

## 2025-27 Budget Review

### Criminal Justice Commission

	2021-23 Actual	2023-25 Legislatively Approved *	2025-27 Current Service Level	2025-27 Governor's Budget
General Fund	121,868,436	139,468,384	83,929,850	154,337,177
Lottery Funds	460,935	603,177	628,510	628,510
Other Funds	43,003,134	61,348,502	10,430,222	65,421,869
Federal Funds	6,244,004	13,375,225	14,458,203	15,086,681
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>171,576,509</b>	<b>214,795,288</b>	<b>109,446,785</b>	<b>235,474,237</b>
Positions	27	35	30	37
FTE	24.77	32.00	30.00	37.00

\* Includes legislative and administrative actions through December 2024.

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) administers Oregon’s felony sentencing guidelines, analyzes crime trends and sentencing policy data, estimates the fiscal and racial/ethnic impact of statewide public safety legislation and initiatives, administers several competitive grant programs, staffs the Asset Forfeiture Oversight Committee and Public Safety Task Force, and has guided the implementation of Oregon’s Justice Reinvestment Initiative. The agency is overseen by a nine-member body created by the 1995 Legislature to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of state and local criminal justice systems by serving as a centralized and impartial forum for statewide public safety policy development, planning, and agency coordination.

General Fund is the primary operating revenue source and funding for the Commission’s grant programs, which account for roughly 94% of the budget. Other Funds revenue is derived from civil and criminal forfeiture proceeds and from grants. In the 2023-25 biennium, the Other Funds budget increased significantly, due to General Fund deposits into funds established for certain programs administered by the Commission, which requires Other Funds expenditure limitation to utilize those funds. Federal Funds are primarily from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program and the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

### BUDGET ENVIRONMENT

Recent biennia have seen a rapid expansion of the Commission’s responsibilities, and in each of the past few sessions the Legislature has established new programs for the agency to administer, including but not limited to: the Illegal Marijuana Market Enforcement Grant program (2018), the Improving People’s

Access to Community-based Treatments, Supports, and Services (IMPACTS) program (2019), Innovative Grant program and the Restorative Justice Grant program (2021), the Justice Reinvestment Equity Program (2022), the Organized Retail Theft Grant program (2023), and the Behavioral Health Deflection program and Jail-Based Medications for Opioid Use Disorder grant program (2024).

Most of these programs have been supported through one-time funding provided by the Legislature, which then must decide on continuing program funding in subsequent biennia. This creates uncertainty among grant recipients on the long-term viability of these programs and for the Commission's staffing levels, which need to monitor and report on program outcomes long after funds are distributed.

The most recent investment, related to decriminalization of possession of a controlled substance within HB 4002 (2024), included one-time funding for the Behavioral Health Deflection program, which provides grants to counties and tribal governments to fund deflection programs. Thus far, 28 participating counties have successfully applied for these grant funds which are being used to fund various aspects of deflection implementation, such as county program coordinators, district attorney personnel, law enforcement, peer mentors and treatment, housing and shelter assistance, and transportation assistance. The initial funding was provided on a one-time basis, given the unknowns around county participation and implementation of this new program, however, recriminalization of possession of a controlled substance and the deflection participation option are ongoing, therefore it is expected this program will require some level of ongoing funding in the 2025-27 biennium.

## CURRENT SERVICE LEVEL

The 2025-27 current service level budget for CJC totals \$109.4 million and 30 positions (30.00 FTE). This represents a 49% decrease from the 2023-25 legislatively approved budget, which is due to the phase out of \$64 million General Fund and associated Other Funds limitation for various one-time investments in the 2023-25 biennium.

General Fund phase-outs include:

- \$20.7 million for the Behavioral Health Deflection Program
- \$10 million for the Jail-Based Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Program
- \$10 million for the Improving People's Access to Community-Based Treatment, Support, and Services Program (IMPACTS)
- \$6.9 million for specialty court grants
- \$5 million for the Illegal Marijuana Market Enforcement Grant Program (IMMEGP)
- \$4.8 million for the Organized Retail Theft Grant Program
- \$4 million for the Restorative Justice Grant Program
- \$1 million for a public service campaign related to recriminalization of controlled substances pursuant to HB 4002 (2024)
- \$650,000 for the Family Preservation Project
- \$500,000 for a jail reentry pilot program

In addition, \$51.7 million Other Funds expenditure limitation is also phased out as part of these same programs.

## GOVERNOR'S BUDGET SUMMARY

The Governor's Budget for the Commission is \$235.5 million total funds, including \$154.3 million General Fund. This is a \$126 million, or 115.1%, increase over current service level (CSL) and a \$70.4 million, or 83.9%, increase in General Fund. As mentioned above, the CSL includes \$64 million in General Fund reductions and \$51.7 million in Other Funds reductions to phase out programs that have been repeatedly funded on a one-time basis, so as funding for many of those programs is renewed, it reflects significant increases to CSL. In addition, some funded programs require duplicative funding for both General Fund and Other Funds to accommodate the initial appropriation to the program and the limitation necessary to expend the funds. By comparison, this reflects a 9.6% increase over the 2023-25 legislatively approved budget.

In addition to minor adjustments for Attorney General and DAS service charges, General Fund increases include:

- \$40 million for the Behavioral Health Deflection program that was funded at \$20.7 million for one year of the 2023-25 biennium.
- \$15 million for the Jail-Based Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Program that was funded at \$10 million in the 2023-25 biennium.
- \$10 million for a one-time pass through to the Northwest Health Foundation as a distribution to culturally specific organizations as part of the Justice Reinvestment Equity Program created by SB 1510 (2022).
- \$4 million to continue funding the Restorative Justice Grant Program that was funded at the same amount in 2023-25.
- \$889,254 to convert two positions established in 2023 to support the Juvenile Justice Policy Commission and one position established in 2023 to support the Organized Retail Theft Grant from limited duration to permanent, as both initiatives are long-term, multi-biennia projects requiring legislative reporting and ongoing grant monitoring and oversight.
- \$552,124 to make permanent two previously unfunded positions that support the Illegal Marijuana Market Enforcement Grant and the Specialty Court Grant programs, as both are long-term, multi-biennia projects requiring legislative reporting and ongoing grant monitoring and oversight.

Other Funds expenditure limitation increases include \$40 million for the Behavioral Health Deflection Program and \$15 million for the Jail-Based Medications for the Opioid Use Disorder Program to allow the agency to expend the General Fund appropriations for both programs. Other minor Other Funds limitation changes are included for service charges.

## OTHER SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

As noted above, the Commission has administered several new justice-related grant programs in the past few years that were one-time investments. The Governor's budget includes the continuation and expansion of some programs, but specifically eliminates that Improving People's Access to Community-based Treatments, Supports and Services (IMPACTS) program established in 2019 that was a \$15 million policy option package in CJC's agency request budget. The Commission also recommends that the minimum program funding for the Behavioral Health Deflection program, currently set in statute at

\$150,000 per county, is increased to adequately provide a base-level of resources for a local program, such as a program coordinator.

## KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

A copy of the Criminal Justice Commission's Annual Performance Progress Report can be found on the LFO website: [https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/lfo/APPR/APPR\\_OCJC\\_2024-10-17.pdf](https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/lfo/APPR/APPR_OCJC_2024-10-17.pdf)

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