BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

FY 2023 Field Initiated: Encouraging Innovation

Competitive Grant Announcement

May 16, 2023, 1:00 pm ET

This webinar will begin shortly

Agenda

- Welcome and Overview of OJP and BJA
- Overview of Field Initiated: Encouraging Innovation Solicitation
- Eligibility and Application Requirements
- Resources for Applicants
- Questions and Answers

Poll Question: Has your organization been awarded federal grants in the past?

- Yes, my organization has extensive experience with federal grants.
- Yes, though my organization does not currently have any federal grants.
- My organization has limited experience with federal grants.
- My organization is new to federal grants and looking to learn more!

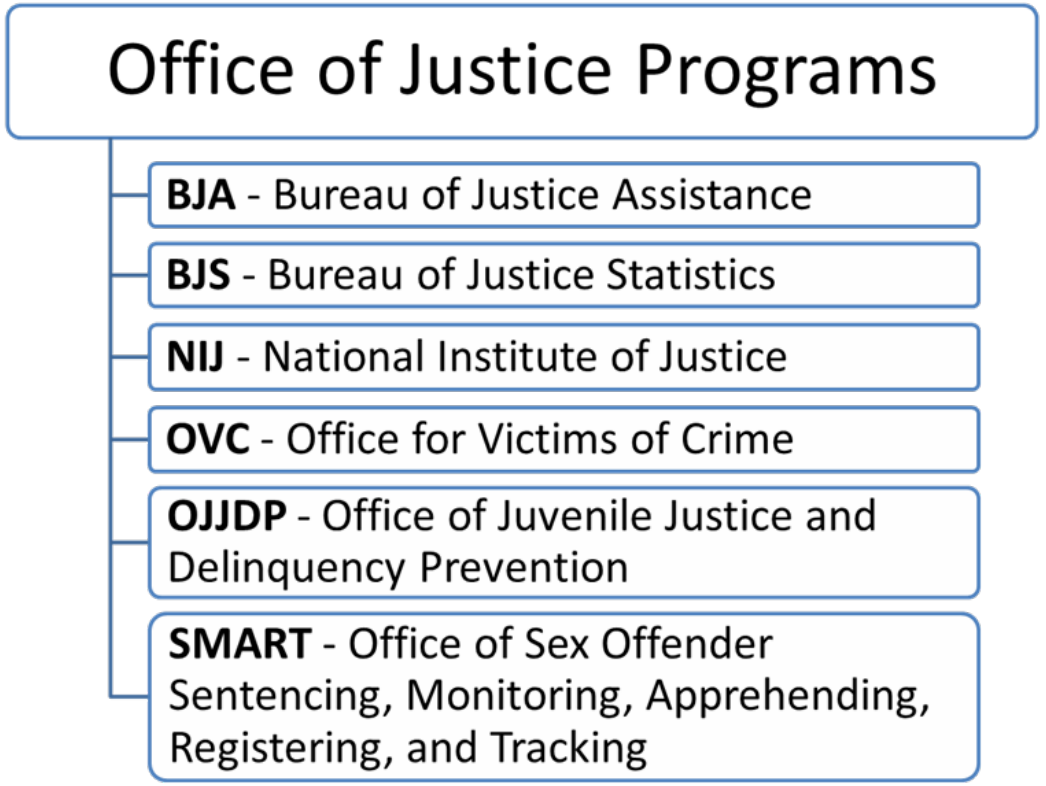
SECTION 1

WELCOME AND OVERVIEW

BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

What is the Office of Justice Programs?

- The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) provides grant funding, training, research, and statistics to the criminal justice community.
- OJP is one of three grant-making components of the Department of Justice along with the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).



U.S. Department of Justice
Bureau of Justice Assistance

Mission: BJA's mission is to provide leadership and services in grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support state, local, and tribal justice strategies to achieve safer communities. BJA works with communities, governments, and nonprofit organizations to reduce crime, recidivism, and unnecessary confinement, and promote a safe and fair criminal justice system.

Karhlton F. Moore, BJA Director

Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

https://bja.ojp.gov/

Fund

Invest diverse funding streams to accomplish goals.

Educate

Research, develop, and deliver what works.

Equip

Create tools and products to build capacity and improve outcomes.

Partner

Consult, connect, and convene.

