

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Bureau of Justice Assistance



BJA FY 22 Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program

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Overview

The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [Bureau of Justice Assistance](#) (BJA) seeks applications for the Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program. This program furthers the DOJ's mission by supporting law enforcement-behavioral health cross-system collaboration to improve public health and safety responses and outcomes for individuals with mental health disorders (MHDs) and co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders (MHSUDs).

This solicitation incorporates the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) by reference. The OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants on how to prepare and submit applications for funding to OJP. **If this solicitation expressly modifies any provision in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation as to that provision.**

Solicitation Categories

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

Eligible Applicants:

City or township governments, County governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), State governments, Other

Other

Definitions:

For purposes of this solicitation, "state" means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Other:

- Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education.
- Organizations with a different legal status (e.g., nonprofit or for-profit mental health agencies) are eligible to apply only if they also have been designated as a state agency or unit of local government to provide mental health services. Documentation to support this designation must be attached to the application (34 USC § 10651(a)(5) "mental health agency" is defined as: "an agency of a state or local government or its contracted agency that is responsible for mental health services or co-occurring mental health and substance abuse services").

To advance Executive Order 13929 Safe Policing for Safe Communities, the Attorney General determined that all state, local, and university or college law enforcement agencies must be certified by an approved independent credentialing

body or have started the certification process to be eligible for FY 2022 DOJ discretionary grant funding. To become certified, the law enforcement agency must meet two mandatory conditions: (1) the agency's use-of-force policies adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, and (2) the agency's use-of-force policies prohibit chokeholds except in situations where use of deadly force is allowed by law. The certification requirement also applies to law enforcement agencies receiving DOJ discretionary grant funding through a subaward. For detailed information on this certification requirement, please visit <https://cops.usdoj.gov/SafePolicingEO> to access the Standards for Certification on Safe Policing for Safe Communities, the Implementation Fact Sheet, and the List of Designated Independent Credentialing Bodies.

All recipients and subrecipients (including any for-profit organization) must forgo any profit or management fee.

Contact Information

For technical assistance with submitting the Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF)-424 and a Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form (SF-LLL) in Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, [Grants.gov Customer Support](https://www.grants.gov/customer-support), or support@grants.gov. The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

For technical assistance with submitting the **full application** in DOJ's Justice Grants System (JustGrants), contact the JustGrants Service Desk at JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or 833-872-5175. The JustGrants Service Desk operates 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. eastern time Monday–Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays.

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact the OJP Response Center by telephone at 800–851–3420 or TTY: 301–240–6310 (hearing impaired only) or by email at grants@ncjrs.gov. The OJP Response Center hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. eastern time Monday–Friday, and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on the solicitation close date.

Submission Information

Applications will be submitted to DOJ in two steps:

Step 1: The applicant must submit by the Grants.gov deadline the required Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF)-424 and a Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) form when they register in Grants.gov at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>. To register in Grants.gov, the applicant will need to ensure that its System for Award Management (SAM) registration is current.

Step 2: The applicant must then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](https://www.justgrants.usdoj.gov). To be considered timely, the full application must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline. OJP encourages applicants to review the "How to Apply" section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) and the [JustGrants website](#) for more information, resources, and training.

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Program Description

Overview

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. The Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program is part of the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHC). It offers grants to promote public safety and public health by helping entities prepare, create, or expand comprehensive plans and then implement these collaborative projects to target [preliminarily qualified individuals](#) with mental health disorders (MHDs) or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders (MHSUDs).

BJA will only accept applications that demonstrate the proposed project will be administered jointly by an agency with responsibility for criminal or juvenile justice activities and a mental health agency.

Statutory Authority

Any awards under this solicitation would be made under the Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2022
3 X E / 1 R

Specific Information

The Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program is specifically designated to support law enforcement and behavioral health cross-system collaboration and to improve public health and safety responses and outcomes for individuals with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs who come into contact with the criminal justice system. BJA is seeking applicants to design or enhance a law enforcement-behavioral health response to people with MHDs and co-occurring MHSUDs who come into contact with law enforcement.

Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

Goals

To plan, create, or expand comprehensive collaboration response programs that target preliminarily qualified individuals with MHDs or MHSUDs and promote public health and safety. The definition of "preliminarily qualified offender" is outlined in the 21st Century Cures Act and codified at 34 U.S.C. 10651(9)(A). See text at: [Text - H.R.34 - 114th Congress \(2015-2016\): 21st Century Cures Act | Congress.gov | Library of Congress](#).

Objectives

1. Design and implement a best practice program in crisis response based on present information to assist law enforcement officers during encounters with people who have MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs. These could include any of the following:
 - a. [Crisis Intervention Teams \(CIT\)](#)
 - b. [Co-Responder Teams](#)
 - c. [Law Enforcement-based Case Management Services](#)
 - d. [Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion \(LEAD\)](#)
 - e. [Mobile Crisis Teams](#)
 - f. [Crisis Resolution and Home Treatment Teams](#)
 - g. [EMS and Ambulance-based Responses](#)

1. Plan and deliver a law enforcement agency response program, in coordination with a mental health agency, that includes services to improve or enhance the response.
2. Pay salaries, as well as expenses such as training (overtime) and coordination activities, to [design and implement a police-mental health collaboration program \(PMHC\)](#).
3. Engage citizens through officer outreach and education to improve public safety.
4. Build positive community relations and trust through public communication strategies.
5. Enhance officer knowledge and skills in responding to community members with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs.
6. Increase public safety agency capacity to develop and sustain the program by collecting data to inform practices, create stakeholder groups, develop policy, and encourage ongoing professional development.
7. Seek guidance, then incorporate and build upon [successful strategies for PMHCs](#).

Deliverables

The Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program requires a two-phase process consisting of planning and implementation activities. The planning phase is up to 12 months. The implementation phase

will begin once the grantee has met the requirements of the planning phase, to include completion of the required planning and implementation guide, and will continue for the remaining time of the grant.

- Document the approach to implementing or enhancing law enforcement-behavioral health responses for individuals with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs who come in contact with the criminal justice system.
- Collect data on program use, effectiveness, and outcomes and analyze across different demographics. Conduct an evaluation of the PMHC and community satisfaction. Working with a researcher to collect program data is an allowable expense.
- Engage in regular training and technical assistance activities with the BJA training and technical assistance partner, to include completion of the planning and implementation guide.
- Outline a plan for obtaining the necessary support to sustain and continue the proposed collaboration program following the conclusion of federal support.

The Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables are directly related to the performance measures that show the completed work's results, as discussed under the "Application and Submission Information" section.

Evidence-Based Programs or Practices

OJP strongly encourages the use of data and evidence in policymaking and program development for criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. For additional information and resources on evidence-based programs or practices, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities

OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the programs and activities funded under this solicitation. For additional information, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) section entitled "Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities."

OJP Priority Areas

The Department of Justice is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community.

Priority Considerations Supporting Executive Order 13985, Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government

Consistent with this Executive Order, the term "underserved community" refers to a population sharing a particular characteristic, as well as a geographic community, that has been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life or whose members have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality. Such communities include, among others, Black people, Hispanics and Latino/a/e people, Native American and other Indigenous peoples of North America (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts), Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders.

In support of Executive Order 13985, OJP will:

Give priority consideration to applications that include project(s) that will promote racial equity and the removal of barriers to access and opportunity for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality, when making award decisions.

To receive this consideration, the applicant must describe how the proposed project(s) will address potential inequities and barriers to equal opportunity, and/or contribute to greater access to services for underserved and historically marginalized populations.

Connect and Protect Priorities:

- Promote effective strategies by law enforcement to identify and reduce the risk of harm to individuals with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs who encounter law enforcement and improve public safety.
- Promote effective strategies for the identification and treatment of females who have been incarcerated with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs.
- Propose interventions that have been shown by empirical evidence to reduce recidivism. When appropriate, use validated assessment tools to target people who have been incarcerated with a moderate or high risk of recidivism and a need for treatment services.

To receive priority consideration under any of these areas, applicants must identify, in the proposal abstract, each area for which priority consideration is being sought, and describe, in the proposal narrative, how they will address each priority.

Note: Addressing these priority areas is one of many factors that OJP considers in making funding decisions. Receiving priority consideration for one or more priority areas is not a guarantee of an award.

