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



# FY 2022 BJA National Initiatives – Justice for All: Effective Administration of Criminal Justice Training and Technical Assistance Program

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Grants.gov Deadline:

May 31, 2022 8:59 PM

Application JustGrants Deadline:

June 06, 2022 8:59 PM

#### Overview

The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>Bureau of Justice Assistance</u> (BJA) seeks applications for the Effective Administration of Criminal Justice Training and Technical Assistance Program, as set forth in the Justice for All Reauthorization Act of 2016. This program furthers the DOJ's mission by assisting state, local, and tribal jurisdictions in reducing crime and improving the functioning of the criminal justice system, specifically through support for statewide strategic planning and protection of constitutional rights under the Sixth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

This solicitation incorporates the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> by reference. The OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants to prepare and submit applications to OJP 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 Categories**

Competition ID	Category *	Number of Awards	Dollar Amount for Award	Performance Start Date	Performance Duration (Months)
C-BJA-2022-00123-PROD	Category 1: Statewide Strategic Planning Training and Technical Assistance	1	\$2,000,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	36
C-BJA-2022-00124-PROD	Category 2: Protection of Constitutional Rights Under the Sixth Amendment: Courts- focused Training and Technical Assistance	1	\$1,500,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	36
C-BJA-2022-00125-PROD	Category 3: Protection of Constitutional Rights Under the Sixth Amendment: Defense- focused Training and Technical Assistance	1	\$1,500,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	36

## **Eligible Applicants:**

Other

#### Other

- Public and State controlled institutions of higher education
- Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)
- 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
- · Small businesses

Eligible applicants are limited to any organization with expertise and experience in managing training and technical assistance for evidence-based law enforcement programs national in scope. In addition, applicants must show the capacity to provide technical expertise in implementing action research partnerships between law enforcement researchers and practitioners.

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 <a href="https://cops.usdoj.gov/SafePolicingEO">https://cops.usdoj.gov/SafePolicingEO</a> to access the Standards for Certification on Safe Policing for Safe Communities, the Implementation Fact Sheet, and the List of Designated Independent Credentialing Bodies.

BJA welcomes applications that involve two or more entities that will carry out the funded federal award activities; however, one eligible entity must be the applicant and the others must be proposed as subrecipients. The applicant must be the entity with primary responsibility for administering the funding and managing the Justice for All: Effective Administration of Criminal Justice Training and Technical Assistance Program. Only one application per lead applicant will be considered; however, a subrecipient may be part of multiple proposals.

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, <a href="mailto:Grants.gov">Grants.gov</a> Customer Support, or <a href="mailto:support@grants.gov">support@grants.gov</a>. 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.

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 <a href="mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov">grants@ncjrs.gov</a>. The OJP Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., eastern time Monday–Friday, and 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the solicitation close date.

## **Submission Information**

Applications will be submitted to DOJ in two steps:

<u>Step 1:</u> 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 <a href="https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html">https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html</a>. To register in Grants.gov, the applicant will need to ensure that its System for Award Management (SAM) registration is current.

<u>Step 2</u>: The applicant must then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at <u>JustGrants.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 <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> and the <u>JustGrants website</u> for more information, resources, and training.

## **Contents**

Contact Information	2
Program Description	6
Overview	6
Statutory Authority	6
Specific Information	6
Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline	9
Evidence-Based Programs or Practices	13
Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities	14
Federal Award Information	14
Awards, Amounts and Durations	14
Continuation Funding Intent	14
Availability of Funds	14
Types of Awards	14
Financial Management and System of Internal Controls	15
Budget Information	15
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement	15
Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)	15
Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver	15
Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs	15
Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)	15
Eligibility Information	15
Application and Submission Information	16
Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)	16
Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)	16
Proposal Abstract	16
Proposal Narrative	16
Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline	18
Budget and Associated Documentation	18
Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)	18
Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)	18
Financial Management Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)	18
Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation	18
Additional Application Components	19
Tribal Authorizing Resolution	19
Timeline Form	19
Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement	19
Documentation of Proposed Subrecipients	19
Staff Résumés and/or Position Descriptions and Qualifications Relative to Their Job Roles	19
Memoranda of Understanding/Letters of Support	19
Supporting Documentation of Past TTA Delivery Experience	19
Disclosures and Assurances	19
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	19
DOJ Certified Standard Assurances	20
Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items	20
DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility	
and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements	20
Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable)	20

How to Apply	20
Submission Dates and Time	20
Application Review Information	21
Review Criteria	21
Review Process	22
Federal Award Administration Information	22
Federal Award Notices	22
Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements	22
Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses	22
General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements	22
Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)	23
Other Information	23
Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a)	23
Provide Feedback to OJP	23
Application Checklist	23
Appendix A: Applicant Documentation of Proposed Subrecipients/Procurement Contracts	26

## **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 Justice for All Act (JFAA), originally enacted in 2004, was reauthorized and updated in 2016 through passage of the <u>Justice for All Reauthorization Act</u> (JFARA). BJA launched the JFARA training and technical assistance (TTA) programs in 2016 in response to the new areas of authority described in the act. This included support for the development of statewide strategic planning to inform resource allocation under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, and TTA for state and local governments to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Sixth Amendment of the United States Constitution. The purpose of this solicitation is to select up to three providers to deliver TTA services to state and local governments requesting services under the two areas described above. In Category 1, the selected TTA providers will assist BJA JAG grantees and other state and local jurisdictions in completing the required strategic planning consistent with the goals of the initiative. In Categories 2 and 3, the selected TTA partners will assist the field to build their capacity to ensure the provisions of the Sixth Amendment of the United States Constitution, with a focus on courts' responsibilities and right to counsel.

