification Technology Act of 1998 and for activities that provide for improvements in the accuracy, quality, timeliness, immediate accessibility, and integration of State and tribal criminal history and related records, support the development and enhancement of national systems of criminal history and related records including the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, the National Incident-Based Reporting System, and the records of the National Crime Information Center, facilitate State and tribal participation in national records and information systems, and support statistical research for critical analysis of the improvement and utilization of criminal history records, as authorized under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, Pub. L. No. 90-351 as amended.

Application and Award History

(\$ in millions)	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Amount Appropriated	\$6.0	\$46.5	\$48.0	\$48.0	\$50.0 Requested
Total Funding Awarded [^]	\$8.9*	\$27.4	\$34.2	TBD	TBD
Number of Applications	40	42	39	TBD	TBD
Number of Awards	37	40	38	TBD	TBD

* The Bureau of Justice Assistance transferred funds to BJS to supplement FY2013 awards.

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

For additional information, please visit: [National Criminal History Improvement Program \(NCHIP\)](#).

ⁱ The NCHIP program implements the grant provisions of: (1) The Crime Identification Technology Act of 1998 (CITA), Pub. L. No. 105-251, 112 Stat.1871 (1998), codified at 42 USC Section 14601 et seq.; (2) The Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act (Brady Act), Pub. L. No. 103-159, 107 Stat.1536 (1993), codified as amended at 18 U.S.C. Section 921 et seq.; (3) The National Child Protection Act of 1993 (NCPA), Pub. L. No. 103-209, 107 Stat. 2490 (1993), codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. Sections 3759, 5101 note, 5119, 5119a, 5119b, 5119c; (4) those provisions of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (Omnibus Act), Pub. L. No. 90-351, 82 Stat. 197 (1968), codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. Section 3711 et seq., as amended; and the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Violent Crime Control Act), Pub. L. No.103-322, 108 Stat. 1796 (1994), codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. Section 13701 et seq.; which pertain to the establishment, maintenance, analysis, or use of criminal history records and criminal record systems; (5) relevant requirements of the Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Act, Pub. L. No. 103-322, 108 Stat. 2038, Megan's Law, Pub. L. No. 104-145, 110 Stat. 1345, and the Pam Lychner Sexual Offender Tracking and Identification Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-236, 110 Stat. 3093; and Title 1 of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006, Pub. L. 109-248; (6) The Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000, Pub. L. No. 106-386, 114 Stat. 1464 (2000), and related laws pertaining to the identification, collection, analysis and interstate exchange of records relating to domestic violence and stalking (including protection orders); (7) The Violence Against Women Act of 1994, codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. Section 14031 et seq.; (8) The Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005, Pub. L. No. 109-162, 119 Stat 2960 (2006); and (9) relevant requirements of the Tribal Law and Order Act, Pub. L. No. 111-211, 124 Stat 2299, Section 251(b)(1) (2010).