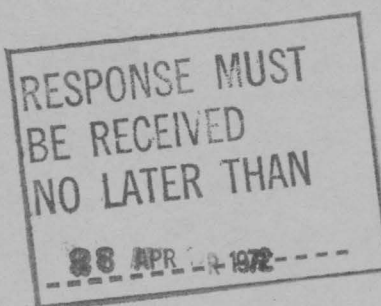
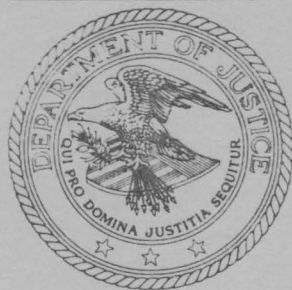


The original documents are located in Box 16, folder “Omnibus Crime Control Act, 1972” of the Stanley Scott Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM



TITLE I, OMNIBUS CRIME CONTROL ACT OF 1970
(PL91-644), SECTION 406 (e)

EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE DIVISION
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20530

CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

The Legislation: Title I, Omnibus Crime Control Act of 1970
(P.L. 91-644), Section 406(e)

- (e) The Administration is authorized to make grants to or enter into contracts with institutions of higher education, or combinations of such institutions, to assist them in planning, developing, strengthening, improving, or carrying out programs or projects for the development or demonstration of improved methods of law enforcement education, including --
- (1) planning for the development or expansion of undergraduate or graduate programs in law enforcement;
 - (2) education and training of faculty members;
 - (3) strengthening the law enforcement aspects of courses leading to an undergraduate, graduate, or professional degree; and
 - (4) research into, and development of, methods of educating students or faculty, including the preparation of teaching materials and the planning of curriculums.

The amount of a grant or contract may be up to 75 per centum of the total cost of programs and projects for which a grant or contract is made.

In a cover letter accompanying the Participation Criteria for the Educational Development Program authorized by the above legislation, Mr. Jerris Leonard, Administrator of LEAA, stressed that due to limited funding in the early stages, the development of "centers of excellence" would receive priority consideration.

The invitations directed to colleges and universities prompted a wide proliferation of some 300 "concept papers." About 30 of these papers addressed themselves to "centers of excellence." A panel evaluation of the papers revealed a wealth of ideas but the variety of concepts and individualized projections of costs indicated that the term, "centers of excellence," required greater definition.



Centers of Excellence Defined

A "center of excellence" is a university or a consortium of academic institutions, including a central university, which offers doctoral degrees in the social sciences and affiliates with an appropriately accredited medical school and law school. The institution designated as a "center of excellence" should offer a multi-disciplinary approach to the field of criminal justice. The following disciplines are viewed as being important (but not mandatory) for consideration:

Social Welfare	
School of Administration (Public-Business)	
Corrections	
Police Administration and Science	} Criminal Justice
Court Management	
Departments of Psychology/Sociology/Political Science	
Urban Affairs	
Systems Analysis	

The combination of the medical school and the law school as part of the university or consortium arrangement would make provisions for the exploration of the potential for the building of a criminal justice forensic science program. The institution should have, or be able to demonstrate, the capabilities of an interface with operating criminal and social justice agencies within an effective working range. Criminal justice internship programs and a research potential should be established with operating criminal justice and peripheral agencies, such as:

- a. police departments
- b. courts
- c. corrections (probation/parole)
- d. public welfare
- e. public health
- f. social work (private and public)
- g. city and county jails
- h. reformatories and prisons
- i. federal regulatory agencies
(FBI, BOP, BNDD, Treasury, etc.)

Ideally, each center would establish an institution that could serve as a point of coordination in welding the academic with the functional criminal and social justice system.

The Goals of a Center of Excellence

The interdisciplinary nature of any undergraduate program mandates that graduate programs provide a systems approach to criminal justice education while permitting specialization in a substantive area. Additional goals, not necessarily in order of their priority, are:

1. Plan, develop, strengthen, design, and demonstrate improved methods and coordination within the criminal justice system.
2. Promote the development of criminal justice-oriented educators through specialized courses, workshops and a close working liaison with the regional criminal justice system.
3. Guide the expansion of undergraduate and graduate educational programs available to criminal justice personnel.
4. Provide the necessary laboratory and experimental research necessary to strengthen academic work and practical application of innovative methods and systems in the field of criminal justice to the end that crime and delinquency are reduced and controlled.
5. Encourage the academic community to carry on research in building a new body of knowledge related to criminal justice.
6. Assist in the development of educational materials and curricula for students, faculty, and criminal justice personnel.
7. Stimulate the creation of a regional urban criminal justice laboratory making full use of all agencies within the accepted criminal justice field as well as those institutions having a peripheral contribution.
8. Explore the feasibility of the eventual establishment of a new doctoral program in criminal justice.



