



DALLAS COUNTY

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND EVALUATION

August 29, 2025

TO: Dr. Ronica Watkins, Budget Officer

FROM: Maria A. Martinez, Grants Coordinator

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SUBJECT: FY2026 Cash Match

Background

Dallas County has committed to providing a cash match as a condition for various funding programs and grants. These requirements are essential for leveraging federal and state funds and ensuring the continuation of the County's programs and projects.

The cash match for grants budget functions as a repository for funds that may be required to comply with grant requirements and engage in various grant related activities. This budget represents General Fund dollars only. Departments that submit grants may be required by the grantor to provide an alternative source of funding as a cash match to enhance its base of support.

Overview

The Cash Match program in Dallas County provides critical support to departments by leveraging external funds and investing in priority projects that align with county objectives.

1. **Leveraging External Funds:** Cash match funds are primarily used to meet federal and state grant matching requirements. This mechanism enables Dallas County to maximize access to external funding sources and to support large-scale initiatives that might otherwise be unattainable..
2. **Supporting Critical Projects:** Funding is prioritized for projects that align with county goals, including infrastructure development, public safety enhancements, and health and human services.

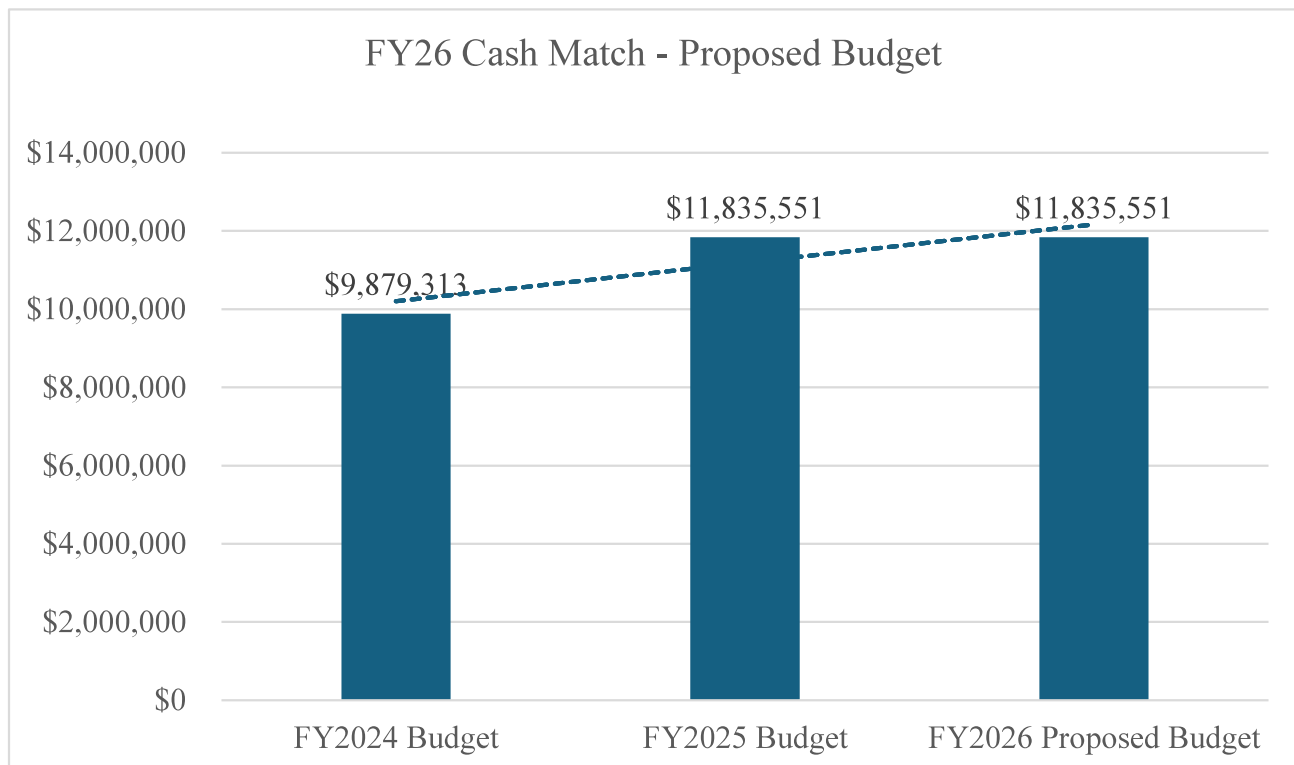
For FY2026, there have been 139 grants submitted and/or awarded associated with programs and projects at Dallas County.

