



Judicial Council of California

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Item No.: 24-066

For business meeting on March 15, 2024

Title

Trial Court Budget: 2023–24 State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund Allocation Increase for Judicial Education

Rules, Forms, Standards, or Statutes Affected

None

Recommended by

Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee
Hon. Jonathan B. Conklin, Chair

Agenda Item Type

Action Required

Effective Date

March 15, 2024

Date of Report

January 18, 2024

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Executive Summary

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends a \$150,000 increase to the fiscal year 2023–24 Judicial Education program allocation from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund to provide additional judicial officer orientation to newly appointed judges due to the increased number of judicial appointments in recent months. The increased budget, from \$1.1 million to \$1.3 million, will provide the resources necessary for the Judicial Council’s Center for Judicial Education and Research to offer additional training programs this fiscal year to ensure that newly appointed judicial officers receive the training they need and meet the new judge education requirements of California Rules of Court, rule 10.462.

Recommendation

The Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective March 15, 2024, approve an increase of \$150,000 to the fiscal year (FY) 2023–24 Judicial Education program allocation from the State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund.

Relevant Previous Council Action

At its meeting on July 21, 2023, the Judicial Council approved State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund (IMF) allocations of \$45.2 million.¹ Of the total amount approved, \$984,000 was allocated to the Center for Judicial Education and Research (CJER) for judicial education.

At its meeting on November 17, 2023, the Judicial Council approved a \$150,000 increase to the Judicial Education program allocation from the IMF, for a total allocation of \$1,134,000 (see Attachment A).

This recommendation for an additional \$150,000 increase in the allocation was presented to the Judicial Branch Budget Committee on February 9, 2024, and approved for consideration by the Judicial Council.

Analysis/Rationale

CJER provides education and training to all new judges and subordinate judicial officers. This education equips them with the knowledge and skills necessary to fulfill their roles effectively and is required by California Rules of Court, rule 10.462. CJER receives an annual allocation from the IMF for new judge education. Historically, the average annual number of new judges and subordinate judicial officers has been stable.

In FY 2023–24, the judicial branch has seen a significantly higher number of judicial appointments than in previous years. As a result, in August 2023, CJER identified the need for a \$150,000 increase to the Judicial Council–approved Judicial Education program allocation from the IMF. This request for additional funding was approved by the Judicial Council at its November 17, 2023, business meeting.

Since that time, the number of judicial appointments has further increased, and an additional \$150,000 is needed to meet judicial officer education requirements in the current fiscal year. This request would increase the FY 2023–24 IMF allocation for Judicial Education from \$1,134,000 (Attachment A, row 18) to \$1,284,000.

Policy implications

None.

Comments

This report was not circulated for public comment.

¹ Judicial Council of Cal., mins. (July 21, 2023), item 23-058, p. 7, <https://jcc.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=M&ID=1105928&GUID=3AB2B386-B501-4660-AD0F-3984E59DC7DD>.

Alternatives considered

CJER staff considered submitting a request for additional funding from the General Fund through the Judicial Council to obtain the necessary funding. However, it was determined that requesting additional IMF funding would be more appropriate to address the need for additional new judge education programs.

Fiscal and Operational Impacts

The fiscal impact to the IMF would be a one-time \$150,000 increase to CJER's Judicial Education allocation in order to provide all new judge appointees access to new judge education programs that are both necessary and required. Based on current revenue estimates, the fund is estimated to have a sufficient balance for the requested allocation increase (see Attachment B).

Attachments and Links

1. Attachment A: Judicial Council of California Approved 2023–24 Allocations, State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund—State Operations and Local Assistance Appropriations
2. Attachment B: State Trial Improvement and Modernization Fund—Fund Condition Statement, 2024–25 Governor's Budget

Judicial Council of California
Approved 2023-24 Allocations
State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund
State Operations and Local Assistance Appropriations