Long-range Plan for Centers of Excellence

Applicant institutions may expect approved funding to cover a period of three to four fiscal years. The initial funding would be for the period from May 1, 1972, to October 1, 1972 (FY 1972 funding). Centers of excellence will be expected to continue on a self-supporting basis at the end of the three to four years of federal support.

Role of State Planning Agency and Regional Administrator

Applications (LEAA Form 3620/1) are to be submitted in triplicate to the Regional Administrator (see list attached). The Regional Administrator will forward one copy to central MDA and one copy to the State Planning Agency (more than one if a multiple state institution). Recommendation will be requested from the State Planning Agency and from the Regional Administrator. Site visits may be made by SPA's and RA's upon receiving applications. Final selection will be made by the Administrator of LEAA after conferring with expert consultants.

Guidelines for Applications

Special instructions to assist in the formal application are appended to the form.

Evaluation of Proposals

Evaluation of proposals will consider the following:

1. Present commitment to area of proposal, or demonstrated ability to develop programs as defined within the parameters of "centers of excellence."
2. Projection (based on past performance) of ability of applicant institution to continue the "center" after termination of federal support.
3. Economics of program: Do dollar expenditures compare favorably with other applicant institutions? Do dollar estimates relate realistically to goals?
4. Appraisal of potential for growth: need for criminal justice education in geographical area; past working relationships with area governmental units.
5. Flexibility of organization to suggest change--to adapt to change.

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION FOR GRANT

for consideration as a

"center of excellence" in criminal justice under Section 406(e), Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-644).

These applications are being sent to universities offering interdisciplinary doctoral programs related to criminal justice. Because of limited funding, the "applications for grants" should address themselves only to "centers of excellence" as defined in the enclosed material.

Prepare in triplicate. Send the three documents to your regional administrator (see list attached). One copy will be forwarded to the State Planning Agency (or Agencies) involved; one copy will be forwarded to the Central Manpower Development Assistance Division; and one copy will be retained at the regional office.

Item 6. All applications will be "original grant applications."

Item 7. It is anticipated that project support will not exceed three to four fiscal years. Initial funding for FY 72 should cover a period from May 1, 1972, to September 1, 1973.

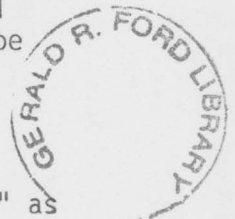
Item 8. Any costs, to be allowable, must be included in this grant application. It is expected that a selected recipient of a grant will endeavor to administer its project in the most efficient and economical manner possible. Application budgets are estimates of costs (within the award ceiling) necessary for project execution, and in the acceptance of any grant, the grantee should recognize a continuing obligation to conduct activities and scrutinize financial needs so that a maximum saving in budgeted expenses can be realized.

Item 14. I. Introduction and Specific Aims

Relate to the parameters of "centers of excellence" as defined earlier.

II. Program Impact

The proposal will be judged on the impact potential for developing and guiding criminal and social justice policies through the development and expansion of graduate programs and the strengthening of baccalaureate studies relating to criminal justice.



III. Methods

In addition to the description of methods on the grant application, a specific plan should include criminal justice curriculum development; research capabilities and plans; development of educational materials; development of methods of teaching and training criminal justice faculty; and development of technical services. Suggested inclusions are:

- A. Provision for and training of faculty and staff to conduct site visits and/or workshops and seminars addressed to relevant needs.
- B. Development of a placement service to assist criminal justice personnel and agencies.
- C. Provisions for a registry of criminal justice faculty to list available teaching personnel consistent with their particular field of expertise.

V. Dissemination

Dissemination of information should not await specific report deadlines but must be a continuing reporting process. As specific theories are developed and tested, such information should be reported in order to provide an expeditious flow of technological transfer through the Regional Administrator and the central MDAD.

VI. Resources

Applications should reflect the ability to transfer newly developed information, concepts, theory and methodology, and to suggest the potential of adaptability to other settings, both culturally and geographically. The application will be judged on the authorizing institution's expressed capabilities to continue the proposed "center of excellence" after the withdrawal of federal funding.

On-site visitations will be made to verify the qualifications and stated resources of all organizations that may be listed as having a role in the overall project. It is imperative that a "center of excellence" have the capabilities of working with and within an area-wide, totally functional criminal justice system, peripheral social agencies and a cooperative, involved community structure.

Consortia arrangements made with other colleges, universities (or divisions thereof), or other agencies and institutions that expand the potential for implementing the broadest possible capabilities, within the definition of "centers of excellence," to serve the field of criminal justice and impinging services, should be identified.

- Item 15. Additional copies of this proposal should be circulated within the departments of the institution and among the participating institutions if consortia arrangements are an integral part of this application. If a shared responsibility is implied or expressed in the proposal, this application should be signed by authorized officials of the participating institution.
- Item 16. "Centers of excellence" support is expected to cover a period of at least three fiscal years.



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