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BJA FY 21 Preventing School Violence: BJA's STOP School Violence Program

Assistance Listing Number # 16.839

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-BJA-2021-47003

Solicitation Release Date: June 2, 2021, 6:00 PM

Grants.gov Deadline: August 13, 2021 11:59 PM

Application JustGrants Deadline: August 18, 2021 11:59 PM

Overview

The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>Bureau of Justice</u> <u>Assistance</u> (BJA) is seeking applications for funding under the Student, Teachers, and Officers Preventing (STOP) School Violence Grant Program to prevent violence in a K-12 school setting. This program furthers the Department's mission by supporting and assisting county, local, territorial, and tribal jurisdictions in improving efforts to reduce violent crime in and around schools.

This solicitation incorporates the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> by reference. The OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants for the preparation and submission to OJP of applications for funding. 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 Category

This solicitation has two categories. The applicant must, at the top of the proposal narrative portion of the application, state the category for which it is applying.

Competition ID	Category	Number of Awards	Dollar Amount for Award	Performance Start Date	Performance Duration (Months)
C-BJA- 2021-	Category 1, State Governments, including Public and State-	10	Up to \$2,000,000	October 1, 2021	36

Competition ID	Category	Number of Awards	Dollar Amount for Award	Performance Start Date	Performance Duration (Months)
00147- PROD	controlled Institutions of Higher Education : (1) training on preventing violence and/or (2) threat assessment/intervention teams and/or technology (anonymous reporting apps, etc.)				
C-BJA- 2021- 00148- PROD	Category 2, All Other Eligible Applicants: (1) training on preventing violence and/or (2) threat assessment/ intervention teams and/or technology (anonymous reporting apps, etc.)	140	Up to \$1,000,000	October 1, 2021	36

Eligibility (Who may apply):

Category 1:

- State governments
- Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education

Category 2:

- City or township governments
- County governments
- Native American tribal governments (federally recognized)
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education
- Independent school districts

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.

Private K-12 schools, including private charter schools, should apply as "nonprofits." Public charter schools should apply as "independent school districts."

For the purposes of this solicitation, a "federally recognized Native American tribe" means any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, including any Alaska Native village or regional or village corporation as defined in or established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, which is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians. Applicants may propose to use the grant to contract with or make one or more subawards to:

- Local educational agencies
- Nonprofit organizations
- Units of local government or tribal organizations (as defined in section 4(I) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304(I))

Category 2 applications proposing to implement threat assessment/intervention teams and/or technology solutions must include in their application materials a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the lead law enforcement agency, the corresponding lead school official, and other members of the multidisciplinary team. This MOU will outline the roles and responsibilities of all parties, as well as any specific funding amounts (if applicable). Additional details regarding the MOU are described in the proposal narrative section under Additional Application Components. Please note, applications under Category 2 that ONLY propose training do not require an MOU.

To advance Executive Order 13929 Safe Policing for Safe Communities, as of October 28, 2020, 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 allocated FY 2021 DOJ discretionary grant funding, as either a recipient or a subrecipient. For detailed information on this new certification requirement, please visit https://cops.usdoj.gov/SafePolicingEO.

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

BJA will consider applications under which two or more entities would carry out the federal award; however, only one entity may be the applicant. Any others must be proposed as subrecipients (subgrantees). For additional information on subawards, see the <u>OJP Grant</u> <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.

BJA may elect to fund applications submitted under this FY 2021 solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and on the availability of appropriations.

Agency Contact Description

For technical assistance with submitting the **SF-424 and SF-LLL** in Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800–518–4726, 606–545–5035, at <u>Grants.gov</u> <u>customer support</u>, or email at <u>support@grants.gov</u>. 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 833–872–5175 or <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u>. 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.

An applicant that experiences unforeseen Grants.gov or JustGrants technical issues beyond its control that prevent it from submitting its application by the deadline must email the National Criminal Justice Reference Service Response Center (Response Center) at <u>grants@ncjrs.gov</u> within 24 hours after the application deadline to request approval to submit its application after the deadline.

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

Submission Information

In FY 2021, applications will be submitted to DOJ in a **NEW** two-step process.

<u>Step 1</u>: Applicants will submit an **SF-424 and an SF-LLL** in Grants.gov at <u>https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html</u>. To register in Grants.gov, applicants will need to obtain Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) and System for Award Management (SAM) registration or renewal.