As of March 2025, departments reported 79 federal grants to be at risk due to funding uncertainties. Dallas County grants can be impacted by decisions from the current administration, such as policy changes, budget constraints, or regulatory shifts. If funding is redirected or reduced, previously awarded grants may be delayed, decreased, or canceled. The Grants Audit Division reconciles grant actuals by the close of each fiscal year.

Budget Details

For FY2026, the proposed budget is \$11,835,551 to keep practice with the number of grants submitted and the cash match required/needed by departments to maintain their programs at a functional level. Cash match is budgeted at \$11,835,551 due to the timing of when the County receives grant funding and the need for new positions to go through HR and Civil Service, which may take up to 3 – 4 months on average for proper classification.

FY2026 Cash Match - Proposed Budget			
FY2024 Budget	FY2025 Budget	FY2026 Proposed Budget	Variances from FY2024
\$9,879,313	\$11,835,551	\$11,835,551	\$0



FY2026 Cash Match

For FY2026, the total amount of grants awarded by grantors to the County has been \$259,833,495, with a required or needed cash match of \$13,140,403, totaling \$274,678,163. Departments report that federal and state grantors are requiring applicants to provide a cash match, or the grant amount awarded is less than the original grant amount requested.

FY2026 Cash Match – Group by Departments

	Sum of Total Grant	Sum of Total Cash Match	Sum of Indirect Costs	Sum of Other Funding	Sum of Grand Total
Criminal Justice	\$ 4,641,171	\$ 57,852	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,699,023
CSCD	\$ 4,322,569	\$ 738,325	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,060,894
District Attorney	\$ 12,322,773	\$ 1,255,447			\$ 13,578,220
HHS	\$ 200,697,677	\$ 6,514,367	\$ 1,423,682	\$ -	\$ 208,635,726
HSEM	\$ 10,100,000	\$ 40,530	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,140,530
Juvenile Planning & Development	\$ 12,133,922	\$ 3,811,092		\$ 224,055	\$ 16,169,069
Public Defender	\$ 2,768,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,768,000
Sheriff	\$ 3,823,414	\$ 380,000	\$ 56,529	\$ -	\$ 4,259,943
	\$ 9,023,966	\$ 342,790	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,366,757
Grand Total	\$ 259,833,495	\$ 13,140,403	\$ 1,480,211	\$ 224,055	\$ 274,678,163

Positions

As stated previously, 139 grants have been submitted by departments, with a total of 600 positions tied to those grants. These positions are grant-funded, with the possibility of positions being terminated after the grant expires or departments requesting the positions to be moved to the General Fund during the budget process; positions approved during the budget process can potentially increase the General Fund Budget.

New grant applications requesting for positions, may submit for grants requesting for the full budget that's equivalent to one year, which can include personnel. For all grant positions it must go through HR and Civil for proper classification with an estimated time of two - four months to create the positions. The timeline to create, post, and hire for the positions can impact the grant to expend funds and the request cash match. It's imperative for department to accurately budget for their request(s) to avoid a shortfall or surplus of cash match funding that can impact the General Fund.