#### **Statutory Authority**

Pub. L. No. 90-351, Title I, Sec. 502(b) (codified at 34 U.S.C. 10153(b)); Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2022 (Pub. L. No. 117-103)

#### **Specific Information**

The JFARA amended the JAG statute in several ways. The first requires that each <u>JAG</u> applicant include with its application a "comprehensive statewide plan detailing how grants received under this section will be used to improve the administration of the criminal justice system." Each plan must be updated every 5 years, with annual progress reports.

In addition, the JFARA set forth two areas of technical assistance for states and local governments:

- 1. Support to develop and implement the required statewide strategic plans to assist policy makers with allocation of JAG resources.
- 2. Support to meet the obligations established by the Sixth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

To address these focus areas, BJA is seeking providers for the following three categories of activities:

1. Statewide Strategic Planning Training and Technical Assistance: This category seeks a provider to deliver TTA and strategic planning services to policymakers at the state level in order to support strategic planning efforts as required by JAG. Recipients of TTA services may include state-level policymakers, criminal justice advisors to governors, and state administering agencies (SAAs). These are vital partners to BJA in the administration of JAG Program funding. In most states, these entities are responsible for disseminating state JAG allocations (along with other DOJ funding) in a manner consistent with statutory and programmatic requirements, as well as providing assistance in addressing the pressing concerns of state and local criminal justice entities.

The selected TTA provider should have demonstrated expertise in delivering and managing a national-level TTA program and have particular knowledge of state-level policymakers and criminal justice advisors to governors. In particular, the applicant should have demonstrated past experience in working with SAAs and/or an understanding of SAAs' operations (including how JAG funds are managed at the state level), organizational structure, culture, and environment.

2. Protection of Constitutional Rights Under the Sixth Amendment: Courts-focused Training and Technical Assistance: This category seeks a provider to assist state and local governments, including the judiciary and court agencies, to address Sixth Amendment issues within their jurisdictions, using data and research to develop proven strategies in key areas that strengthen capacity to uphold these rights. This

provider will deliver strategic planning and TTA services to state and local governments, including their agents such as the judiciary, court leaders and administrators, and jury commissioners. The provider may also work with different state agencies, such as the Administrative Office of the Courts, to identify sites and develop a collaborative infrastructure to develop and implement efforts that can build upon existing systems' infrastructure and capacity, as well as identify and test innovative approaches. The BJA-awarded provider, through partnership with researchers, must collect core information that relates to the jurisdictions, which supports the key aspects of enhanced provision of Sixth Amendment protections, including speedy trial and jury and a right to due process. This should include proven practices implemented at the state and local levels along with costs associated with these efforts. Additionally, the provider must collect information on the extent and manner to which entities are incorporating evidence-based practices into their programs at the state and/or local levels.

In addition to direct services, the awardee in this category will also (1) maintain and enhance a central website to disseminate practices, structures, and models for the administration of justice consistent with the requirements of the Sixth Amendment, working with the other providers to collect and share content; (2) provide research, analysis, resources, and assistance to enhance state and local jurisdictions' ability to provide quality representation to indigent defendants; and (3) promote implementation of innovative and evidence-based strategies that comport with the Sixth Amendment's right to counsel. The website that currently provides these services is located at Strengthening the Sixth (strengthenthesixth.org).

3. Protection of Constitutional Rights Under the Sixth Amendment: Defense-focused Training and Technical Assistance: This category will select a provider to offer "Enhancement of Defense Systems" and "Right to Counsel" TTA, including identifying and disseminating best practices, structures, or models and assisting state and local governments with evaluating, adopting, and implementing systems consistent with securing the right-to-counsel requirement. Applicants are expected to provide national technical assistance to and build capacity of state and local jurisdictions across the United States; as well as develop a mechanism to evaluate practices; support assessments; disseminate practices, information, structures, and models around the Sixth Amendment's right to counsel; and provide TTA on right-to-counsel issues. The purpose of this category is to improve the understanding and the quality of public defense delivery services, guided by the Ten Principles of a Public Defense Delivery System, as well as share resources, information, and practices that will support upholding this obligation. These resources will not address the right to counsel in juvenile cases, but rather will focus on the adult criminal justice system.

