

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



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## BJA FY 2022 Drug Data Research Center to Combat the Opioid Crisis Solicitation

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### Overview

The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [Bureau of Justice Assistance](#) (BJA) seeks applications for funding to create a regional drug data research center that promotes the collection, analysis, and dissemination of information critical in response to the overdose crisis and impacts of opioids, stimulants, and other substances. This program furthers the DOJ's mission by providing resources to an accredited institution of higher education that promotes the collection, analysis, research, and dissemination of information to reduce fatal and nonfatal overdoses, promote public safety, and support prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services.

This solicitation incorporates the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) 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

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

### Eligible Applicants:

Other

### Other

Eligible applicants are limited to:

- Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education

An applicant university must be fully accredited by one of the regional institutional accreditation agencies recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education (see also 34 U.S.C. 10251(a)(17)). Foreign governments, foreign organizations, and foreign colleges and universities are not eligible to apply.

To advance Executive Order 13929 Safe Policing for Safe Communities, the Attorney General determined that all state, local, and university or college law enforcement agencies must be certified by an approved independent credentialing body or have started the certification process, to be eligible for FY 2022 DOJ discretionary grant funding. To become certified, the law enforcement agency must meet two mandatory conditions: (1) the agency's use-of-force policies adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and (2) the agency's use-of-force policies prohibit chokeholds except in situations where use of deadly force is allowed by law. The certification requirement also applies to law enforcement agencies receiving DOJ discretionary grant funding through a subaward. For detailed information on this certification requirement, please visit

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

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

### **Contact Information**

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

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

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact the OJP Response Center by telephone at 800-851-3420 or TTY: 301-240-6310 (hearing impaired only), or by email at [grants@ncjrs.gov](mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov). 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 closing date.

### **Submission Information**

Applications will be submitted to DOJ in two steps:

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

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

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## **Program Description**

### **Overview**

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

The Drug Data Research Center to Combat the Opioid Crisis (DDRC) will support an accredited institution of higher learning to expand an existing statewide drug data repository into a regional drug data research center ("regional data center") that will promote the collection, analysis, research, and dissemination of information to help combat the surge in fatal and nonfatal overdoses from opioids, stimulants, and other substances. This regional data center will serve as both a model and technical advisor to translate this model to other regions in the United States. Core data required, but not limited to, from each participating state to expand to a regional data center will be: overdose deaths, prescription drug monitoring program data, drug-related emergency medical services (EMS) encounters, drug-related emergency department visits, and drug arrests.

### **Statutory Authority**

Any awards under this solicitation would be made under the Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2022, Pub. L. No. 117-103, 136 Stat. 49, 125.

### **Specific Information**

The nation's overdose and addiction crisis is a public safety and health emergency that threatens the well-being of individuals who misuse drugs and impacts the safety of communities. Provisional data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics indicate that there were an estimated 100,306 drug overdose deaths in the United States during the 12-month period ending in April 2021, an increase of 28.5 percent from the 78,056 deaths reported during the same period the year before. For more information, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/drug-overdose-data.htm>.

Multisector drug data are critical to develop, monitor, and evaluate effective strategies to combat the opioid crisis, as well as the rising number of deaths related to misuse of stimulants and other drugs. To that end, DDRC will support the expansion of an existing statewide drug data system into a regional data center. The expansion must include multiple contiguous states to establish this data center as a regional one. The core data required from each participating state to expand the regional data center will be: overdose deaths, prescription drug monitoring program data, drug-related EMS encounters, drug-related emergency department visits, and drug arrests. The expansion may also include additional data such as treatment provision, toxicology, courts, etc.

To enhance capacity to collect, analyze, research, and disseminate drug data in other regions across the United States, this regional data center will serve as a model and technical advisor to support other regions in the development of similar approaches for data sharing and creation of additional drug data research centers across the United States.

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

#### **Goals**

DDRC's goal is to support the expansion of an existing statewide drug data repository into a regional drug data research center that promotes the collection, analysis, research, and dissemination of overdose-related information to reduce fatal and nonfatal overdoses, promote public safety, and support prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services, and serves as a model for other regions of the United States.

#### **Objectives**

DDRC's objectives are to:

- Expand an existing statewide drug data repository into a regional data center to produce and disseminate web-based, real-time, actionable multisector drug data.

- Develop a transportable and/or replicable, open-source, regional drug data architecture.
- Facilitate electronic information sharing across multiple agencies across state lines that must include, but not limited to, data on overdose deaths, drug-related EMS, prescription drug monitoring program data, drug arrests, and drug-related emergency department visits. This effort should be complementary but shall not be duplicative of other information sharing.
- Encourage the sharing of additional information from law enforcement, prosecutions, jail stays, corrections (institution and community corrections), public health, treatment provision, and/or courts/pretrial services across states.
- Support collaboration among public health, behavioral health, criminal justice, and first responder agencies.
- Expand research to enhance knowledge to more effectively address the overdose crisis, particularly in populations who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality.