Updated as per JC Approval: November 17, 2023

#	Program Name	Office	Approved 2023-24 Allocations		
			State Operations	Local Assistance	Total
A	B	C	D	E	F = (D + E)
1	Audit Services	AS	\$ 372,000	\$ -	\$ 372,000
2	Trial Court Master Agreements	BAP	182,000	-	182,000
3	Treasury Services - Cash Management	BAP	110,000		110,000
4	Data Analytics Advisory Committee	BMS		9,000	9,000
5	Budget Focused Training and Meetings	BS		25,000	25,000
6	Revenue Distribution Training	BS		10,000	10,000
7	Treasury Services - Cash Management	BS	-		-
8	Domestic Violence Forms Translation	CFCC		17,000	17,000
9	Interactive Software - Self-Rep Electronic Forms	CFCC		60,000	60,000
10	Self-Help Center	CFCC		5,000,000	5,000,000
11	Statewide Multidisciplinary Education	CFCC		67,000	67,000
12	Shriver Civil Counsel - cy prês Funding	CFCC		893,000	893,000
13	Statewide Support for Self-Help Programs	CFCC		100,000	100,000
14	Court Interpreter Testing etc.	CFCC		143,000	143,000
15	CJER Faculty	CJER		48,000	48,000
16	Essential Court Management Education	CJER	40,000		40,000
17	Essential Court Personnel Education	CJER		130,000	130,000
18	Judicial Education	CJER		1,134,000	1,134,000
19	Jury System Improvement Projects	CJS		9,000	9,000
20	Trial Court Labor Relations Academies and Forums	HR		23,000	23,000
21	Data Center and Cloud Service	IT	2,215,000	4,471,000	6,686,000
22	Uniform Civil Filing Services	IT	399,000	3,000	402,000
23	California Courts Protective Order Registry (CCPOR)	IT	418,000	537,000	955,000
24	Telecommunications	IT	-	14,500,000	14,500,000
25	Enterprise Policy & Planning (Statewide Planning and Dev Support)	IT	1,044,000	2,500,000	3,544,000
26	Data Integration	IT	703,000	993,000	1,696,000
27	Jury Management System	IT	-	665,000	665,000
28	Case Management System Replacement	IT	-	-	-
29	Telecom	IT	1,297,000	4,384,000	5,681,000
30	Digitizing Court Records	IT		721,490	721,490
31	Jury System Improvement Projects	LS		10,000	10,000
32	Regional Office Assistance Group	LS	861,000	-	861,000
33	Judicial Performance Defense Insurance	LSS		1,931,000	1,931,000
	Total		\$ 7,641,000	\$ 38,383,490	\$ 46,024,490

Totals by Office		Office	State Operations	Local Assistance	Total
Legend	C	D	E	F = (D + E)	
34	Audit Services	AS	\$ 372,000	\$ -	\$ 372,000
35	Branch Accounting and Procurement	BAP	292,000	-	292,000
36	Business Management Services	BMS	-	9,000	9,000
37	Budget Services	BS	-	35,000	35,000
38	Center for Families, Children and the Courts	CFCC	-	6,280,000	6,280,000
39	Center for Judicial Education and Research	CJER	40,000	1,312,000	1,352,000
40	Criminal Justice Services	CJS	-	9,000	9,000
41	Human Resources	HR	-	23,000	23,000
42	Information Technology	IT	6,076,000	28,774,490	34,850,490
43	Legal Services	LS	861,000	10,000	871,000
44	Leadership Services	LSS	-	1,931,000	1,931,000
	Total Allocations		\$ 7,641,000	\$ 38,383,490	\$ 46,024,490

**State Trial Court Improvement and Modernization Fund
Fund Condition Statement
2024-25 Governor's Budget**

Updated: January 17, 2024

#	Description						Estimated	
		2020-21 (Year-end Financial Statement)	2021-22 (Year-end Financial Statement)	2022-23 (Year-end Financial Statement)	2023-24	2024-25		
		A	B	C	D	E		
1	Beginning Balance	21,152,288	16,886,288	23,242,054	38,128,109	32,539,109		
2	Prior-Year Adjustments	2,422,000	8,176,338	8,638,611	-3,200,000			
3	Adjusted Beginning Balance	23,574,288	25,062,626	31,880,665	34,928,109	32,539,109		
4	REVENUES¹:							
12	Subtotal Revenues	17,264,000	15,428,439	18,311,387	13,666,000	12,973,000		
13	Transfers and Other Adjustments							
14	To Trial Court Trust Fund (Gov. Code, § 77209(j))	-13,397,000	-13,397,000	-13,397,000	-13,397,000	-13,397,000		
15	To Trial Court Trust Fund (Budget Act)	-594,000	-594,000	-594,000	-594,000	-594,000		
16	General Fund Transfer (Gov. Code § 20825.1)		-270,000	0	0	0		
17	Total Revenues, Transfers, and Other Adjustments	3,273,000	1,167,439	4,320,387	-325,000	-1,018,000		
18	Total Resources	26,847,288	26,230,065	36,201,052	34,603,109	31,521,109		
19	EXPENDITURES:							
20	Judicial Branch Total State Operations	4,635,000	5,217,956	5,319,495	7,641,000	7,860,000		
21	Judicial Branch Total Local Assistance	47,825,000	44,734,883	36,857,436	38,524,000	38,254,000		
22	Pro Rata and Other Adjustments	289,000	307,171	180,012	117,000	314,000		
23	Less funding provided by General Fund (Local Assistance)	-42,788,000	-47,272,000	-44,284,000	-44,218,000	-44,218,000		
24	Total Expenditures and Adjustments	9,961,000	2,988,011	-1,927,057	2,064,000	2,210,000		
25	Fund Balance	16,886,288	23,242,054	38,128,109	32,539,109	29,311,109		
26	Fund Balance - less restricted funds	12,775,459	19,677,611	35,864,950	30,374,950	27,261,949		
27	Structural Balance	-6,688,000	-1,820,572	6,247,444	-2,389,000	-3,228,000		

¹ Revenue estimates are as of 2024-25 Governor's Budget