

## Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant Program

**Linda Brookes** 

Program Manager



 Maryland's State Administering Agency for the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement program, along with 22 other federal and 24 state funding streams.

## History



- ► GOCCP has received Coverdell Formula funding since 2004.
- ► GOCCP has received Coverdell Competitive funding since 2007.



- Since 2004, GOCCP funding has supported the following accomplishments with Coverdell Funds:
  - Salaries and overtime have reduced backlogs
  - Maryland Crime labs have achieved and maintained accreditation through ASLCD/LAB
  - Trainings have been attended to keep crime lab staff knowledgeable with information
  - Upgraded Equipment has enabled Maryland to advance to state of the art technology

## Maryland's Success Stories

#### **Personnel**

 The Anne Arundel County Crime Laboratory utilized funding to hire a part-time temporary CDS Researcher to work 15-20 hrs a week.

#### Job Details:

- Provides administrative assistance for researching (web based and agency LIMS)
- Tracks case status for CDS evidence
  - Evidence retention
  - Destruction scheduling
  - Issues Request for Destruction/Case status letters to officers (2,300 letters annually in April)

## **CDS** Researcher

- Currently there are 2,171 cases waiting to be destroyed.
- In the past three years over 7,000 cases have been destroyed.
- End result- backlog reduction.

#### **CT Scanner**

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner's conducted studies and confirmed the virtual autopsy as beneficial and cost effective because:

- Reduced time spent on traditional autopsies
- Reduced money spent on traditional autopsies
- Produces clear images that allow Examiner's to focus on patterns of injury.
- Provides closure to some ethnic and religious groups who are against the traditional autopsy process.

•CT Scanner- The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner's is the second medical examiner's office in the United States to implement this machine.



### Forensic Buddy Unit

The FBU enables a technician to shoot a firearm and recover the ammunition components (projectiles/cartridge cases) in pristine condition. This system is portable, compact and economical. Although purchased by Maryland State Police- the unit was loaned to other Local Law Enforcement Agencies to conduct their own testing.

Forensic Buddy Unit:



The Forensic **Buddy Unit was** purchased in 2008. Eight police departments utilized the Forensic Buddy and 211 cases have been completed.

#### Gel Lift Scanner

- A high resolution scanner that digitally captures lifts from shoeprints, tire treads and fingerprints.
- It is particularly beneficial for the capture of prints from curved surfaces such as doorknobs and handles.
- The high resolution makes it possible to view lifts on screen or print enlarged details.
- The Maryland State Police-Forensic Science Division will share this new technology with other Local Law Enforcement Agencies, thereby improving forensic services provided statewide.

•Gel Lift Scanner



## Contractual Services

#### Accreditation fees - ASCLD/LAB

Passport" provides each examiner to complete four online skill-based courses in a one year period. Time and money are saved because the examiners do not need to physically attend the locations where the trainings are being offered and can schedule the classes around their workload.

## Grants Management System (GMS)

GOCCP employs a comprehensive, easy-touse electronic grants management system to automate and encompass the full grants management life-cycle.

#### This cycle includes:

- Grant Application Process
- Application Review and Processing
- Grant Award and Acceptance
- Grant Monitoring and Reporting
- Final Reporting and Closeout

# Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

NOFA/Solicitation is posted on our webpage informing applicants of:

- Date of training
- \$ amount available
- Eligibility
- Process of submitting an application
- Reporting requirements if awarded

## NOFA Announcement

When new grant funding becomes available, a Notice of Funding Availability is publicly released and posted to our website.



## Find A Grant



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#### CRIME CONTROL & PREVENTION

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#### **Grants & Programs**

If you have questions about any GOCCP program, please call your county grants monitor. Select your county from the map on the home page for their contact information.

#### One Maryland Recovery & Reinvestment

When President Barack Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act into law, he opened the door to create jobs, provide tax cuts for working families in Maryland, and invest in America's infrastructure. The increased funding includes many programs maintained by the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention. Click on More Information to view these funding opportunities.



More Information

- Body Armor For Local Law Enforcement (BARM)
- Edward J. Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program (BJAG)
- Bullet Proof Vest Program (BPVP)
- Community Crime Prevention (CCP)
- Paul Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act (CFSI)
- Recovery Act Program (CHSR)
- Children's Justice Act Committee (CJAC)
- Crime Mapping and Analysis Project (CMAP)

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## **Brief Grant Overview**

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#### Paul Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act

The Paul Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act provides federal funding to crime laboratories and medical examiner's offices to improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner services. In addition, these funds are intended to eliminate backlogs in the analysis of forensic evidence, including controlled substances, firearms examination, forensic pathology, latent prints, questioned documents, toxicology, and trace evidence. The program permits funding for expenses related to facilities, personnel, computerization, equipment, supplies, accreditation, certification, education, and training. Any forensic laboratory, forensic laboratory system, medical examiner's office, or coroner's office that will receive any portion of a Coverdell grant must use generally accepted laboratory practices and procedures as established by accrediting organizations or appropriate certifying bodies

Currently funded CFSI programs: Criminal Justice Awarded Grants Database

Most recent CFSI grant offering: CFSI NOFA Archive

Projected month to submit application: April

GOCCP Contact: Linda Brookes, Program Manager, 410-821-2846 or Edward Parker, Deputy Director Operations, 410-821-2854







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## **NOFA Details**

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#### Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants (CFSI) - FY 2010

Status: The application process for this grant has been closed. All applications are subject to the grant application review process established by this office, in accordance with Federal laws and guidelines.