The applicants in Categories 2 and 3 should have demonstrated expertise in delivering TTA on a national level and have particular knowledge of the Sixth Amendment's right to effective counsel. BJA is looking for a collaborative partnership that will provide expertise and experience working with a range of criminal justice stakeholders, particularly in the fields of defense, court administration, judiciary, and prosecution. The TTA providers should be capable of providing a wide range of expertise to audiences that have differing and sometimes conflicting interests in ensuring effective assistance of counsel, including at first appearance. Applicants should define the areas in which they will work and identify their focus based on the law and BJA's existing work in this area. These projects will support the use of data and research to enhance stakeholder capacity and assist with efforts to assess, target, and sustain the most critical and effective criminal justice services that will ensure Sixth Amendment rights. As part of this approach, the provider should be able to deploy research assistance to support action research components in the planning process, including using data to define the issue(s) and assessing need; identifying the research and evidence base of proven approaches; supporting testing of innovative approaches; building capacity to adopt, implement, and sustain effective approaches; and periodically assess implementation and success.

The selected TTA providers are responsible for responding to grantee requests for assistance and advancing the state of knowledge about their respective subject(s). Approaches to TTA will range from simple to complex, from short- to long-term, from agency-specific to systemwide, depending on the specific needs of the grantee or requestor. Mechanisms for providing TTA can include, but are not limited to: conference calls, onsite consultation, video conferencing, webinars, publications, peer-to-peer learning sessions, coaching, communities of practice, customized resource packets, facilitated sessions, trainings, and guided planning processes (e.g., strategic planning, development and/or review of policy and procedures, and in-person trainings).

Additional background information on each category is provided below.

## Category 1

Under Category 1, BJA will continue its support for strategic planning by funding TTA delivery to states by experts with backgrounds in state and local justice systems, data management and analysis, training, law enforcement programs, pretrial justice, behavioral health and substance use disorders, and other relevant areas of criminal justice expertise. The selected TTA provider will support states in their efforts to develop plans to implement safe, fair, and efficient solutions to challenges within their public safety and criminal justice systems. BJA will work with the selected provider to help states develop comprehensive, data-driven strategic plans that define how their Byrne JAG award dollars will be invested and meet the requirement that states submit a comprehensive statewide strategic plan with their Byrne JAG application. To meet these goals, TTA will be developed in consultation with a diverse group of stakeholders, addressing resource allocation and using data and implementation of evidence-based practices. This TTA can include peer-to-peer learning, conferences, targeted training, direct assistance, virtual support, and information including publications, podcasts, webinars, and toolkits.

For more information on statewide strategic planning, see https://bja.ojp.gov/program/jag/publications-resources.

#### Categories 2 and 3

This competitive solicitation seeks to fund two national partners to develop and manage a robust TTA strategy for state and local governments and their agents responsible for ensuring the protection of constitutional rights under the Sixth Amendment. This could include the judiciary, court-based agencies, and indigent defense agencies and commissions.

In all criminal prosecutions, people charged or indicted have a number of rights that are enumerated under the Sixth Amendment of the United States Constitution:

- · A speedy and public trial.
- · An impartial jury.
- To know the nature and cause of the accusations.
- To confront witnesses against them.
- To obtain witnesses in their favor.
- · The right to counsel.

The purpose of the Sixth Amendment-related TTA categories (Categories 2 and 3) is to ensure that state and local governments have the capacity and tools necessary to meet the obligations established by the Sixth Amendment. Through the TTA providers selected under Categories 2 and 3 of this solicitation, BJA will continue to provide state and local governments with research-based, data-driven information and resources to secure the rights of the Sixth Amendment. The proposed TTA approaches should also support pathways for evidence-based best practices to reach courts and defender systems at the state and local levels that support authentic adoption, implementation, and sustainment of effective approaches. The TTA strategies proposed should build for collaboration across the criminal justice system, where appropriate.

In some jurisdictions, Sixth Amendment rights may not always be adequately protected. Fulfilling these obligations can be particularly complex in rural or small jurisdictions where courts may not be in session daily and arraignments, hearings, and trials are delayed. Leaders in rural jurisdictions have asked for assistance in creative ways to support the needs of "frontier" communities. In urban and suburban jurisdictions, variances in case flow can make management of cases and scheduling a challenge. Delayed arraignments can also result in violations of the right to be informed of and understand the charges against them. The impact of social media and mistrust of the criminal justice process have created challenges in the management of jurors and witnesses, including issues related to witness intimidation and juror interference. During the last 2 years, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has intensified these challenges, creating backlogs of cases pending jury trials, increasing difficulty in locating and calling witnesses, and empaneling representative juries. Therefore, developing a greater

understanding of whether the Sixth Amendment is protected in the states, and assessing the needs and effectiveness around that effort, is a key step in improving how these rights are secured on the state and local levels.

State and local governments, which make decisions about the administration of courts and defense systems, are interested in information about the effectiveness of current efforts, areas for needed improvement, and proven approaches that can be adopted successfully. Many jurisdictions are seeking to improve systems to ensure the state's obligations under the Sixth Amendment. Whether it be the excessive case backlogs or the impacts and costs associated with having a witness appear and be available for questioning by the defendant, each jurisdiction faces its own challenges in upholding these constitutional requirements. The strategic implementation of a new or enhanced program or strategy that requires resources and funding can be a complicated process with many competing needs utilizing limited resources.

