

The JJDP Act & State Advisory Groups

- The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDAP) of 1974 created a federal–state partnership:
 - Called for states to designate a state agency to be responsible for developing and carrying out the Three-Year Plan.
 - Recognized the need for a State Advisory Group (SAG) to oversee how federal money is spent at the state level.

Membership Composition

- Appointed by the governor.
- 15 to 33 members.
- One fifth under age 24 (when appointed).
- Three members who have been or shall currently be under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system.
- A majority of the members shall not be full-time government employees (including the Chair).
- At least one locally elected official.

JJDP Act-Specified SAG Roles and Responsibilities

- 1) Participate in and approve the 3-year plan along with annual updates (plan must be a SAG plan, not a staff driven plan).
NRC report recommends that SAGs link their plans to the developmental approach.
- 2) Advise state's chief executive (and state agency) on matters of juvenile justice policy.
NRC report recommends SAGs be strengthened to be report leaders.
- 3) Ensure youth involvement and input into policy and funding recommendations involving the SAG as well as any collaborative work supported by the SAG.

JJDP Act-Specified SAG Roles and Responsibilities

- 4) Ensure compliance with the Act in partnership with the Specialist and DSA (and when not in compliance, submit recommendations to Governor and Legislature on bringing the state into compliance).
- 5) Obtain input from juveniles currently under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system.
- 6) Function within the expectations of the Act – meet regularly, manage budget and funding flows, evaluate effectiveness of actions, maintain attendance and participation, work with Governor and DSA to keep membership current and active.

JJDP Act-Specified SAG Roles and Responsibilities

7) Provide recommendations on funds distributed through the SAG.

NRC report recommends having OJJDP funded grants demonstrate their adherence to the developmental approach.

8) Monitor programs.

NRC report recommends having better balance between grant monitoring and system reform efforts.

Inherent SAG Responsibilities

- 4) Learn about developmentally appropriate services for at-risk and delinquent youth and their families including trauma informed care, complex trauma, issues impacting youth vs. adults (developmental issues, immaturity, poor risk management and judgment, still-developing pre-frontal cortex and forebrain, use of graduated responses, etc.).
- 5) Be innovative and stay current in best practices, evidence-based programs and interventions, seek highly effective partnerships where possible – “increase your juvenile justice literacy” – think strategically about prevention and cost-effective strategies and approaches (take the long AND short term views).

Inherent SAG Responsibilities

- 6) Be willing to do some self-analysis – championing things like DMC requires hard work in self-discovery, implicit biases, stereotypical thinking.
- 7) Know your state and federal representatives and their staff.
- 8) Consider participating in national juvenile justice opportunities.
Attend conferences, visit programs.
- 9) Review bylaws and executive orders.

Four Core Protections

- Sight and Sound Separation
- Removal from Adult Jails/Lockups
- Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders
- Disproportionate Minority Contact

Ensuring Compliance

- Considering establishing a compliance committee to assist with ensuring compliance.
- Request regular updates on compliance related issues at SAG meetings.
- Attend a site visit with compliance monitor.
- Be prepared to review and discuss the new regulations when they are released.
- Be transparent with issues and work together with staff to develop plans to address them.



State Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

VISION

To have a healthy and safe California where youth are held accountable for their actions and receive necessary support and services to become productive adults.

MISSION

California's SACJJD P serves the Governor, the Legislature, and the people of California by promoting effective juvenile justice policies and programming in compliance with goals set forth in the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- California's SACJJD P is made up of Governor-appointed subject matter experts who are committed to enhancing the quality of life for all youth in California.
- Strategy – a coalition of knowledgeable stakeholders and communities, current or former wards, and local elected officials
- Advocacy – a plan to prevent juvenile crime while providing treatment and rehabilitation for juvenile offenders
- Compliance – a means of monitoring program compliance and ensuring adherence with the core protections of federal law

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