Eligibility: To be considered eligible for the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant, applicants must be a forensic science laboratory within a unit of local government or a medical examiner's office.

Organization Number: Deadline to apply for an organization number is March 25, 2010.

Application Deadline: CLOSED Deadline to submit an online copy is Thursday, April 1, 2010 by 5:00 p.m. In addition, hardcopy of application, including one (1) original and two (2) copies, must be received in the GOCCP Office by 3:00 p.m. on April 6, 2010.

Contact Person: Linda Brookes, Program Manager

Phone: 410-821-2870

Email: Linda@goccp-state-md.org

General Conditions: Review the General Conditions. The General Conditions apply to all grants funded by GOCCP regardless of funding source.

Technical Details: On-line submission of application is required. You will need an organization number before submitting application. Note: the interface for the online grant submission is NOT a function of the goccp.org website. Special software is used for grant submission (see below).

Training/Technical Assistance: This training is mandatory for all applicants who wish to apply for CFSI funds. This training will focus on important data requirements noted in the CFSI NOFA and assist applicants in submitting a successful competitive application to GOCCP. Attendees should be Coordinators, Grant Writers, Project Directors, and Fiscal Officers.

Date: February 4, 2010 Time: 9:00AM - 12:00PM

MDOT Headquarters, 7201 Corporate Drive

The Richard Trainor Room, 1st Floor

Hanover, MD 21076

On-line registration is required. For more information, please visit our Training page.

#### CFSI Documents

- Fast View/Print CFSI NOFA (html)







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## **GMS** and Funding Stream Training

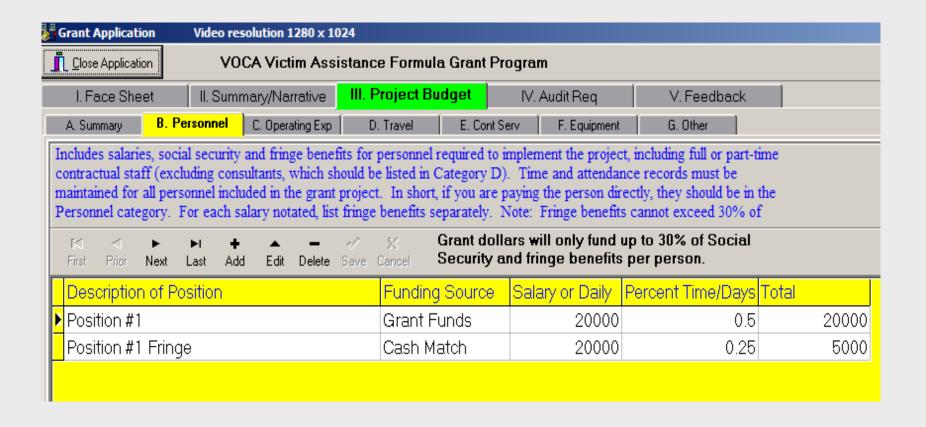
- ► Training is a major key to a successful application.
- ► It empowers applicants to submit a good application.
- ► Allows applicants the opportunity to ask questions, participate in break out sessions, and meet with the program staff.

**READ THE NOFA SEVERAL TIMES** 



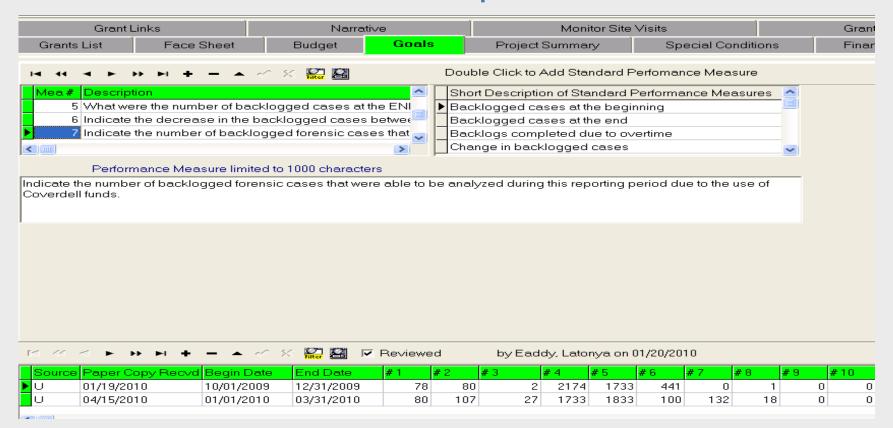
## GMS - Personnel Breakdown

Using guidelines from the NOFA, users complete an online application to be submitted for review.