SECTION 2

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

Overview

- BJA seeks to support new and innovative strategies for preventing and reducing crime, improving community safety, and strengthening criminal justice system outcomes.
- Proposed projects should promote collaborations with the field to identify, define, and respond to emerging or chronic crime problems or justice system challenges.
- BJA is looking for strategies that address these issues, including trying new approaches, addressing gaps in responses, building or translating research knowledge, or building capacity.
- Applications under this program should not duplicate responses to other BJA-funded solicitations and should have the potential to broadly benefit the field of criminal justice knowledge and practice nationally.

Overview (cont'd)

- BJA is seeking applications that address the following goals, while also building approaches and tools that enhance criminal justice reforms that build public confidence in the criminal justice system and trust between residents and the criminal justice system:
  - Respond to precipitous increases in crime, including violent crime, and improve system capacity to track and respond to increases in these kinds of crime.
  - Address substance use disorders and/or efforts to prevent or respond to drug overdoses and fatalities.
  - Improve outcomes for justice system-involved individuals, including those who are currently or formerly incarcerated.
  - Respond to an increase in hate crimes and/or increase access to justice and supportive services.

Poll Question: Do you plan to apply for a grant under the FY 2023 Field Initiated solicitation?

- Yes, my organization plans to apply.
- No, my organization does not plan to apply.
- My organization is still deciding whether or not to apply.
- My organization isn't eligible, but I'd like to hear more about other programs.

SECTION 3

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

Solicitation Categories

Competition ID	Category	Number of Awards	Dollar Amount for Award	Performance Duration
C-BJA-2023-00091-PROD	Category 1: State, local, tribal, or regional field tests with a research partnership	7	$1,000,000	36
C-BJA-2023-00092-PROD	Category 2: National strategies to advance or translate knowledge	3	$1,000,000	36

Eligible Applicants - Category 1

- State governments
- Special district governments
- City or township governments
- Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education
- County governments
- Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities
- Native American tribal governments (federally recognized)
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education
- For-profit organizations other than small businesses

Categories and Eligibility

Category 1

- Applications that propose to test a strategy or theory of change at the state, local, tribal, or regional level working with a research partner to document the implementation and develop tools to support national replication. Regional projects must propose a model that is specific to a regional need or could be effectively implemented regionally and replicated elsewhere.
- Applicants are required to formally partner with a research organization for project development, assessment, and/or evaluation activities, as well as the development of tools to support replication. No more than 20 percent of the total budget may be used to support research or evaluation services.

Eligible Applicants - Category 2

- Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education (including tribal institutions of higher education)
- Public housing authorities/American Indian housing authorities
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education
- For-profit organizations other than small businesses

Categories and Eligibility

Category 2

- Applications that propose to develop targeted national strategies to advance or translate knowledge that will make an impact in addressing a critical need or gap in the field.
- Applicants are required to work with a research partner to document the implementation and develop tools to support further implementation in the field. No more than 50 percent of the total budget may be used to support research or evaluation services.

What is Innovative?

- A strategy or response that has not been implemented previously, yet is supported by research, data, theory, or evidence.
- A new modification to an existing strategy or response that has not been implemented previously, yet is supported by research, data, theory, or evidence.
- A new approach to delivering existing evidence-based strategies or responses that have not been implemented previously and have the potential to reduce costs and increase efficiencies while maintaining effectiveness (including organizational developments and changes that may enhance the effectiveness or long-term sustainability of the existing strategy or response).
- An approach that seeks to update current knowledge and practice in a particular area of need.

Focus Areas: Must Address at Least One

- Develop innovative, fair, and equitable responses to combat, address, or otherwise respond to precipitous or extraordinary increases in crime, or in a type or types of crime, such as homicides, assaults, and hate crimes.
- Address and prevent hate crimes by strengthening responses to these crimes and building relationships in communities among stakeholders, including, but not limited to, law enforcement, diverse racial and ethnic communities, victim services organizations, etc., through partnerships and innovative solutions or pilot programs.
- Ensure a capable and able criminal justice workforce to address the increases in crime and public heath challenges, and study challenges related to recruitment, retention, and wellness of personnel in criminal justice, first responder, community-based, and partner agencies.
- Enhance collaboration among criminal justice, behavioral health, and public health systems to reduce barriers to success for persons in the criminal justice system with substance use and/or mental health issues.