<u>Step 2</u>: Applicants will submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at <u>https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/</u>.

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.

Preventing School Violence: BJA's STOP School Violence Program CFDA # 16.839

Program Description

Overview

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

The Student, Teachers, and Officers Preventing School Violence Act of 2018 (or STOP School Violence Act) describes the following for K-12 school safety projects:

- Training to prevent school violence, including training for local law enforcement officers, school personnel, and students.
- The development and operation of anonymous reporting systems for threats of school violence, including mobile telephone applications, hotlines, and websites.
- The development and deployment of—
 - Multidisciplinary intervention and threat assessment teams that, when necessary, evaluate serious risks of violence in schools and include coordination with law enforcement agencies, behavioral health specialists, community stakeholders, and school personnel.
 - Specialized training for school officials in responding to student mental health crises, including training on when and how to involve mental health professionals.
- Support for any other measure that, in the determination of the BJA Director, may provide a significant improvement in training, threat assessments and reporting, and violence prevention.

NOTE: Under the STOP School Violence Act, BJA funds cannot be used for the purchase of target-hardening equipment to secure schools such as cameras, security systems, fencing, locks, etc. In addition, these funds cannot be used to pay for armed security officers or school resource officers. Applicants interested in funding for target hardening should see the <u>COPS School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP)</u>. Duplicate applications should not be submitted to both BJA and COPS.

Statutory Authority: Pub. L. No. 116-260, 134 Stat 1182, 1260.

Specific Information

BJA's STOP School Violence Grant Program is designed to improve K-12 school security by providing students and teachers with the tools they need to recognize, respond quickly to, and help prevent acts of violence and ensure a positive school climate.

Eligible applicants may submit **one application** that includes proposals for one or both of the following areas:

(1) **Train school personnel and educate students on preventing school violence** against others and themselves to include anti-bullying training. This can also include

specialized training for school officials to respond to mental health crises, including when and how to effectively involve mental health professionals.

(2) **Develop and implement multidisciplinary threat assessment and/or intervention teams and/or operate technology solutions** such as anonymous reporting systems for threats of school violence, including mobile telephone applications, hotlines, websites, or other school safety technology solutions for accurate identification of danger (without resort to discriminatory stereotypes or violating privacy). **Threat assessment and/or intervention teams** must coordinate with law enforcement agencies, behavioral health specialists, community stakeholders, and school personnel, and must include a memorandum of understanding (MOU).

Applications that propose threat assessments, intervention teams, and/or operate technology solutions such as anonymous reporting systems should ensure that their implementation strategies, polices, and protocols address critical issues such as student privacy, data security, race, national origin, disability, religion and sex-based discrimination and bias. They also must ensure that community stakeholders are a part of the planning process as described in the U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center's threat assessment model, and that interventions are trauma-informed as well as informed by child and adolescent development. BJA's training and technical assistance (TTA) provider, the National Center for School Safety, will work with grantees to assess their strategies and provide support as necessary throughout the grant period on vital issues such as developing evidence-based, constitutionally sound programs. For more information related to policies and protocols to address student privacy, data security, discrimination and bias, see https://studentprivacy.ed.gov/resources/school-resource-officers-school-law-enforcement-units-and-ferpa.

Applications must ensure that the improvements to be funded under the grant are:

- Protective of student privacy, as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and applicable state privacy laws, and ensure that students are not discriminated against on the basis of race, national origin, disability, religion, or sex;
- Limited to allow personnel in law enforcement agencies to receive student information from education records only when such disclosure is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals (e.g., necessary to prevent school violence);
- Consistent with a comprehensive approach to preventing school violence and promoting a positive school climate;
- Transparent so that students, parents/guardians, and community members know what is being done and have the data necessary to monitor its effectiveness and compliance with privacy and non-discrimination requirements; and
- Individualized to the needs of each school at which those improvements are to be made.

Applicants proposing to implement an anonymous reporting system (ARS) in a state or jurisdiction that has an existing ARS must describe how the proposed ARS will complement and integrate into these efforts and will not be duplicative.

STOP funds may not be used to address violence on the campus of an institution of higher education.

