

**LAW ENFORCEMENT PROTECTION FUND
FOR COUNTIES, MUNICIPALITIES, SCHOOL DISTRICTS, AND UNIVERSITIES
PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 29, ARTICLE 13 NMSA 1978
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027 (JULY 1, 2026 - JUNE 30, 2027)**

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Law Enforcement Protection Fund (LEPF) is to provide the equitable distribution of funds to county sheriff, municipal police, school district police, and university police departments for use in maintaining and improving those departments to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of law enforcement services.

APPLICATION PROCESS

All applications for LEPF distributions are completed through the online application form with required supporting documentation uploaded to the application and submitted to the Local Government Division (LGD) **no later than March 31, 2026**.

The LEPF application is available here:

County Sheriff Department: [County Application](#)

Municipal Police Department: [Municipal Application](#)

School District Police Department: [School District Application](#)

University Police Department: [University Application](#)

REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

- 1. The official roster will come from the Department of Public Safety (DPS) Acadis Portal.**
 - a. The roster must list the following information:
 - i. Officer first and last name
 - ii. Officer certification number
 - iii. Organization name
 - iv. Employment Type
 - v. Appointment type
 - vi. Total (training) hours
 - b. **Only full-time officers** are eligible for funding. Only claim the number of full-time officers on the application.
 - c. Telecommunicators are **not** eligible for funding.
 - d. If you have issues accessing the agency's Acadis Portal, contact Katie Reimann, Acadis Staff Manager at DPS, at katie.reimann@dps.nm.gov.
 - e. LGD will obtain the Acadis roster directly from DPS to confirm the number of eligible officers.

2. **Academy Roster upload (if applicable)**
 - a. Use provided academy roster form
 - b. Upload academy roster in PDF to the online application
3. **School resource officer roster upload (if applicable)**
 - a. Use provided school resource roster form.
 - b. Upload school resource officer roster in PDF to the online application
4. **Certification Form upload (required)**
 - a. Required from all applicants
 - b. Use the certification form provided by LGD
 - c. Upload signed certification form in PDF to the online application.

LGD will notify all applicants in writing of its determination of the amount to be distributed under Section 29-13-4 by [May 1, 2026](#). Any applicant may appeal LGD's determination by filing a notice of appeal with the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration by [May 15, 2026](#). The Secretary will review all appeals and make a final determination by [June 30, 2026](#), and LGD shall adjust its determination accordingly. If no appeal is filed, the determination of the LGD will become final and binding.

If the balance of the Law Enforcement Protection Fund is insufficient to permit the total eligible allocations, the LGD will reduce the allocation determined to the maximum amount of money available.

USE OF FUNDS

All monies distributed from the LEPF are required to be expended in accordance with Section 29-13-7 and 29-13-9 NMSA 1978 as well as LEPF Rule 2.110.3 NMAC. Amounts distributed from the LEPF to any incorporated city, town or village, county, pueblo or tribe, university, or school district shall be expended under the direction of the chief of the police/sheriff's department and approved by the governing body.

CARRY OVER BALANCES

LEPF distributions may not be used for accumulation. However, if LGD approval is obtained for good cause, funds may be expended in the fiscal year following distribution. This means that funds must be expended within two fiscal years (distribution fiscal year plus one subsequent fiscal year with LGD approval), otherwise those funds will revert to the State.

FINANCIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENT- For University Police and School District Police Departments

Submit a detailed financial report of the prior year LEPF expenditures and balance (if any) by [June 1, 2026](#) to the LGD. If there is a cash balance that will not be expended by [June 30, 2026](#), provide the LGD with an explanation as to why it was not expended and what steps the police department will take to expend, encumber, or revert to the state the unused balance.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions about the process for completing the LEPF application, you may contact Erica Gutierrez at (505) 372-9830 or by email Erica.gutierrez1@dfa.nm.gov or Malia Melhoff at (505) 231-0735 or by email MaliaM.Melhoff@dfa.nm.gov.