



Transforming Safety

Colorado

North Aurora

About Transforming Safety

The Colorado legislature created the Transforming Safety program in 2017. It made reforms in the State’s parole system that will save the state money. The State will invest these savings in strategies that improve public safety.

The program will operate in North Aurora and Southeast Colorado Springs. Both communities will receive \$1.3 million each year in grant funds for three years. They will also receive \$500,000 each year for lending to small businesses.

You can find more information on Transforming Safety at www.transformingsafety.org. These guidelines apply to the grant fund. If you would like to learn about the lending program, please visit <https://transformingsafety.org/loans/>.

Grants Program Areas

The Transforming Safety legislation created four broad areas for the grants program. These were based on research about how to make communities safer.

1 Academic Achievement

- Making sure children are ready for school
- Reducing the number of students expelled or suspended from school
- Increasing high school graduation
- Increasing college enrollment
- Helping students stay in college
- Improving connections between schools, parents, and students

2 Community-Based Direct Services

- Strengthening families
- Promoting recovery from trauma
- Providing support to crime survivors
- Increasing employment
- Reducing the number of people who return to prison

3 Neighborhood Connections

- Community engagement
- Helping develop local leaders

4 Increasing the Safety and Usability of Common Outdoor Spaces

Transforming Safety Legislation: Grants Program Funding Areas

Local Planning Teams

The program created local planning teams in both communities. The teams had two tasks:

- Defining the boundaries for the grant program
- Creating specific grant priorities based on the four grant program areas

These teams met many times in early 2018. Team members looked at data and conducted research. They brought their knowledge and experience of their communities.

The teams chose boundaries for the two communities. Only programs that work within these boundaries can apply for grants. The teams created specific grant priorities in the four areas. Only groups that advance these priorities can apply for grants. The boundaries and priorities are on pages two and three of these guidelines.

The Role of The Denver Foundation

The mission of The Denver Foundation is to inspire people and mobilize resources to strengthen our community. The Denver Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. You can learn more about The Denver Foundation at denverfoundation.org. The Denver Foundation was chosen by the State to run the Transforming Safety grant program.

All grant applications will come to The Denver Foundation. The Foundation will review all of the applications. Local teams will recommend which grants to fund. The State will make final grant decisions.

Please note: Groups applying for a grant will not be able to review grant proposals or recommend grants.

Which Groups Will Be Funded?

The Transforming Safety grants program will be very competitive. Not all groups that advance the program's priorities will be funded. The program will fund established groups that can show strong past outcomes. It will also fund new groups with new ideas. A group's connection to its community will be very important. So will being able to show results quickly.

All successful grantees will receive help evaluating their work. Coaching will also be available to help grantees to track and report on their outcomes. Groups that show the best progress may be able to get funding in years two and three. Grantees will be required to work closely with the program's evaluator both individually and as part of a group of grantees.

Geographic Boundaries for North Aurora

The North Aurora local planning team chose the following boundaries.

- Northern Boundary: Aurora City line
- Eastern Boundary: Interstate 225
- Southern Boundary: 6th Ave.
- Western Boundary: Aurora City line

Your group must work in this area to apply for a Transforming Safety grant. Your group may be located outside the area and/or work in many areas. But Transforming Safety can only fund your work within this area.

To learn more about Transforming Safety,
please visit www.transformingsafety.org.

Grant Priorities for North Aurora

The North Aurora local planning team selected four grant priorities. To receive funding, you must advance one or more of these priorities.

Below each priority is a series of questions about that priority. You do not need to answer these questions in this application. As noted earlier, grantees must be able to clearly demonstrate how they will improve community safety through this grant. These questions are meant to help you start thinking about how you will measure impact for the priority or priorities you choose.

The North Aurora local planning team selected the following four grant priorities:

1. Support adults and youth who are or have been involved in the criminal justice system in order to reduce recidivism or incidence of reoffending.

What group(s) do you propose to serve? For each group, what specific supports do you intend to provide? How will each of these supports specifically reduce recidivism or incidents of reoffending? How do you plan to measure the impacts of the supports you provide? Are there current statistics or other data you will measure these impacts against?

2. Help youth (up to age 25) develop the skills and resilience to avoid, reduce, or stop high risk behaviors that can lead to involvement with the criminal justice system.

What age youth do you plan to serve? What specific high-risk behaviors do you intend to address? What specific skills or aspects of resilience do you intend to develop for these youth? What are the specific and measurable impacts you intend to achieve? How do you plan to measure these impacts? Are there current statistics or other relevant data you plan to measure these impacts against?

3. Reduce/prevent crime affecting the most vulnerable people in the North Aurora community, with a particular focus on people experiencing homelessness, immigrants, victims of sexual assault, and victims of sex trafficking.

For each vulnerable group you propose to serve, what are the specific and measurable impacts you intend to achieve? How do you plan to measure these impacts? Are there current statistics or other relevant data you plan to measure these impacts against?

4. Increase academic achievement by reducing rates of school suspension, expulsion, and referrals to law enforcement, with a particular emphasis on students of color.

What are the specific characteristics of the students you propose to serve? Which rate(s) do you specifically intend to reduce? What areas of academic achievement will you increase (e.g., subject matter or basic skill proficiency, graduation, college attainment)? How do you plan to measure your intended impacts? Are there current statistics or other relevant data you plan to measure your impacts against?

Your group must do work on one or more of these priorities to apply for a Transforming Safety grant. Your group may work on other activities as well. But Transforming Safety can only fund your work on these priorities.

**If you have questions about the Transforming Safety application,
please call The Denver Foundation at 303-996-7356.**

Grant Application Details

Who can apply?

- Nonprofit groups (must be in good standing with the IRS and State of Colorado)
- Schools (public, private, and charter)
- Local governments

What are the important grant application dates?

- Application deadline of September 4, 2018: Grant decisions made by end of October 2018.
- Applications must be received by 5 pm on the due date.
- Successful applicants can only receive one grant in a 12-month period.

How can groups apply?

- Groups are strongly encouraged to apply through The Denver Foundation's online grant application system.
- You will need to register online to submit an application. Registration takes approximately 24 hours. Please register as soon as you think you might apply.
- Information about the online application process is available at: <http://www.denverfoundation.org/Nonprofits/Apply-for-a-Grant/Online-Grant-Application-Overview>
- If you are unable to use the online system, please call 303.300.1790 and ask to speak to a grants manager. We will work to accommodate your group.
- The grant application requires several attachments. These must be in pdf format. The application includes instructions on how to save documents in this format.

Are there any restrictions on what Transforming Safety grant funds can be used for?

Transforming Safety grants do not fund groups or programs that discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, except to serve a historically disadvantaged group.

Transforming Safety grants cannot be used for the following:

- Capital campaigns
- Building endowments or reserve funds
- Membership campaigns
- Special events, sponsorships
- Retroactive funding (projects that will be completed before funding becomes available)
- Debt retirement
- Grants to individuals
- Multi-year funding requests
- Conferences, symposia, and related travel
- Grants that further political doctrine or religious activities

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