Focus Areas : Must Address at Least One (cont'd)

- Build alternative strategies and systems—such as restorative justice approaches, programs that deflect or divert persons from the justice system and community responder models, and/or strategies for addressing other public order infractions—that enhance outcomes for those with criminal justice involvement and/or prevent unnecessary involvement in the criminal justice system.
- Accelerate justice through the creation of approaches and tools that build the capacity to gather and analyze data and information to understand key decision points and levers for change to reduce rates of incarceration, community correctional control, and racial disparities, including through reforming pretrial processes, sentencing practices, mandatory minimums, and collateral consequences.

Application Tips

Don’t wait until the deadline to apply!
Refer to the application checklist.

Important Dates

- **June 08, 2023, 8:59 p.m. ET: Deadline to submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL in Grants.gov**

- **June 15, 2023, 8:59 p.m. ET: Deadline to submit the full application in JustGrants**.

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.

Award Information

- BJA expects to make approximately 10 awards.
- Maximum award amount: $1,000,000.
- Total amount anticipated to be awarded: $10,000,000.
- Grant start date: October 1, 2023.
- Period of performance: 36 months.

Application Sections

1. Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) (required)
2. Proposal Abstract (required)
3. Proposal Narrative (required)
4. Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (required)
5. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)
6. Financial Management Questionnaire (required)
7. Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation (if applicable)
8. Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable)
9. Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) (required)
10. High Risk Disclosure and Justification (if applicable)
11. Additional Attachments (listed on next slide)

Application Sections (cont'd)

Additional Attachments

- Timeline:
  - Span 36 months.
  - Outline the goals and objectives.
  - Summarize major activities, expected dates of completion, and responsible agencies.

- Résumés/Job Descriptions:
  - For all staff to be funded under the grant.

- Letters of Support and/or Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) for key partners.

- Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications.

- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity.

- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation Waiver (if applicable).

Proposal Abstract

- A proposal abstract (no more than 400 words) summarizing the proposed project, including the purpose of the project, primary activities, expected outcomes, the service area, intended beneficiaries and subrecipients (if known).

- The applicant must also include the following:
  - Applicant's name and the project's title.
  - Dollar amount of federal grant funds requested.
  - Summary of the project's goals and activities.
  - Proposed key partners on the project.
  - List of key outcomes and products to be shared with the field.
  - State ability and willingness to serve as a peer expert.

Proposal Abstract (cont'd)

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

- Which priority consideration is being sought: 1(A), 1(B), or both.
- What page(s) in the proposal narrative provide documentation of the applicant's plan to respond to the priority consideration.
- For applicants seeking priority consideration 1(B), who is the proposed subawardee to receive the funding and the amount of funds proposed.

The applicant should list which goal(s) they seek to address:

1) Respond to a precipitous increase in crime or a particular type of crime.
2) Address substance use disorders and/or prevent or respond to drug overdoses and fatalities.
3) Improve outcomes for justice system-involved individuals, including those who are currently or formerly incarcerated.
4) Respond to an increase in hate crimes and/or increase access to justice and supportive services.

- In addition, the abstract should include specific language that indicates which of the allowable uses/activities the project will address along with each use/activity's percentage of the budget.

Proposal Narrative

Double-spaced, using a standard 12-point font with no less than 1-inch margins. Should not exceed 15 pages. Number pages “1 of 15,” etc. Submit as an attachment.

Scoring:

- Description of the Issue 15%
- Project Design and Implementation 35%
- Capabilities and Competencies 25%
- Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation’s Performance Measures 10%
- Budget and Budget Worksheet 15%

Budget and Budget Narrative

- For Category 1, projects must include that no more than 20 percent of the total budget will be used to support research or evaluation services.
- For Category 2, no more than 50 percent of the total budget will be used to support research or evaluation services.
- Itemize the budget for each year of the grant.
- This solicitation does not require a match.
- Address the prior approval, planning, and reporting of conference/meeting/ training costs.
- If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1(B) based on the identification of at least one proposed subrecipient as a culturally specific organization, the proposed funding for the subrecipient in the web-based budget form must reflect a minimum of 40 percent of award funding. The budget narrative must also describe how the activities that will be funded with the minimum 40 percent of award funding provided to the subrecipient specifically relate to the priority consideration requested and described in the Capabilities and Competencies section of the application.

Poll Question: Now that you've heard more about this program and the application process, are you ready to apply?

- Yes, my organization plans to apply.
- No, my organization does not plan to apply.
- My organization is still deciding whether or not to apply.
- My organization isn't eligible or interested in applying for this award, but I'd like to hear more about other programs.

SECTION 5

APPLICATION RESOURCES

BJA Resources

BJA Funding Webpage:

- For more information on available BJA funding, see https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/current.