All applicants should be aware that under federal law, OJP may not award grant funds to procure or obtain any equipment, system, or service that uses "covered telecommunications equipment or services" as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. In general, with limited exceptions, "covered telecommunications equipment or services" includes telecommunications and video surveillance equipment or services produced by a foreign entity that is specifically designated by statute or designated by the federal government pursuant to statute.

Applicants also should be aware that, in accordance with DOJ and OJP policy, and with few exceptions, OJP will prohibit use of award funds for unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), absent advance submission of specific documentation of protections in place for privacy, civil liberties, and public safety, and of mitigation of cybersecurity risks. In addition, OJP will bar use of award funds for the purchase or use of UAS made by certain foreign entities designated by DOJ.

Goal, Objective, Deliverables

Goal

The goal of this program is to prevent and reduce school violence.

Objective

The program's objective is to increase school safety using evidence-based solutions to prevent violence against schools, staff, and students and ensure a positive school climate. Applicants should also be mindful of the potential to cause or exacerbate trauma for some students, and should use a trauma-informed approach when implementing program activities to help mitigate this concern.

Deliverables

- Implementation of training, including for all school threat assessments and/or intervention teams, that prepares school and/or law enforcement personnel to identify school violence risks among students in a nondiscriminatory and trauma-informed way and/or to improve the school climate. A positive school climate is paramount for learning; activities should not generate additional fears or traumatize students who may already be living in an unsafe environment. Threat assessment training must not discriminate against or stereotype students based on race, national origin, disability, religion, or sex.
- Resources and strategies for responding to students in mental health crisis that are trauma informed, protect student privacy rights, and most importantly involve mental health professionals at all stages of training and in practice.
- Technological solutions, such as anonymous reporting technology that can be implemented as a mobile phone-based app, a hotline, a website, or other technology solution in the applicant's geographic area to enable students, teachers, faculty, and community members to anonymously identify threats of school violence, or other technology solutions shown to improve school safety and/or improve the school climate. Activities should be protective of student privacy and ensure that students are not discriminated against on the basis of race, national origin, disability, religion, or sex.
- Other school safety strategies that assist in preventing violence and improving the school climate such as improving access to school-based behavioral health services,

implementing appropriate social and emotional learning programs, or other interventions that promote a positive and healthy school climate.

Applicants will be required to document all training and education sessions conducted under the award, as applicable. Applicants will also be required to coordinate with the BJA STOP Program TTA provider.

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

Evidence-based Programs or Practices

OJP strongly emphasizes the use of data and evidence in policymaking and program development in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. For additional information and resources on evidence-based programs or practices, see the <u>OJP Grant</u> <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.

The National Institute of Justice's Comprehensive School Safety Initiative (<u>https://nij.gov/topics/crime/school-crime/Pages/school-safety-initiative.aspx</u>) and OJP's CrimeSolutions.gov (<u>https://www.crimesolutions.gov</u>) are resources that applicants may use to obtain more information about evidence-based programs. Additional resources related to school safety best practices and threat assessments can be found at <u>SchoolSafety.gov</u> and the National Threat Assessment Center (<u>https://www.secretservice.gov/protection/ntac/</u>).

In addition, applicants can look to the U.S. Department of Education's Laws and Guidance on School Climate and Discipline (<u>https://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/school-</u><u>discipline/index.html?exp=1</u>) for additional support in developing their projects.

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 <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> section entitled "Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities."

Federal Award Information

Total number of awards BJA expects to make: 150 Maximum dollar amount for each award: Category 1: estimated 10 awards of up to \$2,000,000 each Category 2: estimated 140 awards of up to \$1,000,000 each Total amount to be awarded under solicitation: up to \$74,000,000 Period of performance start date: October 1, 2021 Period of performance duration: 36

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 progress of award-funded work 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.

Type of Award

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

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. The "Part 200 Uniform Requirements" means the DOJ regulation at 2 C.F.R. Part 2800, which adopts (with certain modifications) the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

Budget Information

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

This solicitation does not require a match.

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

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs).

Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver.

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

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs.

Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> 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 Federal Award Information .

Application and Submission Information

Content of Application Submission

The following application elements MUST be included in the application submission for an application to meet the basic minimum requirements (BMR) to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding:

- Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form)

See the "Application Elements and Formatting Instructions" section of the <u>OJP Grant Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u> for information on what happens to an application that does not contain all the specified elements or that is nonresponsive to the scope of the solicitation.

1. Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (Standard Form (SF)-424) in Grants.gov

The SF-424 will be submitted in Grants.gov. The SF-424 is a required standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications, applications, and related information. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information on completing the SF-424.

In Section F of the SF-424, please include the name and contact information of the individual <u>who will complete application materials in JustGrants</u>. 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 <u>Executive Order 12372</u>. (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.")

2. 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. Applicants will need to review the Standard Applicant Information in JustGrants and make edits as needed. Within this section, applicants will need to: add zip codes for areas affected by the project; confirm their Authorized Representative; and verify the organization's legal name and address.

3. 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. Abstracts should not repeat the terms and descriptions used in the solicitation but should be specific and clearly state what is being implemented related to work proposed in the project, and be written for a general public audience.

4. 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 Times New Roman font; have no less than 1-inch margins; and should not exceed 10 pages. Pages should be numbered and submitted as an attachment. If the proposal narrative fails to comply with

these length restrictions, BJA may negatively consider such noncompliance in peer review and final award decisions.

The following sections must be included as part of the proposal narrative:

a. Description of the Issue

Describe why this project/these proposed activities are necessary (significance/value) and/or address a need and include supporting data/information to support your statement.

b. Project Design and Implementation

Completely describe the strategy to address the needs identified in the Description of the Issue. Applicants should be specific when listing the proposed project activities and describe how they relate to the stated objective. Activities are the specific actions to be undertaken to fulfill the program objective and reach the program goal and should not be vague generalities. Provide a detailed description of the method(s) to be used to carry out each activity, as well as include a description of all individuals/groups involved in the project and that will be served by the project.

The applicant must clearly outline the different school(s)/school district(s) where the project will be implemented and include letters of support for the project from those schools/school districts if another entity is submitting the application. Include a description of why these schools were selected. The applicant should describe how grant funding will address the strategy proposed and the benefits. The applicant should include how the proposed project fits into the overall safety strategy of the school(s) or school district and how the project will ensure compliance with all applicable privacy and civil rights laws. If the applicant is including proposals for more than one area (training/threat assessment, etc.), it should clearly outline the different areas and distinguish the activities within the narrative. This should also be clearly reflected in the budget.

Provide a timetable indicating roughly when activities or program milestones are to be accomplished. While the Project Design and Implementation should discuss the project timelines, applicants may also include a timeline chart as a separate attachment that will not count toward the 10-page limit.

c. Capabilities and Competencies

Describe completely the capabilities and competencies of the individuals that will be assigned to the project to accomplish the goal and objective of the program. Résumés should be included as separate attachments and will not count against the 10-page limit.

d. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures Describe the process for measuring project performance. Identify who will collect the data, who is responsible for performance measurements, and how the information will be used to guide and evaluate the impact of the project. Describe the process to accurately report data.

Note: Applicants are **not** required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measures information is included as an alert that successful applicants will be required to submit performance data as part of the reporting requirements under an award. OJP will require each successful applicant to submit regular performance data that demonstrate the results of the work carried out under the award. The performance data directly relate to the goals, objectives, and deliverables identified under "Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables."

Applicants can also visit OJP's performance measurement page at <u>www.ojp.gov/performance</u> for an overview of performance measurement activities at OJP.

Award recipients will be required to submit performance measure data and performance reports in JustGrants. Examples of the performance measures questionnaire can be found at: <u>https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/STOP-Measures.pdf</u>. Further guidance on the post-award submission process will be provided, if selected for award.

 Plan for Sustainability Describe what steps will be taken to sustain the project after federal funds are exhausted.

Note on Project Evaluations

An applicant that proposes to use award funds through this solicitation to conduct project evaluations must follow the guidance under "Note on Project Evaluations" in the <u>OJP Grant</u> <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.

Goal, Objective, Deliverables, and Timeline

Applicants will submit the STOP School Violence goal, objective, deliverables, and timelines in the JustGrants web-based form.