In Category 3, BJA also seeks to support targeted TTA focused on the Sixth Amendment's right to counsel. The role of a defense counsel is critical not only to the right to counsel, but also to support meeting all other Sixth Amendment protections for their clients and the overall integrity of the criminal justice system. As noted by the field through the collaborative work of the Right to Counsel National Consortium, "a fair and equitable criminal justice system requires representation by skilled defense counsel with adequate resources at every stage of the criminal process." This includes the right to be represented by an attorney consistent with the American Bar Association's (ABA) Ten Principles of a Public Defense Delivery System, including the independence of defense counsel, early appointment of counsel, tracking and managing assignment of counsel, and ensuring the counsel has the right skills and training for cases assigned. There are many public indigent defense systems and assigned counsel in the United States that are underfunded or have unreliable funding. This lack of funding often results in understaffing, excessive workloads, and limited resources and compensation for appointed counsel, which can significantly affect the delivery of effective, efficient, and quality legal representation for low-income people. Despite the efforts of many committed government officials and indigent defense advocates, the lack of access to information, trainings, shared practices, and funding and delivery models creates barriers to enhancing capacity to meet the Sixth Amendment's obligations. This also results in missed opportunities to reduce system costs, improve public safety, and ensure fair outcomes for those accused in jurisdictions that do not provide counsel at first appearance when decisions about pretrial release can impact liberty and case outcomes.

Additionally, information, resources, and trainings can be difficult to access by defense attorneys. For example, many county governments have a role in managing public defense agencies, or provide appointed counsel on a contract or per-case basis, and may not offer consistent training or match counsel with sufficient expertise in all cases. Fulfilling the right to counsel can be particularly complex in rural or small jurisdictions where courts may not be in session daily and/or where it is necessary to travel long distances to courts, attorney offices, or jails, and limited access to services. Criminal justice stakeholders and policy makers in rural jurisdictions have asked for assistance in creative ways to support their needs, particularly in light of new tools and technologies. In these settings, approaches used in larger, more populous areas may not be feasible. Urban and suburban jurisdictions face their own challenges, with larger case volumes making the quality of representation and management of cases challenges. Given this range of needs, BJA is seeking a partner capable of addressing this range of needs with relevant and timely assistance.

As part of a Sixth Amendment TTA collaborative, the selected providers in both categories are expected to assist state and local justice system officials and policymakers to assess, plan, and implement evidence-based practices to ensure the obligations of the Sixth Amendment are met, as well as support other BJA TTA partners engaged in work to support the public defense function, courts management, and strategic planning. For more information on Sixth Amendment TTA, see <a href="https://www.bja.gov/sixthamendment">https://www.bja.gov/sixthamendment</a>.

## Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

## Goal

The goals of this program are to (1) improve criminal justice outcomes through the development of evidence-informed, data-driven strategic plans that are used to prioritize JAG investments in each state; and (2) enhance the integrity of the criminal justice process through the assessment, adoption, and implementation of improved program practices to enhance the protections of the Sixth Amendment in criminal prosecutions.

## **Objectives**

- Facilitate statewide strategic planning processes that enhance state and local jurisdictions' capacity to target strategies that effectively address key criminal justice challenges with JAG investments.
- Collect and translate effective state approaches and strategies in the use of JAG funds to address crime challenges.
- Enhance the capacity of state and local government, and court, judicial, and indigent defense offices to engage stakeholders to assess and develop strategies that support the assessment, adoption, and implementation of improved policies and procedures to guarantee the protections of the Sixth Amendment in criminal prosecutions.
- Guarantee the protections of the Sixth Amendment, including the right to counsel, by identifying and disseminating best practices, structures, or models and assisting state and local governments with evaluating, adopting, and implementing systems consistent with these requirements.

#### **Deliverables**

The selected providers will engage the field and build capacity consistent with the goals and objectives of this solicitation.

## For Category 1, applicants should describe how they will produce the following deliverables:

- A plan to assess state and local policymakers' TTA strategic planning needs and, based on the
  assessment, to support their strategic plan development. Applicants must describe how they will support the
  development and implementation of strategic plans as required by JAG.
  - Applicants must detail the framework, methodologies, and timelines that will be used to guide the strategic planning processes.
  - The TTA plan should include the availability of the following types of services (at a minimum):
    - Individual site assessments to determine analytical gaps and needs and the development of recommendations for addressing them.
    - Onsite and offsite assistance, which includes:
      - Individualized TTA work plans for each site based on their individualized assessments. Work plans should be presented to the site, revised as needed, and agreed to by the site. Work plans are a living document and should be revised as needed. Work plans should include checklists to help sites execute key tasks. Please note that BJA may require the selected provider to submit for review and approval proposed TTA plans, protocols, or strategies in advance of dissemination and implementation with grantees.
      - Efforts to anticipate, quickly identify, and address challenges that arise during TTA delivery. When challenges arise, the TTA provider should engage in strategies like case conferencing to harness the collective knowledge of subject matter experts.
    - A TTA team that will be supported by various consultants/subject matter experts with expertise in a wide range of topics relevant to statewide strategic planning efforts.
    - Peer-to-peer learning opportunities that leverage the expertise of state and local policymakers and other subject experts. This could include national and/or regional meetings, workshops, or other educational sessions. BJA asks that applicants propose a plan for meetings that best aligns with their overall TTA approach.
- A communications strategy to ensure that state and local policymakers are aware of the available TTA services and have easy access to them, and other relevant information to support strategic planning needs.
  - The applicant should consider the creation of a dynamic, up-to-date, and interactive website