Federal Award Information

Solicitation Categories

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

Awards, Amounts and Durations

Anticipated Number of Awards
27

Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount of Awards
\$550,000.00

Period of Performance Start Date
10/1/22 12:00 AM

Period of Performance Duration (Months)
36

Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation
\$15,000,000.00

Continuation Funding Intent

BJA may, in certain cases, provide additional funding in future years to awards made under this solicitation through continuation awards. OJP will consider, among other factors, OJP's strategic priorities, a recipient's overall management of the award, and the award-funded work's progress, when making continuation award decisions.

Availability of Funds

This solicitation, and awards (if any are made) under this solicitation, are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by the agency or by law. In addition, nothing in this solicitation is intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States; its departments, agencies, or entities; its officers, employees, or agents; or any other person.

Types of Awards

BJA expects to make awards under this solicitation as grants. See the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section of the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for a brief discussion of important statutes, regulations, and award conditions that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP grants.

Financial Management and System of Internal Controls

Award recipients and subrecipients (including recipients or subrecipients that are pass-through entities) must, as described in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.303, comply with standards for financial and program management. See [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Budget Information

Applicants should structure their budgets to allocate \$100,000 to complete the planning phase within 12 months of receiving final OJP approval of the project's budget. The applicant will need to clearly identify which budget line items are planning costs. While applicants will be required to submit a budget for the entire 36-month project at the time of application submission, they may have the opportunity to revise their budget based on any outcomes from the planning phase.

Budget approval and coordination with BJA and a technical assistance coordinator are required to complete Phase 1 before beginning the implementation phase.

In addition to unallowable costs identified in the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#), award funds may not be used for the following:

- Prizes, rewards, entertainment, trinkets, or any other monetary incentives
- Client stipends
- Gift cards
- Vehicle purchases
- Food and beverages

The use of BJA grant funds for unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), including unmanned aircraft vehicles (UAV), and all accompanying accessories to support UAS or UAV, is unallowable.

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

This solicitation requires a 20 percent **cash and/or in-kind match** in years 1 and 2, and a 40 percent **cash and/or in-kind match** in year 3. Federal funds awarded under this solicitation may not cover more than 80 percent of the funded project’s total costs in years 1 and 2, and 60 percent of the funded project’s total costs in year 3. An applicant must identify the source of the 20 percent nonfederal portion of the funded project’s total costs for years 1 and 2 and describe how it will use the match funds. In addition, applicants proposing a third project year must identify the source of the 40 percent nonfederal portion of year 3’s project costs and describe how it will use the match funds. If a successful application proposes a voluntary match amount, and OJP approves the budget, then the total match amount incorporated into the approved budget becomes mandatory and subject to audit. (“Match” funds may be used only for purposes that would be allowable for the federal funds.) Recipients must satisfy this match requirement with cash or in-kind match. The formula for calculating match is:

$$\frac{\text{Federal Award Amount}}{\text{Federal Share Percentage}} = \text{Adjusted (Total) Project Costs}$$

$$\text{Required Recipient’s Share Percentage} \times \text{Adjusted Project Cost} = \text{Required Match}$$

Example: 80 percent/20 percent match requirement: For a federal award amount of \$500,000, calculate match as follows:

$$\frac{\$500,000}{80 \text{ percent}} = \$625,555 \qquad 20 \text{ percent} \times \$625,555 = \$125,111 \text{ match}$$

Example: 60 percent/40 percent match requirement: For a federal award amount of \$350,000, calculate match as follows:

$$\frac{\$350,000}{60 \text{ percent}} = \$583,333 \qquad 40 \text{ percent} \times \$583,333 = \$233,333 \text{ match}$$

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on this match requirement. For step-by-step instructions for entering match amounts in the budget, see the [Budget Summary Match Guide](#).

Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) information on Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs).

Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) information on the Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver.

Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs.

Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on Costs Associated with Language Assistance.

Eligibility Information

For eligibility information, see the solicitation cover page.

For information on cost sharing or match requirements, see the “Federal Award Information” section.