5. Budget and Associated Documentation

a. 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. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

b. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement

Applicants will submit their indirect cost rate agreement by uploading the agreement as an attachment in JustGrants. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

c. Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)

Applicants will download the questionnaire in JustGrants and submit by uploading the completed questionnaire as an attachment in JustGrants. See the <u>OJP Grant Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

d. Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation

If applicable, applicants will submit a description of the process used to determine compensation by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

6. Additional Application Components

a. Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable)

If applicable, applicants will submit the Tribal Authorizing Resolution by uploading the resolution as an attachment in JustGrants. An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of information related to a tribal authorizing resolution as an attachment. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on tribal authorizing resolutions.

b. Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (if applicable)

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. Applicants will submit a description of their research and evaluation independence and integrity by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants. For additional information regarding demonstrating research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

- **c. Memorandum of Understanding** (MOU) (if applicable) should contain the following elements:
 - **Purpose of the MOU.** The statement of purpose should describe the agencies or organizations that are entering into the partnership, the purpose of the partnership, and the effective date of the agreement. The effective date of the agreement must cover the term of the award or contain language regarding the annual renewal of the agreement.
 - **Description of partner roles and responsibilities.** This description must include the roles and responsibilities of the school, the school district, and the law enforcement agency, and each partner should be specifically listed within the document. It must also describe how each signatory will protect student privacy and ensure that students are not discriminated against on the basis of race, national origin, disability, religion, or sex.
 - This document should also include any **budget information** such as specific funds allocated to other partners and for what stated purpose.
 - **Signatures.** The MOU must be signed and dated by both lead law enforcement agency leadership (i.e., police chief or sheriff) and the school official(s) who will have general educational oversight and decisionmaking authority (i.e., board of education chairperson, superintendent, or school principal) regarding this project.

Understanding that the completion of an MOU may take longer than the application period, a draft MOU may be submitted that includes the names and titles of all parties that will be signing the document. A special condition will be added if an award is made that will require the signed document before funds will be made available. Applicants will submit the MOU by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

d. Timeline/Project Plan outlining key tasks, benchmarks, and persons or entities responsible. Applicants will submit the timeline by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

7. Disclosures and Assurances

Applications will complete the following disclosures and assurances.

a. Disclosure of Lobbying Activities Applicants will complete and submit the SF-LLL in Grants.gov. See the <u>OJP Grant</u> Application Resource Guide for additional information.

b. Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items

Applicants will complete the JustGrants web-based Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

c. DOJ Certified Standard Assurance See DOJ Certified Standard Assurance on the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

- d. DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements Applicants will review and accept the DOJ Certified Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.</u>
- e. Applicant Disclosure and Justification DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable) If applicable, applicants will submit as an attachment in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information. A DOJ High Risk Grantee is a 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.

How to Apply

Applicants will submit an SF-424 and an SF-LLL in Grants.gov at <u>https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html.</u>

Applicants will submit the full application, including attachments, in JustGrants at <u>https://justgrants.usdoj.gov/</u>.

For additional information, see the "How to Apply" section in the <u>OJP Grant Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u> and the <u>DOJ Application Submission Checklist</u>.

Submission Dates and Time

The SF-424 and the SF-LLL will be submitted in Grants.gov by 11:59 PM on August 13, 2021. OJP urges applicants to submit applications at least 72 hours prior to the application due date to allow time for the applicant to receive validation messages or rejection notifications from Grants.gov and to correct in a timely fashion any problems that may have caused a rejection notification.

The full application will be submitted in JustGrants by 11:59 PM on August 18, 2021. To be considered timely, the full application must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline.

Application Review Information

Review Criteria

a. Merit Review Criteria

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

- 1. Description of the Issue (20%) evaluate the applicant's understanding of the program/issue to be addressed.
- 2. Project Design and Implementation (30%) evaluate the adequacy of the proposal, including the goal, objective, timeline, milestones, and deliverables.
- 3. Capabilities and Competencies (20%) evaluate administrative and technical capacity of the applicant to successfully accomplish the goal and objective.
- Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (5%) - evaluate the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements and the plan for collecting the required data.
- 5. Budget (15%) evaluate for completeness, cost effectiveness, and allowability (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).
- 6. Sustainment (10%) evaluate the sustainability plan to address how the project or technology will continue to operate and be maintained once the award funding has ended. This plan should not assume that additional funding under this program is available after the award period; rather it should identify state, local, or possibly private funding to ensure the program or technology continues.

b. Other Review Criteria/Factors

Other important considerations for BJA include geographic diversity, strategic priorities, available funding, past performance, 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 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 stated review criteria above.