describing TTA services, augmented by social media outreach, an online newsletter, webinars, and blogging opportunities targeted to state and local policymakers. Provide online resources, materials, and limited assistance (via phone or email) that is available to both state and local policymakers and the general public regarding strategic planning, lessons learned, and related issues. Describe how these materials and web platform will be kept current in terms of substantive information and technology.

- Applications should detail a materials production plan that aligns with the TTA delivery plan and considers how best to reach policymakers with both hard-copy materials and web-based resources.
   BJA strongly encourages the use of distance-learning opportunities such as webinars.
- Serve as a subject matter expert to proactively build field knowledge and capacity in the area of strategic planning. This may include coordinating and supporting participation in national meetings and conferences via workshops, panel presentations, and briefings.

## For Category 2, applicants should describe how they will produce the following deliverables:

- Develop and deliver intensive strategic planning and customized TTA to support significant enhancements
  to capacity to protect the requirements of the Sixth Amendment. Over the 3-year project period, the
  awardee will engage with four to eight jurisdictions.
- Provide on-demand TTA to include an assessment of state or local court practices in protecting Sixth Amendment rights with recommendations for improvement, engaging partners at the state and local levels.
- Make online resources, materials, and limited assistance (via phone or email) available to criminal court
  agencies and the general public, as well as share lessons learned and related issues. Describe how these
  materials will be kept current in terms of substantive information and technology and how this platform will
  be sustained after the completion of the project term.
- Identify gaps in knowledge and provide recommendations on additional tools and resources needed by criminal court agencies.
- Support action research, assessments, and limited evaluations of practice to support strategic planning, knowledge of effective practices, and documentation of innovative and evidence-based practices.
- Provide annual reports assessing TTA and practices, structures, and models implemented pursuant to the grant.
- Develop and disseminate articles, publications, materials, webinars, and guides, as needed, to reinforce information exchange.
- Plan to conduct one national and/or several regional meetings, conventions, or other educational sessions
  for criminal justice organizations and criminal court stakeholders, including law enforcement, prosecutors,
  defense, corrections, sheriffs, and community stakeholders, to translate knowledge on evidence-based and
  promising practices and to inform them of available resources.
- Work with the current TTA partner overseeing the website described above. In year 2 of the award, transition to take over management of the <a href="Strengthening the Sixth (strengthenthesixth.org">Strengthening the Sixth (strengthenthesixth.org</a>) website. Describe how the content for the web platform will be kept current in terms of substantive information/technology. Collaborate with the provider in Category 3 to gather and make information available.
- In year 2, enhance and expand interactive content for the web platform currently managed by the existing provider. Content should expand beyond right-to-counsel issues to include a wide range of best practices, structures, and models being used to secure Sixth Amendment rights. The platform will provide information about TTA provided under the grants; collect relevant research on securing Sixth Amendment rights; build and host a database for promising practices, tools, and resources; and archive applicable trainings. The content will also support strategies for more rural jurisdictions. Describe how the content for the web

platform will be kept current in terms of substantive information/technology.

#### For Category 3, applicants should describe how they will produce the following deliverables:

- Develop and deliver intensive strategic planning, assessments of capacity, and customized TTA to support
  significant enhancements or system reforms to enhance the capacity to ensure the right to counsel and
  defense capacity consistent with the right-to-effective counsel requirements of the Sixth Amendment. Over
  the 3-year project period, the awardee will engage with four to eight jurisdictions.
- Provide on-demand TTA to include an assessment of state or local policies and practices on indigent defense and protecting Sixth Amendment rights, with recommendations for improvement, engaging partners at the state and local levels.
- Make online resources, materials, and limited assistance (via phone or email) available to state and local
  indigent defense offices and counsel, and the general public, and share lessons learned and related issues.
   Describe how these materials will be kept current in terms of substantive information and technology and
  sustained after the completion of the project term.
- Identify gaps in knowledge on the right to effective assistance of counsel and provide recommendations on additional tools and resources needed.
- Support action research, assessments, and limited evaluations of practice to support strategic planning, knowledge of effective practices, and documentation of innovative and evidence-based practices.
- Provide annual reports assessing TTA and practices, structures, and models implemented pursuant to the grant.
- Develop and disseminate articles, publications, materials, webinars, and guides, as needed, to reinforce information exchange.
- Plan to conduct one national and/or several regional meetings, conventions, or other educational sessions
  for indigent defense offices and organizations along with diverse stakeholders, including law enforcement,
  prosecutors, corrections, sheriffs, and community stakeholders, to translate knowledge of evidence-based
  and promising practices and to inform them of the available resources.
- Work with the current TTA partner overseeing the Strengthening the Sixth website and the provider to be selected in Category 2 to provide critical information related to the Sixth Amendment's right to counsel.
   Describe how the content for the web platform will be kept current and will include a wide range of best practices, structures, and models being used to secure Sixth Amendment rights. The content will also support strategies for more rural jurisdictions.

