

FACT SHEET



Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Grant (EUDL)

Authorization

The Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Grant Program was established by federal authority through Congressional appropriations statutes. Beginning in 1998 up through the present, Congress has appropriated \$25 million each year for the EUDL program.

The EUDL program supports and enhances efforts by states and local jurisdictions to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors. The program encourages close partnerships between law enforcement agencies and community groups involved in preventing and intervening in underage drinking. The EUDL initiative is the **only federal program devoted exclusively to preventing alcohol consumption by minors**. The block grant funds are available for the general purpose of supporting the enforcement of underage drinking laws.

Administration

The U.S. Department of Justice, **Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)** has oversight of this program at the federal level. The **Department of Public Safety (DPS)** has been designated by the Governor of Missouri as the single state agency to receive, manage, and administer the EUDL Grant Program in Missouri.

Eligible Program Areas

In Missouri, EUDL program funds focus on law enforcement, emphasizing compliance checks of retail alcohol outlets and other enforcement operations focused specifically on reducing the availability of alcohol to minors and enforcing underage drinking laws. EUDL program funds are made available under one or more of the following program areas:

1. **Compliance Checks**—Compliance Checks utilize an underage buyer working under the direction of a law enforcement agency. The underage buyer enters a licensed liquor establishment and attempts to purchase alcoholic beverages. This operation may be conducted at on-premise sites (bars, restaurants, clubs, etc.) and off-premise businesses (convenience stores, grocery stores, gas stations).
2. **Party Prevention Patrols/Controlled Party Dispersal**—Party Prevention Patrols consist of officers patrolling communities at times when youth activities that may be a catalyst for underage drinking parties may occur. This may be youth activities such as prom, homecoming, graduation, school carnivals, etc. Controlled Party Dispersal goes hand in hand with Party Prevention Patrols. If the patrol encounters an underage drinking party, the officers call for backup and then use proper party dispersal protocol.
3. **Bar Patrols**— Bar Patrols consists of utilizing officers to patrol on-site liquor establishments (bars, restaurants, clubs) to ensure that underage youth are not being served by the establishment. This operation may consist of officers checking ID's of patrons to verify legal age has been attained. Law enforcement officers will want to maintain a good working relationship with the businesses, so certain protocol for such operations must be followed.
4. **Special Events Management/Task Force Operations**—This purpose area consists of the implementation of procedures to address underage drinking at large scale events. These events may be concerts, holiday activities such as Mardi Gras or Fourth of July festivities, or other events that bring an influx of people into a local jurisdiction. The operations focus on limiting the time of the function, designating areas for consumption of alcohol, and training vendors on the laws concerning alcohol consumption. Enforcement techniques to spot underage drinkers and transactions are also utilized. Emphasis may be placed on developing multi-jurisdictional task forces to deal with these events since they generally draw attendees from several regions and the local law enforcement agencies are often not equipped to handle the increased population.

**Please note that funds for operations may only be utilized to cover the costs of overtime for officers who conduct law enforcement activities and for a stipend paid to the underage youth operative(s) involved in the EUDL operation(s)*

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants for funding are local units of government (municipalities and counties) and public safety departments located on college campuses. Agencies may apply individually, or neighboring applicants may pool their enforcement resources and apply as a single **Regional Task Force**. Agencies cannot apply as both an individual agency and as a member of a task force.

Competitive Bid Process

The EUDL Grant Program is announced in July each year. **Applications are due in September.**

Project Period

The EUDL projects generally run from **January 1 through December 31** each year.

See the Department of Public Safety website at www.dps.mo.gov for more information.