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

- 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 that has 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 any 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 take into account not only peer review ratings and BJA's recommendations, but also other factors as indicated in this section.

Federal Award Administration Information

Federal Award Notices

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> 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 OJPapproved 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 <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>.

Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of information related to information technology security. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> 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, any recipient of an award under this solicitation will be required to submit certain reports and data.

<u>Required reports</u>. Recipients typically must submit quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports, final financial and progress reports, 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 <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information on specific postaward reporting requirements, including performance measures data.

Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For OJP contact(s), see solicitation cover page.

For contact information for Grants.gov and JustGrants, see solicitation cover page.

Other Information

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a) See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a).

Provide Feedback to OJP

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on how to **provide feedback to OJP**.

Application Checklist Preventing School Violence: BJA's STOP School Violence Program

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. The <u>DOJ</u> <u>Application Submission Checklist</u> is another resource.

What an Applicant Must Do:

Prior to Registering in Grants.gov:

- □ Acquire a DUNS Number (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)
- □ Acquire or renew registration with SAM (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)

To Register with Grants.gov:

- Acquire AOR and Grants.gov username/password (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource</u> <u>Guide</u>)
- Acquire AOR confirmation from the E-Biz POC (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)

To Find Funding Opportunity:

- Search for the Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov
- □ Select the correct Competition ID
- Access Funding Opportunity and Application Package (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource</u> <u>Guide</u>)
- Sign up for Grants.gov email <u>notifications</u> (optional) (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource</u> <u>Guide</u>)
- □ 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 "<u>Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and</u> <u>Cooperative Agreements - FY 2021 Awards</u>" in the <u>OJP Funding Resource Center</u>.

Scope Requirement:

- □ The federal amount requested is within the allowable limits of:
 - Category 1: \$2,000,000.
 - Category 2: \$1,000,000.

Eligibility Requirement:

- State governments
- City or township governments
- Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education

- County governments
- Native American tribal governments (federally recognized)
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education
- Independent school districts

Private K-12 schools, including private charter schools, should apply as "nonprofits." Public charter schools should apply as "independent school districts."

□ Submit **SF-424** and **SF-LLL** in Grants.gov

After 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 <u>OJP Grant</u> <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)

If No Grants.gov Receipt, and Validation or Error Notifications are Received:

Contact the Response Center by telephone at 800–851–3420 or TTY: 301–240–6310 (hearing impaired only) or by email at <u>grants@ncjrs.gov</u>. Response Center hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. eastern time Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. eastern time on the solicitation close date.

Receive email notification to complete application in JustGrants.

□ Complete Application Sections Listed Below in JustGrants

Content of Application Submission:

The following items are critical application elements required to pass Basic Minimum Requirements review. An application that OJP determines does not include the application elements that must be included in the application submission in order for the application to meet the basic minimum requirements will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.

- Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Narrative

Budget Detail Worksheet (web-based form)

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- □ Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) in Grants.gov
- □ Standard Applicant Information (SF-424 information from Grants.gov)

# Budget and Associated Documentation

- □ Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see <u>OJP Grant</u> <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)

 Disclosure of Process related to Executive Compensation (see <u>OJP Grant Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u>)

## Additional Application Components

- Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource</u> <u>Guide</u>)
- □ Memorandum of Understanding (if applicable)
- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see <u>OJP</u> <u>Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)

# **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 Assurance (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)
- DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource</u> <u>Guide</u>)
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see <u>OJP</u> <u>Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)

# Submit Application in JustGrants:

Application has been successfully submitted in JustGrants

### If No JustGrants Application Submission, Validation, or Error Notifications are Received:

Contact JustGrants Service Desk at 833–872–5175 or <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u> regarding technical difficulties.

NOTE: Under the STOP School Violence Act, BJA funds cannot be used for the purchase of target-hardening equipment to secure schools such as cameras, security systems, fencing, locks, etc. In addition, these funds cannot be used to pay for armed security officers or school resource officers. Applicants interested in funding for target hardening should see the <u>COPS School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP)</u> or, for hiring school resource officers, see the <u>COPS Hiring Program (CHP)</u>. Duplicate applications should not be submitted to both BJA and COPS.