## For all categories, applicants should also demonstrate their commitment to fulfill BJA's overall training and knowledge transfer expectations:

- 1. Need-driven, evidence-based, efficient, and consistent delivery of services in order to expand knowledge and capacity of the criminal justice field to implement programs and leverage and access resources to implement programs and strategies. To accomplish this, the provider will be required to:
  - a. Assess the needs of the defined audience and develop strategies to expand awareness and build skills and knowledge. Create work plans based on the goals outlined in its funded application. The work plan should be presented to BJA staff and include tools such as spreadsheets or dashboards to track execution of key tasks. Please note that BJA may require the selected provider to submit for review and approval the proposed plans, protocols, or strategies in advance of implementation.
  - b. The selected provider must undertake efforts to anticipate, quickly identify, and address challenges that arise during delivery. When challenges arise, the provider should engage in strategies like case conferencing to harness the collective knowledge of its staff and partners.
  - c. All training provided with BJA funding must provide a mechanism for pre- and post-testing of

knowledge and other assessment of impact.

- 2. TTA provider staff are expected to have sufficient subject expertise in the execution of their projects. The staff should have the necessary technical skill sets and experience to effectively complete the tasks under the award. There are also occasions when an external expert will be required. To this end, the TTA provider must utilize a range of vetted local and national subject experts, including practitioners, academics, and federal partners. The TTA provider must identify and maintain a list of subject experts whose expertise and experience best fit the needs of the project. This includes a key priority of ensuring that the provider considers and has a plan to ensure that they have a set of diverse staff, trainers, and/or subject matter experts that reflect a mix of experiences and perspectives to be able to effectively reach the communities and practitioners that they will serve.
- 3. With BJA's approval, the TTA provider will assign these experts and report on and monitor the TTA services provided. The roles of the subject experts will vary across engagements, so the TTA provider must develop protocols to define the scope of the role of the subject experts, when needed (e.g., trainer, development of a product, participating in webinars). The TTA provider must provide written reports to BJA on the TTA provided and the status of ongoing activities.
- 4. The TTA provider must participate in ongoing collaboration and coordination. It should emphasize and actively engage in cross-organizational coordination, including:
  - a. Coordination in local jurisdictions. The TTA provider must be both aware of and in touch with other key overlapping initiatives and TTA providers in the jurisdictions in which it is providing assistance.
  - b. Coordination with federal partners. The TTA provider must serve as a coordinator with federal partners and support strategies related to the Sixth Amendment.
  - c. Coordination across interest groups. The TTA provider must develop regular meetings (e.g., quarterly stakeholder meetings, annual advisory board meetings) to allow for ongoing dialogue among relevant partners, including, at a minimum, federal partners, public/private partnerships, and special interest groups (e.g., peer support community).
- 5. The TTA provider must serve as a thought leader and information clearinghouse for relevant research and best practices. All products must be 508 compliant. It must:
  - a. Create knowledge diffusion products (e.g., fact sheets, webinars) and disseminate them through BJA's networks.
  - b. Convene practitioner learning communities, based on their respective projects/programs, to explore best practices and lessons learned.
  - c. Disseminate best practices and lessons learned by attending and presenting at national, state, local, tribal, or other conferences and events related to award activities where officials and other stakeholders can learn about successful strategies.
- 6. The TTA provider must proactively build field knowledge and capacity in the defined area of responsibility. This includes coordinating and supporting a presence at national meetings and conferences via workshops, panel presentations, and briefings. It must also review trends from requests and TTA needs assessments, propose to and work with BJA on tailoring the TTA strategy to meet emerging needs and trends.

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

## **Federal Award Information**

## **Solicitation Categories**

Competition ID	Category *	Number of Awards	Dollar Amount for Award	Performance Start Date	Performance Duration (Months)
C-BJA-2022-00123-PROD	Category 1: Statewide Strategic Planning Training and Technical Assistance	1	\$2,000,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	36
C-BJA-2022-00124-PROD	Category 2: Protection of Constitutional Rights Under the Sixth Amendment: Courts- focused Training and Technical Assistance	1	\$1,500,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	36
C-BJA-2022-00125-PROD	Category 3: Protection of Constitutional Rights Under the Sixth Amendment: Defense- focused Training and Technical Assistance	1	\$1,500,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	36

## Awards, Amounts and Durations

#### **Period of Performance Start Date**

10/1/22 12:00 AM

## **Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation**

\$5,000,000.00

## Additional Information

Maximum dollar amount for each award: Category 1: \$2,000,000; Categories 2 and 3: \$1,500,000

## **Period of Performance Duration (Months)**

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 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 cooperative agreements, which provide for OJP to have substantial involvement in carrying out award activities. See the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section of the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

### 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 the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

#### **Budget Information**

Applicants should consider the most effective and efficient ways for reaching the field in proposing approaches to the work.

