BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

FY 2024 BJA Field Initiated: Encouraging Innovation Solicitation Webinar

Tuesday, July 2, 2024
1:00 p.m. ET

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

Presenter

- **Tenzing Lahdon**, Senior Policy Advisor

Agenda

Welcome and Introduction to OJP and BJA

Program Overview

Eligibility and Application Requirements

Application Resources

Q&A

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

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)**.

BJA – Bureau of Justice Assistance

BJS – Bureau of Justice Statistics

NIJ – National Institute of Justice

OVC – Office for Victims of Crime

OJJDP – Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

SMART – Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking

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.
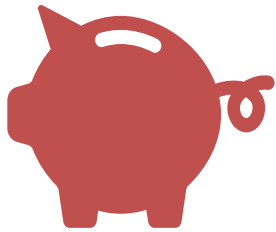
Karhlton F. Moore, BJA Director

https://bja.ojp.gov/

How BJA Supports the Field

Investments

Provide diverse funding to accomplish goals.

Sharing Knowledge

Research, develop, and deliver what works to build capacity and improve outcomes.

Engagement

Consult, connect, and convene.

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!

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Overview

- Support new and innovative strategies for preventing and reducing crime, improving community safety, and strengthening criminal justice system outcomes.

- Promote collaborations with the field to identify, define, and respond to emerging or chronic crime problems or justice system challenges.

- Design and implement strategies that address these issues, including trying new approaches, addressing gaps in responses, building or translating research knowledge, or building capacity.

- Do not duplicate responses to other BJA-funded solicitations.

Overview (cont'd)

Areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Develop innovative, fair, and equitable responses to combat, and respond to precipitous increases in crime.

- Address and support law enforcement and criminal justice agencies in building trust and legitimacy.

- Develop new approaches or strategies to prevent unnecessary involvement in the criminal justice system and improve outcomes for those already involved.

Overview (cont'd)

Areas of interest include, but are not limited to (cont'd):

- Accelerate justice by creating approaches and tools that build the capacity to gather and analyze data and information to understand key decision points and reduce unnecessary incarceration and racial disparities.

- Use technology and AI to enhance investigations and prosecutions, while safeguarding privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties.

- Address the recent increase in carjacking incidents or implement strategies to advance or enhance public knowledge.

Field Initiated: Encouraging Innovation Program

Goal: To identify, define, and respond to emerging or chronic crime problems or criminal justice system challenges by supporting new and innovative strategies that address these issues, including trying new approaches, addressing gaps in responses, building or translating research knowledge, or building capacity.

Field Initiated: Encouraging Innovation Program

Objectives:

- Develop and implement new and innovative strategies to prevent and reduce crime and enhance public safety.

- Develop effective and efficient strategies that can be replicated.

- Enhance the capacity of criminal justice professionals and the communities to respond to crime and justice system challenges.

- Advance knowledge and build capacity by developing and providing tools and resources for the field.
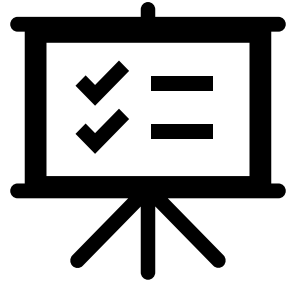
What is Innovative?

- Strategy or response that has not been implemented previously.

- New modification to an existing strategy or response that has not been implemented previously.

- New approach to delivering existing evidence-based strategies or responses that has not been implemented previously with the potential to reduce costs and increase efficiencies while maintaining effectiveness.

- Approach that seeks to update current knowledge and practice in a particular area of need.

SECTION 3

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

BJA Field Initiated Program Solicitation Categories

Category	Expected Number of Awards	Dollar Amount for Award	Performance Start Date	Performance Duration (Months)
Category 1: State, local, or tribal innovations (with a research partnership)	3	Up to $1,000,000	October 1, 2024	36
Category 2: National or regional strategies to advance or translate knowledge	3	$1,000,000	October 1, 2024	36
Category 3: Address the recent increase in carjacking incidents (with a research partnership)	5	$1,000,000	October 1, 2024	36

Category 1 Eligible Applicants

City or township government

County Government

State Government

Native American tribal governments (federally recognized)

Other: Units of local government

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

Public- and State-controlled institutions of higher education

Private institutions of higher education

Small businesses

For-profit organizations other than small businesses

Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities

Category 1: State, local, or tribal innovations (with a research partnership)

- Test a strategy or theory of change at the state, local, or tribal level.