BJA Field Initiated: Encouraging Innovation Solicitation Webpage:

- For more information on this solicitation, see FY 2023 Invited to Apply - Field Initiated: Encouraging Innovation | Bureau of Justice Assistance (ojp.gov).

Refer to the **JustGrants Training Application Submission** page for additional information and training on the application submission process.

SAM.gov Entity Validation Update

GSA implemented a new process to validate an entity's legal business name and physical address when requesting a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and for completing a SAM.gov entity registration. Due to a high volume of requests, entity validations are taking longer than expected to process. This validation process is now taking 7-10 business days, and in some cases longer.

OJP strongly recommends starting your SAM.gov registration process as soon as possible to allow the time necessary to process entity validations well in advance of the Grants.gov due date posted in the solicitation. Read this FAQ for more information.

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Grant Application Resource Guide ("Guide") provides guidance to assist OJP grant applicants in preparing and submitting applications for OJP funding. It addresses a variety of policies, statutes, and regulations that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP program applicants, or to grants and cooperative agreements awarded in fiscal year (FY) 2023. Some OJP programs may have program solicitations that expressly modify a provision of this Guide; in such cases, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in the solicitation as to any such expressly modified provision.

Contents

- How To Apply
- Application Elements and Formatting Instructions
  - Complete the Application for Federal Assistance(Standard Form (SF)-424)
  - Disclosure of Lobbying Activities
    - Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)
  - Proposal Abstract
  - Budget Preparation and Submission Information
    - Detailed Computations and Allowable Costs
    - Narrative Justification for Every Cost
    - Consolidated Budget Summary
    - Information on Proposed Subawards (if any) and Proposed Procurement Contracts (if any)
    - Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)
  - Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable)
- Application Attachments
  - Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications (Duplication in Cost Items)
  - Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High Risk Grantees
  - Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity
  - Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation
- Financial Information
  - Financial Management and System of Internal Controls
  - Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (including Applicant Disclosure of High-Risk Status)
  - Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement
  - Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)
  - Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver
  - Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs
  - Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)
- Application Review Information
- Federal Award Administration Information
  - Federal Award Notices
  - Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements
  - Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses
  - General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements
- Programmatic Information
  - Evidence-Based Programs or Practices
  - Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities
  - Note on Project Evaluations
- Other Information
  - Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. § 552 and 5 U.S.C. § 552a)
  - Provide Feedback to OJP
  - To Become an OJP Peer Reviewer

https://www.ojp.gov/funding/apply/ojp-grant-application-resource-guide

The Justice Grants System (JustGrants) is the Department of Justice's grants management system for the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office), the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW).

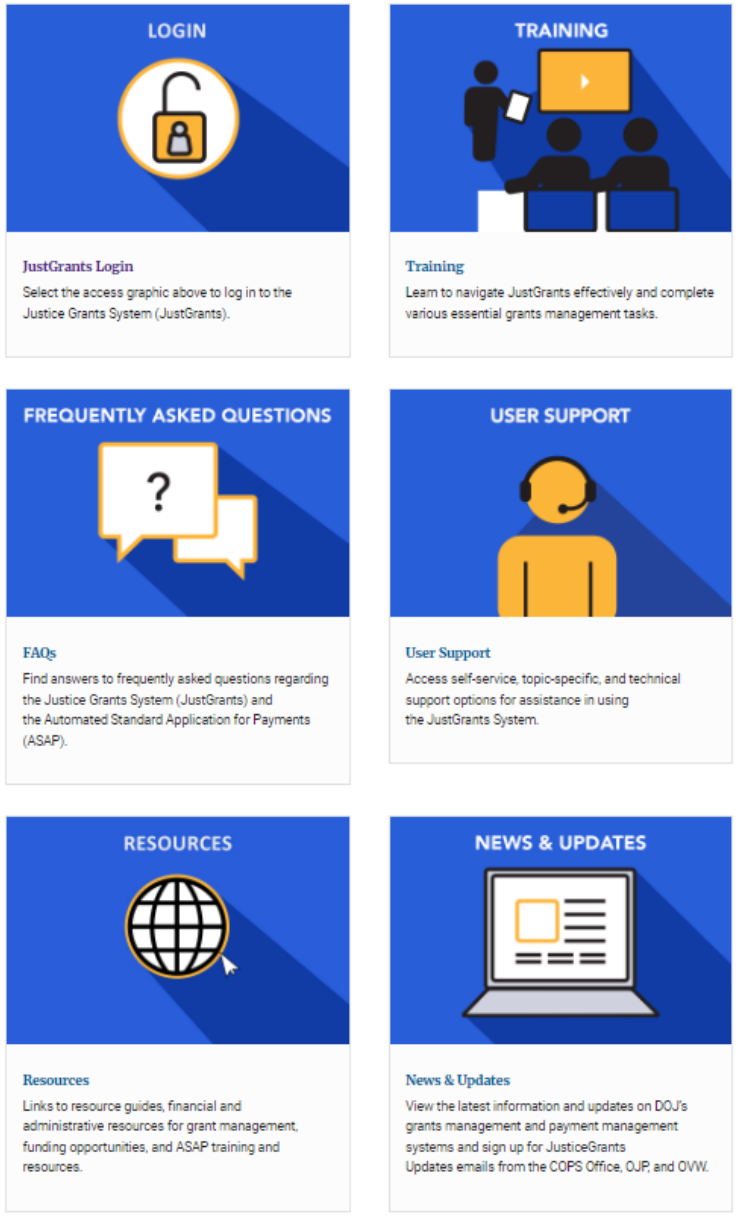
The JustGrants Resources website is an entryway into information about JustGrants and the system itself. Through this portal both award recipients and applicants can access training resources and user support options, find answers to frequently asked questions and sign up for the JusticeGrants Update e-newsletter .