#### **Digital Trust**

Technological devices, artificial intelligence, predictive analytics, and other data-driven solutions ("Technological Enhancements") are increasingly used to augment crime reduction strategies and efforts. Care must be taken to assess and address any potential harm that could be activated by these solutions to ensure privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties are protected. Applicants proposing to utilize grant funds to support technological enhancements directly or via training and technical assistance may receive priority consideration if their proposal addresses the tenants of digital trust such as:

- How the technology will be carefully implemented through training of personnel and the setting and
  enforcement of policies governing its use to ensure that it contributes to positive outcomes for public
  safety, the community, and/or the criminal justice system.
- How the applicant will safeguard privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties throughout the duration of the project period.

#### **Unmanned Aircraft Systems**

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 does not require a match.

## 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.)
- Timeline/Project Plan

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 <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> 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 <u>Executive Order (E.O.)</u> 12372. (In completing the SF-424, an applicant is to answer question 19 by selecting "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 the purpose of the project, primary activities, expected outcomes, the service area, intended beneficiaries and subrecipients (if known), will be completed in the JustGrants web-based form. This abstract should be written in the third person and will be made publicly available on the OJP website if the project is awarded.

Applications should include a high quality proposal abstract that summarizes the proposed provision of TTA. The abstract should include the legal name of the applicant and any key partners, project period, and an overall summary of the activities proposed to address the TTA objectives and deliverables.

#### **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 25 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:

- a. Description of the Issue OR Statement of the Problem if research is involved
  - Provide an overview of the challenges facing the field in effectively addressing the obstacles outlined in the solicitation, consistent with the scope of the relevant category.
  - Provide data and a summary of evidence practices that support this assessment.
  - Describe current resources and strategies to respond to these issues, and any barriers to leverage tools and strategies to comprehensively address these issues.
- b. Project Design and Implementation
  - Demonstrate a well-thought-out plan for transferring knowledge and best practices in the relevant category.
  - Describe the goals, objectives, and deliverables for providing TTA to existing and future jurisdictions seeking assistance and address how this TTA will accommodate and be tailored to address the range of local capacity (high to lower).
  - Describe how the TTA will assist jurisdictions in identifying and disseminating best practices, structures, or models, and assisting state and local governments with evaluating, adopting, and implementing systems consistent with the goals, objectives, and requirements of this solicitation.
  - Describe how the applicant will effectively reach and share information, as well as how lessons learned will be shared with the targeted stakeholders and the public.
  - Identify strategies for designing and implementing the deliverables.
  - Attach a comprehensive timeline/project plan that identifies milestones, numerically lists deliverables, and identifies who is responsible for each activity. The timeline/project plan should clearly connect to the proposed strategy.
- c. Capabilities and Competencies
  - Describe the organization's ability to provide proactive, comprehensive, user-friendly TTA by developing protocols for the assessment and delivery of technical assistance, as well as tracking, evaluation, and follow-up.
  - Describe the expertise of the applicant, and any subject matter experts, to provide assistance to local
    sites in implementing data-driven, research-based assessment and planning processes. This should
    include information on the applicant's plan to include a diverse team of staff, trainers, and/or subject
    matter experts that reflect a mix of experiences and perspectives to be able to effectively reach the
    communities and practitioners that they will serve.

- Describe the organization's expertise in delivering and implementing TTA on relevant topics and areas of expertise in a range of urban and rural jurisdictions. Attachments with examples of prior work should document this expertise.
- Provide examples of the organization's experience in using TTA strategies that include developing tools and resources, using distance learning, peer-to-peer consultations, and onsite and offsite technical assistance.
- List the consultants or partners with whom the organization plans to work to deliver TTA services. For each consultant or partner, include a letter of support.
- Describe the management structure and outline the organization's ability to conduct the individual
  activities through the organization and staff's experience, and recruit and partner with individuals and
  other organizations with the expertise to enhance the organization and staff's experience in
  developing and providing TTA. Include position descriptions for key positions.
- d. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures
  - Describe the process the applicant will use to measure project performance. This should include measures for adhering to project timelines, meeting deliverable schedules, obtaining input from customers, and seeking feedback from stakeholders.
  - Identify what data will be collected, who will be responsible for collecting and reporting the data, who is
    responsible for the accuracy of the performance data, how the data will be stored, how any personally
    identifiable information (PII) will be protected, and how the information will be used to guide the
    provision of TTA.

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 in the "Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables" discussion. Applicants can visit OJP's performance measurement page at <a href="https://www.ojp.gov/performance">www.ojp.gov/performance</a> for an overview of performance measurement activities at OJP.