- Formally partner with a research organization for project development, assessment, evaluation activities, and development of tools to support replication.

- Use no more than 20% of the total budget may be used to support research or evaluation services.

Category 2 Eligible Applicants

Public- and State-controlled institutions of higher education

Private institutions of higher education

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

For-profit organizations other than small businesses

Small businesses

Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities

Category 2: National or regional strategies to advance or translate knowledge

- Propose to develop targeted national or regional strategies to advance or translate knowledge that will make an impact in addressing a critical need or gap in the field.

- Propose a model that is specific to a regional need or could be effectively implemented regionally and replicated elsewhere.

- Formally partner with a research organization to document the implementation and develop tools to support further implementation in the field.

- Use no more than 50% of the total budget may be used to support research or evaluation services.

Category 3 Eligible Applicants

City or township government

County Government

State Government

Native American tribal governments (federally recognized)

Other: Units of local government

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

Public- and State-controlled institutions of higher education

Private institutions of higher education

Small businesses

For-profit organizations other than small businesses

Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities

Category 3: Address the recent increase in carjacking incidents

- Propose to address the recent increase in carjacking incidents

- Formally partner with research organizations to document the implementation and develop tools to support further implementation and replication of the model in the field.

- Use no more than 20% of the total budget may be used to support research or evaluation services.

Priority will be given to proposals with innovative intervention strategies to reduce carjacking incidents and disrupt the cycle of youth and young adult violence, while supporting those charged with carjacking offenses.

What an Application Should Include

- **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.

- **Project Narrative** – A project narrative that includes the following:
  1. Description of the Issue
  2. Project Design and Implementation
  3. Capabilities and Competencies
  4. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for This Solicitation's Performance Measures

- Budget and Associated Documentation

  Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form). Applicants will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form. The amount of the federal request should match the federal request amount on the SF-424.

Additional Application Components

Timeline

Résumés/Job Descriptions

Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and Other Supportive Documents

Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications

Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity

Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable)

Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire

Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

Important Dates

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

- **Solicitation posting date: June 17, 2024**

- **Deadline to submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL in Grants.gov: August 9, 2024, 8:59 p.m. ET**

- **Deadline to submit the full application in JustGrants: August 16, 2024, 8:59 p.m. ET**

SECTION 5

APPLICATION RESOURCES

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

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. to 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.)

https://www.ojp.gov/subscribe

Stay Connected!

- **Facebook:** https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA

- **X:** https://x.com/DOJBJA

- **YouTube:** https://www.youtube.com/dojbja

- Use the QR code to subscribe to **"Justice Matters" and "News From BJA"** to receive the latest information from BJA and the field.

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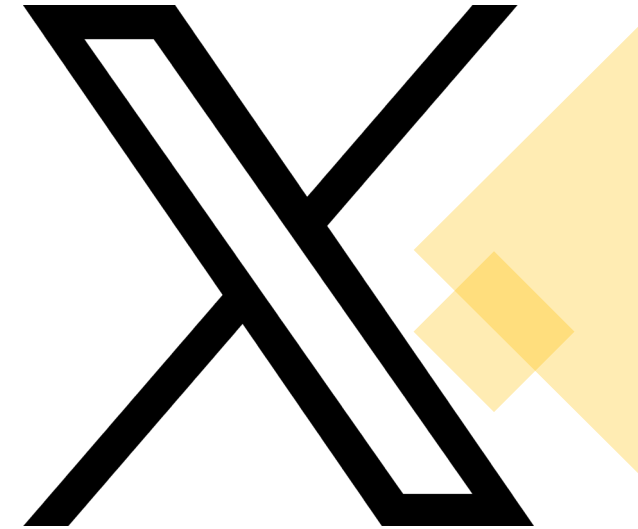
Additional Questions?

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 by August 9, 2024, 8:59 p.m. ET.

- Step 2: Submit the full application, with attachments, at JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov by August 16, 2024, 8:59 p.m. ET.

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.**