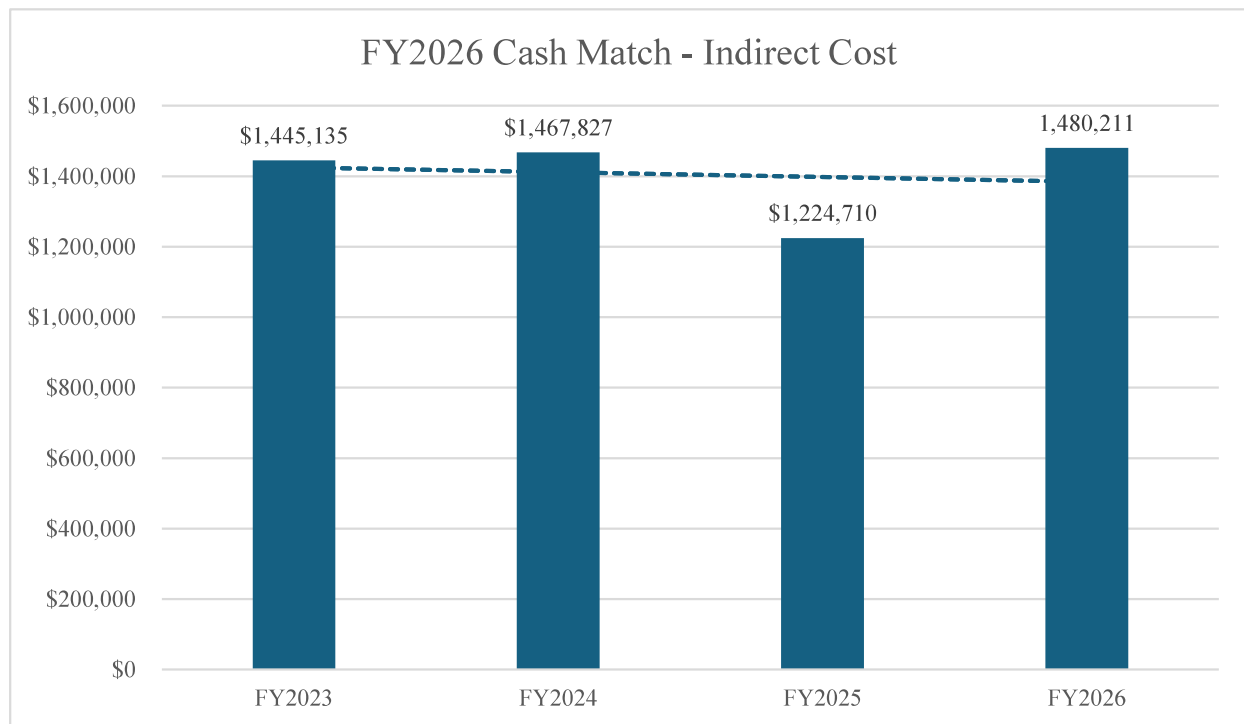
FY2026 Cash Match - Grant Submission & Positions

Department	# of Grant Submitted	Department	Sum of Positions
Criminal Justice	9	Criminal Justice	17
CSCD	10	CSCD	49
District Attorney	18	District Attorney	47
HHS	78	HHS	400
HSEM	2	HSEM	
Juvenile	11	Juvenile	1
Planning &		Planning &	
Development	3	Development	0
Public Defender	3	Public Defender	0
Sheriff	5	Sheriff	86
Grand Total	139	Grand Total	600

Indirect Cost

Indirect costs, also known as "overhead" or "facilities and administrative" costs, are expenses that are not directly attributable to a specific project, program, or activity but are necessary for the general operation of an organization. Examples of indirect costs are utilities, administrative support, facilities maintenance, etc. The importance of indirect costs when submitting grants is to ensure that all expenses related to a project are covered to budget accurately and accordingly to prevent shortfalls of funding. When indirect costs are not included in the grant budget, the County could potentially absorb the costs.

FY2026 Cash Match – Indirect Cost				
FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	Variances from FY2025
\$1,445,135	\$1,467,827	\$1,224,710	1,480,211	255,501



Cash Match - Indirect Cost (FY23-FY25)					
Fiscal Year	FY2023 Budget	FY2024 Budget	FY2025 Budget	FY2026 Proposed Budget	Variances from FY2025
Total Indirect Cost	\$1,445,135	\$1,467,827	\$1,224,710	\$1,480,211	\$255,501
*Total Grant Amount	\$320,579,341	\$373,615,400	\$387,858,193	274,678,163	(\$113,180,030)

*The total grant amount includes all funding reported by departments (grant award, cash match, indirect cost, and other funding) *

Recommendation

The Cash Match 2026 Budget represents a continuation of existing grant related services and programs. The Office of Budget and Evaluation recommends the FY2026 Proposed Budget for Cash Match at \$11,835,551, but for departments to include indirect costs, if applicable. In addition, review future grant submissions to determine if it aligns with Dallas County's mission and to be fiduciary steward of the County.