Application and Submission Information

The following application elements **must** be included in the application to meet the basic minimum requirements to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding:

- Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form) (The web-based form includes the budget details and the budget narrative.)
- **MOU between the Law Enforcement Agency and the Mental Health Agency to Demonstrate Partnership**

See the “Application Elements and Formatting Instructions” section of the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on what happens to an application that does not contain all the specified elements or is nonresponsive to the scope of the solicitation.

Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

The SF-424 must be submitted in Grants.gov. It is a required standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications, applications, and related information. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on completing the SF-424.

In Section 8F of the SF-424, please include the name and contact information of the individual **who will complete the application in JustGrants**. JustGrants will use this information (email address) to assign the application to this user in JustGrants.

Intergovernmental Review: This solicitation (“funding opportunity”) is not subject to Executive Order 12372. In completing the SF-424, an applicant is to answer question 19 by selecting the response that the “Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.”

Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)

The “Standard Applicant Information” section of the JustGrants application is pre-populated with the SF-424 data submitted in Grants.gov. The applicant will need to review the Standard Applicant Information in JustGrants and make edits as needed. Within this section, the applicant will need to: add zip codes for areas affected by the project, confirm its Authorized Representative, and verify and confirm the organization’s unique entity identifier, legal name, and address.

Proposal Abstract

A proposal abstract (no more than 400 words) summarizing the proposed project, including primary activities, products and deliverables, the service area, and who will benefit from the proposed project, will be completed in the JustGrants web-based form. Proposal abstracts should be:

- Written for a general public audience.
- Submitted as a separate attachment with “Proposal Abstract” as part of its file name.
- Single-spaced, using a standard 12-point Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins.

As a separate attachment, the proposal abstract will not count against the page limit for the proposal narrative. In addition, the abstract must:

1. In one sentence, identify if a program-specific priority area will be addressed in the application (as addressed in the prior “Priority Considerations” section).
2. Include the names of the lead applicant and the partner applicant (justice/law enforcement and mental health agencies); if applicable, the target population and the proposed number of individuals the applicant plans to serve; the jurisdiction’s population and demographic characteristics; a brief description of how the applicant plans to address the problem; and the amount of federal funding requested.
3. Indicate whether the applicant is a previous recipient of Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response grant funds and include the award number.
4. Include a list of proposed subcontractors, if applicable.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration, applicant **must** provide the following information:

- Which priority consideration is being sought.
- What page(s) in the proposal narrative provide documentation of the applicant’s plan to respond to the priority consideration.

Proposal Narrative

The proposal narrative should be submitted as an attachment in JustGrants. The attached document should be double-

spaced, using a standard 12-point font; have no less than 1-inch margins; and should not exceed 15 pages. Pages should be numbered and submitted as an attachment. If the proposal narrative fails to comply with these length restrictions, BJA may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decision. The following sections must be included as part of the proposal narrative:

- Description of the Issue:
 - Identify or introduce the issue to be addressed by the grant and why this program/these proposed activities are necessary (significance/value).
 - Describe and demonstrate understanding of the nature and scope of the issue to be addressed, using data and research as support.
 - Describe successful efforts to date that address the identified needs. Describe the need for assistance and resources to address the problem. Briefly introduce how the applicant proposes to address the problem.
- Project Design and Implementation:
 - Describe in detail the proposed deliverables during the planning and implementation phases. Address in detail how the applicant proposes to undertake and accomplish the objectives and deliverables.
 - Describe the strategy to address the needs identified in the "Description of the Issue." Learn about and design best practice strategies that [improve outcomes for officers and citizens](#).
 - Include a timeline/project plan that identifies the major tasks and deliverables of the proposed program and who is responsible for each activity, including data collection.
 - Address whether any of the program-specific priority areas have been met.
 - Explain the applicant's inability to fund the collaboration program adequately without federal assistance. Specify how the federal support will be used to supplement, and not supplant, state, local, American Indian tribe, or tribal organization sources of funding that would otherwise be available, including billing third-party resources for services already covered under programs such as Medicaid, Medicare, and the State Children's Insurance Program.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration for Priority 1(A), it should address in this section how the proposed project(s) will promote racial equity and/or the removal of barriers to access and opportunity, and/or contribute to greater access to services, for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality.