Users can also log in to JustGrants through the site.

News Flash

Feb 21: Register Now! March Dates Added for Virtual Q&A Sessions

Aug 10: Review New and Updated JustGrants FAQs



https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/

Application Assistance

Grants.gov

- Provides technical assistance with submitting the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL.**
  - **Customer Support Hotline**
    - 800–518–4726 or 606–545–5035
    - Operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.
  - **Web and Email**
    - https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html
    - support@grants.gov
- Provides information on available federal funding opportunities for various federal agencies.

JustGrants Technical Support

Provides technical assistance with submitting the full application in DOJ's Justice Grants System (JustGrants).

- **Customer Support Hotline:**
  - 833–872–5175
  - Monday – Friday between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. ET
  - Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. ET
- **Web and Email**
  - https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/user-support
  - JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov

Email Updates
Text OJP [your email address] to 468-311 to subscribe.
(Message and data rates may apply.)

ShutterStock (see reuse policy).

Stay Connected

- Subscribe to:
  - OJP News Releases for the latest OJP press releases and publication advisories
  - JUSTINFO, a twice-monthly email newsletter
  - Funding News, a weekly notice of new grant opportunities and application tips
  - *JusticeGrants Update* e-newsletter for the latest information and updates on JustGrants, DOJ's grants management system
  - OJP email newsletters and topical messages available from OJP program offices (BJA, BJS, NIJ, OJJDP, OVC, and SMART)
- Sign up for U.S. Department of Justice Email Updates

https://www.ojp.gov/subscribe

Stay Connected!!

- **Facebook:** https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA
- **Twitter:** https://twitter.com/DOJBJA
- **YouTube:** https://www.youtube.com/dojbja

For information on funding opportunities, publications, and initiatives, visit **BJA's website:** www.bja.ojp.gov.

Additional Questions?

Contact the **OJP Response Center**:

- Email: grants@ncjrs.gov
- Toll free: 800–851–3420
- TTY: 301–240–6310 (hearing impaired only)

The Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday.

Reminder: Dual Deadlines

Applications must be submitted in a two-step process, each with its own deadline:

- Step 1: Submit an SF-424 and an SF-LLL at Grants.gov.
- Step 2: Submit the full application, with attachments, at JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov.

NOTE: Submission deadline times for both Grants.gov and JustGrants are now 8:59 p.m. ET, not 11:59 p.m. ET as in past years.

Read the solicitation carefully for further guidance.

Quick Reference: Important Contacts

For technical assistance submitting the SF-424 and SF-LLL into Grants.Gov, **call:** 800–518–4726 or 606–545–5035, 24 hours a day, or **email:** support@grants.gov.

For technical assistance submitting the **full application** into JustGrants, **call:** 833–872–5175, 7–9 ET, M–F, and 9–5 ET, weekends and holidays, or **email:** JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov.

For technical assistance with the programmatic requirements, **call the OJP Response Center**: 800–851–3420, 10–6 ET, M–F, or **email:** grants@ncjrs.gov.

Questions?

Enter in the **Q&A** box and send to **All Panelists**