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found at <a href="https://bja.oip.gov/performance-measures/tta-deliverable-performance-metrics.pdf">https://bja.oip.gov/performance-metrics.pdf</a>.

The deliverable-performance-metrics of this program can be found at <a href="https://bja.oip.gov/performance-metrics.pdf">https://bja.oip.gov/performance-metrics.pdf</a>.

BJA will require award recipients to submit performance measure data in the TTA Reporting Portal and separately submit a semi-annual performance report in JustGrants. BJA will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process, if selected for award.

#### **Note on Project Evaluations**

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

#### Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

The applicant 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 <u>OJP Grant Application Resource</u> 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 the link to the questionnaire and additional information.

## Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation

This solicitation expressly modifies the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide by not incorporating its "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation" provisions. Applicants to this solicitation are not required to provide this disclosure.

#### **Additional Application Components**

The applicant 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 <a href="OJP Grant Application Resource Guide">OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</a> for information on tribal authorizing resolutions.

#### **Timeline Form**

Provide a timeline broken out by year indicating roughly when key activities or deliverables are to be accomplished, the responsible person or organization, and the percentage of time spent on that activity. Applicants will submit the timeline by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

#### 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 <a href="OJP Grant Application Resource Guide">OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</a>.

#### **Documentation of Proposed Subrecipients**

Complete Appendix A to indicate proposed subrecipients, including the name, organizational affiliation, city, and state of the proposed subrecipient entity, as well as key activities. Applicants will submit Appendix A by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

## Staff Résumés and/or Position Descriptions and Qualifications Relative to Their Job Roles

Identify which staff are considered key project staff. Applicants will submit the résumés by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

## Memoranda of Understanding/Letters of Support

If applicable, attach memoranda of understanding or letters of support from co-applicants and collaborative partners (signed copies should be scanned and submitted with the electronic submission of the application).

#### Supporting Documentation of Past TTA Delivery Experience

Attach documentation of prior experience delivering TTA, including: URL of website built and maintained, example of individualized technical assistance work plan, sample policy documents, fact sheets, and sample curriculum. Applicants will submit the examples by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

#### **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 for additional information.

## 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 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 **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 <u>JustGrants.usdoj.gov</u>.

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 31, 2022

The full application must be submitted in JustGrants by 8:59 PM ET on June 6, 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 prevents 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.

Applicants 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 <a href="mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov">grants@ncjrs.gov</a> within 24 hours after the application deadline to request approval to submit their application after the deadline. If an applicant has technical issues with Grants.gov, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center within 24 hours of the Grants.gov deadline to request approval to submit after the deadline. 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), and 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**

## a. Merit 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:

- Statement of the Problem/Description of the Issue (10 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 (10 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).

#### 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 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 the 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 <a href="OJP Grant Application Resource Guide">OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</a>.

### Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of information related to information technology security. See the <a href="OJP Grant Application Resource Guide">OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</a> 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, semi-annual performance reports, final financial and performance 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 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.

## **Application Checklist**

## FY 2022 BJA National Initiatives – Justice for All: Effective Administration of Criminal Justice Training and Technical Assistance Program

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

## What an Applicant Must Do:

Prior to registering in Grants.gov:

 Confirm your Entity's <u>System Award Management (SAM)</u> Registration Information (see <u>OJP Grant</u> Application Resource Guide)

To register in Grants.gov:

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

## 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 <a href="https://www.ojp.gov/funding/financialguidedoj/iii-postaward-requirements#6g3y8">https://www.ojp.gov/funding/financialguidedoj/iii-postaward-requirements#6g3y8</a> (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
  - Category 1: \$2,000,000
  - Category 2 and 3: \$1,500,000

## **Review Eligibility Requirement:**

Eligible applicants are limited to any national nonprofit organization, for-profit (commercial) organization (including tribal nonprofit or for-profit organizations), or institution of higher learning (including tribal institutions of higher education) that have expertise and experience in managing training and technical assistance for evidence-based law enforcement programs national in scope. In addition, applicants must show the capacity to provide technical expertise in implementing action research partnerships between law enforcement researchers and practitioners.

## 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
- Intergovernmental Review
- 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 if error notifications are received:

Contact 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)
- Timeline/Project Plan

#### **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 <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 OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see <u>OJP Grant</u> Application Resource Guide)
- Documentation of Proposed Subrecipients
- Staff Résumés and/or Position Descriptions and Qualifications Relative to Their Job Roles
- Memoranda of Understanding/Letters of Support
- Supporting Documentation of Past TTA Delivery Experience.

## **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 <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)

## Submit application in JustGrants:

Application has been successfully submitted in JustGrants

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

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

## Appendix A: Applicant Documentation of Proposed Subrecipients/Procurement Contracts

Complete the table below with information regarding proposed subrecipients of funding, including the name, organizational affiliation, and city and state of the proposed subrecipient entity. Add rows if needed. For additional information on subawards, see the <a href="OJP Grant Application Resource Guide">OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</a>. Applicants will submit the table by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

Name	Organization	Location
(Last, First)		(City, State)