- Capabilities and Competencies:
 - Describe the capabilities and competencies of the applicant to manage the award.
 - Provide a detailed description of the capacity of the partners and the key personnel to deliver the required services and perform the key tasks described in the "Program Design" section
 - Include a letter of support from the joint applicant agencies' executives demonstrating agency commitment to the project. Demonstration of the partners' commitment will contribute to higher scoring under this criterion.
 - Describe how the proposed management structure and staffing of the program will facilitate the delivery of the required services. The management and organizational structure should match the staffing needs necessary to accomplish the tasks outlined in the timeline/project plan. Information regarding the personnel assigned to these tasks and whether their résumés and role descriptions are included will contribute to the assignment of points relative to this criterion.
- Plan for Collecting the Data:

Note: Applicants are **not** required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included as an alert that successful applicants will be required to submit performance data as part of each award's reporting requirements.

OJP will require each successful applicant to submit regular performance data that show the completed work's results. The performance data directly relate to the goals, objectives, and deliverables identified under the "Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables" section. Applicants can visit OJP's performance measurement page at www.ojp.gov/performance for an overview of performance measurement activities at OJP.

A list of performance measures questions for this program can be found at <https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/Connect-and-Protect-Measures.pdf>.

BJA will require award recipients to submit performance measures data and performance reports in JustGrants. BJA will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process, if selected for an award.

Note on Project Evaluations

An applicant that proposes to use award funds through this solicitation to conduct project evaluations must follow the guidance under the “Note on Project Evaluations” section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

The applicants will submit the program’s goals, objectives, and deliverables in the JustGrants web-based form.

Budget and Associated Documentation

Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)

The applicant will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

The applicant will submit its indirect cost rate agreement by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Financial Management Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)

The applicant will download the questionnaire, complete it, and submit it by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information and the link to the questionnaire.

Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation

If applicable, applicants will submit a description of the process used to determine executive compensation by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants. See the “Application Attachments” section of the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information.

Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and Other Supportive Documents

Applicants are required to submit an MOU between the criminal justice agency and the mental health service agency to demonstrate partnership

Additional Application Components

Applicants will attach the additional requested documentation in JustGrants.

Tribal Authorizing Resolution

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of tribal authorizing documentation as an attachment. If applicable, the applicant will submit the tribal authorizing documentation by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on tribal authorizing resolutions.

Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement

If an application proposes research (including research and development) and/or evaluation, the applicant must demonstrate research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, before it may receive award funds. The applicant will submit documentation of its research and evaluation independence and integrity by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. For additional information, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Disclosures and Assurances

The applicant will address the following disclosures and assurances.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Complete and submit the SF-LLL in Grants.gov. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

DOJ Certified Standard Assurances

Review and accept the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items

Complete the JustGrants web-based Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Review and accept the DOJ Certified Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; and Law Enforcement and Community Policing in JustGrants. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable)

If applicable, submit the DOJ High Risk Disclosure and Justification as an attachment in JustGrants. A DOJ High Risk Grantee is an award recipient that has received a DOJ High Risk designation based on a documented history of unsatisfactory performance, financial instability, management system or other internal control deficiencies, or noncompliance with award terms and conditions on prior awards, or that is otherwise not responsible. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

How to Apply

Step 1: The applicant must submit the **SF-424** and an **SF-LLL** in Grants.gov at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>.

Step 2: The applicant must then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](#).

For additional information, see the “How to Apply” section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) and the [DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#).

Submission Dates and Time

The **SF-424** and the **SF-LLL** must be submitted in Grants.gov by 8:59 PM ET on May 27, 2022.

The **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by 08:59 PM ET June 1, 2022.

OJP urges applicants to submit their Grants.gov and JustGrants submissions prior to the due dates to allow sufficient time to correct errors and resubmit by the submission deadlines if a rejection notification is received. To be considered timely, the **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline.

Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues

An applicant that experiences unforeseen SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants technical issues beyond its control that prevent application submission by the deadline must demonstrate all efforts in requesting technical support in order to submit an application by the deadline. Technical support is available via phone and email to the applicable SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants support centers or service desks in which an applicant received a ticket number for resolution. If an applicant misses a deadline due to unforeseen technical difficulties, the applicant may request a waiver to submit an application after the deadline. *Note: If an applicant does not submit all the required Grants.gov forms by the Grants.gov deadline, the applicant will not be able to proceed to the JustGrants portion of the application process.*

An applicant experiencing technical difficulties with the following systems must contact the associated support desk indicated below to report the technical issue and receive a tracking number:

- Grants.gov — Contact the [Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline](#)
- SAM.gov — Contact the [SAM Help Desk \(Federal Service Desk\)](#)
- JustGrants — Contact the JustGrants Support Desk at JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or 833-872-5175

An applicant requesting a waiver to submit a late application must document their request for technical assistance in an email to the OJP Response Center at grants@ncjrs.gov **within 24 hours after the application deadline** to request approval to submit its application after the deadline. If an applicant has technical issues with Grants.gov, the applicant must contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline within 24 hours of the Grants.gov deadline to request approval to submit after the deadline. However, waiver requests will not be reviewed until after the JustGrants deadline to allow time

for all waivers to be submitted. Waiver requests to submit after the submission deadline must:

- Describe the technical difficulties experienced.
- Include a timeline of the applicant's submission efforts (e.g., what date and time did the error occur, what date and time was action taken to resolve the issue and resubmit, and what date and time did support representatives respond).
- Include an attachment(s) of the complete grant application and all required documentation and material.
- Include the applicant's Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), any applicable SAM.gov tracking number(s), Grants.gov Help Desk, and JustGrants Support Desk Ticket Numbers.

OJP will review each request for late submission and required supporting documentation and notify the applicant whether the request has been approved or denied. For more details on the waiver process, OJP encourages applicants to review the "Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues" section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Application Review Information

Review Criteria

Applications that meet the basic minimum requirements will be evaluated by peer reviewers on how the proposed project/program addresses the following criteria:

1. Description of the Issue (15 percent) — Evaluate the applicant's understanding of the program/issue to be addressed.
2. Project Design and Implementation (40 percent) — Evaluate the adequacy of the proposal, including the goals, objectives, timelines, milestones, and deliverables.
3. Capabilities and Competencies (30 percent) — Evaluate the administrative and technical capacity of the applicant to successfully accomplish the goals and objectives.
4. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (5 percent) — Evaluate the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements and the plan for collecting the required data.
5. Budget (10 percent) — Evaluate for completeness, cost effectiveness, and allowability (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

Other Review Criteria/Factors

Other important considerations for BJA include geographic diversity, strategic priorities (specifically including, but not limited to, those priority areas already mentioned), available funding, past performance, program-specific priorities, and the extent to which the budget worksheet and budget narrative (web-based form) accurately explain project costs that are reasonable, necessary, and otherwise allowable under federal law and applicable federal cost principles.

Review Process

Applications submitted under this solicitation that meet the basic minimum requirements will be evaluated for technical merit by a peer review panel(s) in accordance with OJP peer review policy and procedures using the review criteria listed above.

OJP screens applications to ensure they meet the basic minimum requirements prior to conducting the peer review. Although specific requirements may vary, the following are common requirements applicable to all OJP solicitations:

- The application must be submitted by an eligible type of applicant.
- The application must request funding within programmatic funding constraints (if applicable).
- The application must be responsive to the scope of the solicitation.
- The application must include all items necessary to meet the basic minimum requirements.

Pursuant to the Part 200 Uniform Requirements, before award decisions are made, OJP also reviews information related to the degree of risk posed by the applicant. Among other things to help assess whether an applicant with one or more prior federal awards has a satisfactory record with respect to performance, integrity, and business ethics, OJP checks whether the applicant is listed in SAM as excluded from receiving a federal award.

In addition, if OJP anticipates that an award will exceed \$250,000 in federal funds, OJP also must review and consider any information about the applicant that appears in the non-public segment of the integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently, the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System, FAPIIS).

Important note on FAPIIS: An applicant may review and comment on any information about itself that currently appears in FAPIIS and was entered by a federal awarding agency. OJP will consider such comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in FAPIIS, in its assessment of the risk posed by the applicant.

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final award decisions will be made by the Assistant Attorney General, who may consider not only peer review ratings and BJA recommendations, but also other factors as indicated in this section.

Federal Award Administration Information

Federal Award Notices

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on award notifications and instructions.

Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements

If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the OJP-approved application, the recipient must comply with all award conditions and all applicable requirements of federal statutes and regulations, including applicable requirements referred to in the assurances and certifications executed in connection with award acceptance. For additional information on these legal requirements, see the “Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements” section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of information related to information technology security. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on information technology security.

General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements

In addition to the deliverables described in the “Program Description” section, all award recipients under this solicitation will be required to submit certain reports and data.

Required reports. Award recipients typically must submit quarterly financial reports, performance reports, final financial and performance reports, programmatic certifications and, if applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with the Part 200 Uniform Requirements or specific award conditions. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent. (In appropriate cases, OJP may require additional reports.)

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measure data.

Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For OJP contact(s), see the solicitation cover page.
For contact information for Grants.gov, see the solicitation cover page.
For contact information for JustGrants, see the solicitation cover page.

Other Information

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a)

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a).

Provide Feedback to OJP

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on how to provide feedback to OJP.

Performance Measures

Note: Applicants are **not** required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included as an alert that successful applicants will be required to submit performance data as part of each award's reporting requirements.

OJP will require each successful applicant to submit regular performance data that show the completed work's results. The performance data directly relate to the goals, objectives, and deliverables identified under the “Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables” section. Applicants can visit OJP's performance measurement page at www.ojp.gov/performance for an overview of performance measurement activities at OJP.

A list of performance measures questions for this program can be found at <https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/Connect-and-Protect-Measures.pdf>.

BJA will require award recipients to submit performance measures data and performance reports in JustGrants. BJA will

provide further guidance on the post-award submission process, if selected for an award.

Application Checklist

BJA FY 2022 Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. The [DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#) is another resource.

What an Applicant Must Do:

Prior to registering in Grants.gov:

- Confirm your Entity's [System Award Management \(SAM\) Registration Information](#) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

To register in Grants.gov:

- Acquire an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and a Grants.gov username and password (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Acquire AOR confirmation from the E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

To find the funding opportunity:

- Search for the funding opportunity in Grants.gov using the opportunity number, Assistance Listing or keyword(s)
- Select the correct Competition ID
- Access the funding opportunity and application package (see Step 7 in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Sign up for Grants.gov email [notifications](#) (optional) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Read [Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov](#)
- Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting available at [ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/PostawardRequirements/chapter3.10a.htm](#) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements:

- Review the "[Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2022 Awards](#)" in the [OJP Funding Resource Center](#).

Review Scope Requirement:

- The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of \$550,000.

Review Eligibility Requirement:

Eligible applicants are states, units of local government, mental health agencies partnering with law enforcement, and federally recognized American Indian tribal governments (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior). BJA will only accept applications that demonstrate the proposed program will be administered jointly by an agency with responsibility for public safety and a mental health agency.

Prepare to submit the Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF)-424 and Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form (SF-LLL)

- Review Information to complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) in Grants.gov
- Complete Standard Applicant Information (SF-424 information from Grants.gov)
- Submit the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL** in Grants.gov

After the SF-424 and SF-LLL submission in Grants.gov, receive Grants.gov email notifications that:

- Submission has been received in Grants.gov
Submission has either been successfully validated or rejected with errors (see [OJP Grant Application](#))

[Resource Guide](#))

If no Grants.gov receipt and validation, or error notifications are received:

- Contact BJA or Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, at Grants.gov customer support webpage, or email at support@grants.gov regarding technical difficulties (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

Receive email notification to complete application in JustGrants

- Proceed to complete application in JustGrants

Content of Application Submission: Critical Application Elements

The following items are critical application elements required to pass the basic minimum requirements review. If OJP determines that an application does not include the following elements, it will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.

- Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form)
- MOU between the law enforcement agency and the mental health agency to demonstrate partnership

Budget and Associated Documentation:

- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

Disclosure of Process related to Executive Compensation (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

Additional Application Components:

- Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
 - Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
 - Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Subrecipient information

Disclosures and Assurances:

- [Disclosure of Lobbying Activities \(SF-LLL\)](#) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- DOJ Certified Standard Assurances (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

Submit application in JustGrants:

- Application has been successfully submitted in JustGrants

If no JustGrants application submission, validation, or error notifications are received:

- Contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov regarding technical difficulties.