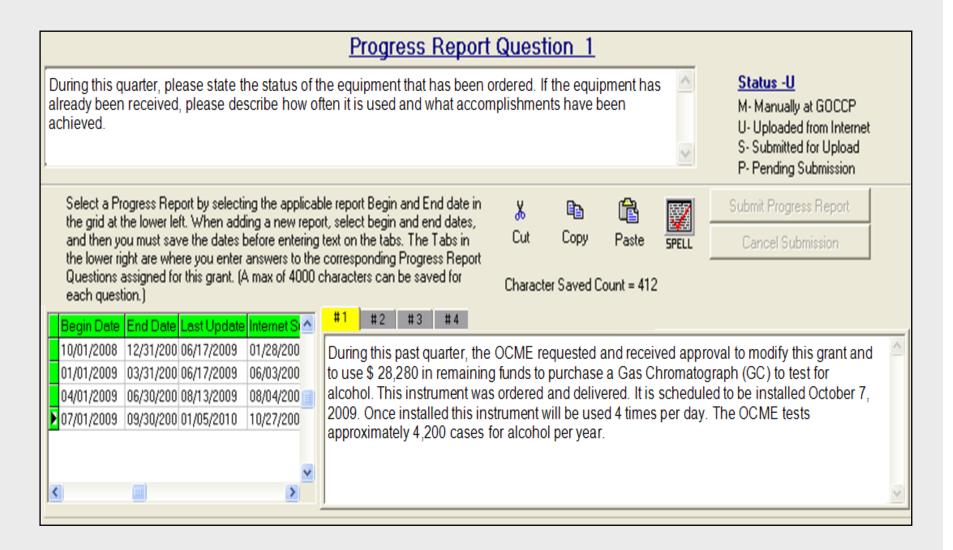


## **GMS** - Performance Measures

Once a grant has been awarded, grantees are able to submit financial reports online as well.

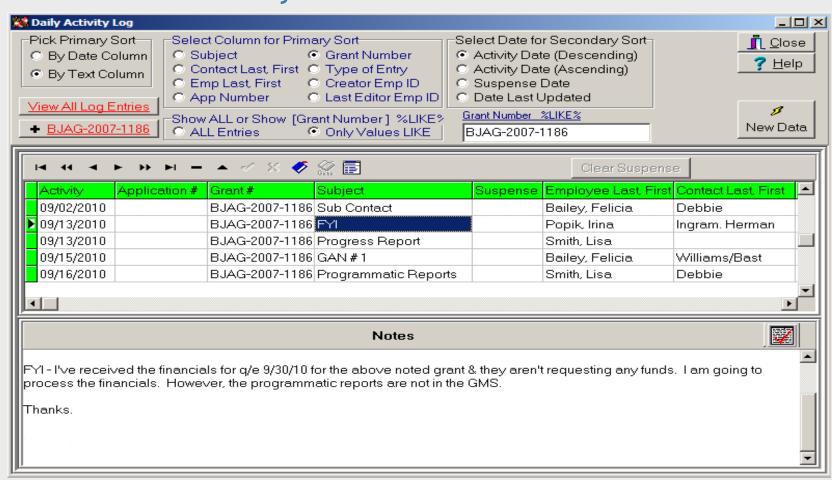


## GMS - Progress Report



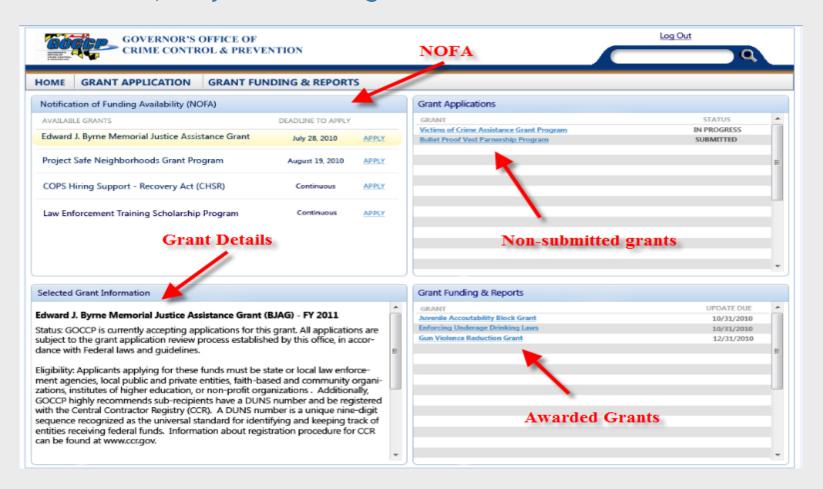
## **GMS** - Activity Log

Throughout the process, monitors are able to leave detailed notes accessible by all other GOCCP staff.



## Moving into the future

We're working right now to provide a simpler, easy-to use interface for our users. Hopefully, in the not too distant future, they'll be looking at screens like this:





# There is always something happening at GOCCP! Join us on <u>facebook</u> and <u>twitter!</u>

- ► GOCCP Website: <u>www.goccp.maryland.gov</u>
- ► Program Manager: <u>Linda@goccp-state-md.org</u>
- ► Director of IT Services: <u>Shane@goccp-state-md.org</u>