### **Deliverables**

- Create a regional drug data center that facilitates web-based, real-time, multisector data dissemination across multiple agencies across state lines.
- Document utilization of regional drug data for policy and strategy development.
- Develop or enhance the DDRC capacity to provide unsolicited reports to authorized individuals or entities.
- Create a toolkit and resources for replication.
- Develop training and technical resources to support other regions of the United States seeking to develop or enhance a regional data center.
- All training and knowledge transfers must:
  - Deliver needs-driven, research- and evidence-based, efficient, and consistent services in order to expand the knowledge and capacity of the criminal justice field.
  - Provide a mechanism for pre- and post-testing of knowledge and other impact assessments after the delivery of training.
  - Employ a set of diverse staff, trainers, and/or subject matter experts that reflects a mix of experiences and perspectives to effectively reach the communities and practitioners that they will serve.
  - Provide written reports to BJA on the training and tools provided and the status of ongoing activities.
  - Participate in ongoing collaboration and coordination with BJA and other training and technical assistance (TTA) providers.
  - Serve as a thought leader and information clearinghouse for relevant research and best practices. All products must be 508 compliant. This must include knowledge diffusion products (e.g., fact sheets, webinars) to be disseminated through BJA's networks and BJA-established TTA website.
  - Proactively build field knowledge and capacity in the area of regional drug data research centers.

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.”

### OJP Priority Areas

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

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

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

In support of Executive Order 13985, OJP will:

A. Give priority consideration to applications that include project(s) that will promote racial equity and the removal of barriers to access and opportunity for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality, when making award decisions. To receive this consideration, the applicant must describe how the proposed project(s) will address potential inequities and barriers to equal opportunity, and/or contribute to greater access to services for underserved and historically marginalized populations.

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

## Federal Award Information

### Solicitation Categories

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

### Awards, Amounts and Durations

#### Anticipated Number of Awards

1

#### Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount of Awards

\$3,566,519.00

#### Period of Performance Start Date

10/1/22 12:00 AM

#### Period of Performance Duration (Months)

36

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

\$3,566,519.00

### Continuation Funding Intent

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

### Availability of Funds

This solicitation, and awards (if any are made) under this solicitation, are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by the agency or by law. In

addition, nothing in this solicitation is intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

#### **Types of Awards**

BJA expects to make awards under this solicitation as 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 translating the model to the field in proposing approaches to the work.

BJA anticipates one national Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program convening will occur annually for which applicants must budget for travel expenses (airfare, hotel, per diem, and ground transportation). Additionally, all applicants should budget for a minimum of two staff to attend two face-to-face meetings during the award period. Each meeting should be budgeted for 3 days each in Washington, D.C. BJA wants to ensure that grantees have the opportunity to present their work and collaborate with their peers and other national and federal stakeholder groups.

#### **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.

#### **Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement**

This solicitation does not require a match.

#### **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.

#### **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.)
- Letters of Commitment, copies of any Memorandums of Understanding, or Cooperation Agreements from core regional data sources
- 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 [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on completing the SF-424.

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

**Intergovernmental Review:** This solicitation (“funding opportunity”) **is not** subject to [Executive Order \(E.O.\) 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 for a general public audience, written in the third person, and will be made publicly available on the OJP website if the project is awarded. Proposal abstracts should be:

- Single-spaced, using a standard 12-point Times New Roman font with 1-inch margins.
- Include geographic focus, states included, key partners, and any subawards.

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

- Whether priority consideration 1 (A) is being sought.
- What page(s) in the proposal narrative provide documentation of the applicant's plan to respond to the priority consideration.

### **Proposal Narrative**

The proposal narrative should be submitted as an attachment in JustGrants. The attached document should be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point font; have no less than 1-inch margins; and should not exceed 20 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 the final award decision.

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

#### **a. Statement of the Problem**

- Describe the need for the expansion from a statewide to regional drug data center and outline the issues that a regional drug data center will address.
- Provide information that documents the impact of opioids, stimulants, and other illicit drugs on the proposed regional area. The applicant must provide verified data sources to support the description of the issue.
- Identify any specific challenges motivating the applicant's interest to apply for this grant.
- Explain the applicant's inability to fund the proposed project without federal assistance, and describe any existing funding or resources that will be leveraged to support the proposed project.

#### **b. Project Design and Implementation**

- Describe the strategy to address the "Statement of the Problem."
- Describe in detail the proposed expansion to a regional drug data research center.
- List the activities and describe how they relate to the stated objectives. Activities are the specific actions to be undertaken to fulfill the program's objectives and reach the program's goal.
- Provide a detailed description of the method(s) to be used to carry out each activity.
- Address in detail how the applicant proposes to undertake and accomplish the objectives and deliverables.
- Provide detail on the dedicated resources to implement the objectives and deliverables.
- Describe any potential barriers to implementing the program and the strategies that will be used to overcome those barriers.
- Include a timeline/project plan that identifies the major tasks and deliverables of the proposed project, expected completion dates, and who is responsible for each activity. The timeline/project plan should

be clearly linked to the project design.

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

c. Capabilities and Competencies

- Describe the applicant’s capabilities and competencies to accomplish the project’s goals and objectives. Include demonstrated knowledge and expertise with multisector data and development of data architecture.
- Describe the management structure and staffing, specifically identifying the key person (or people) responsible for carrying out the project activities.
- Identify each core data source that has demonstrated commitment to this effort via an interagency agreement or letter of commitment. Discuss any previous collaboration that occurred that will help to achieve the objectives. Explain existing data sharing agreements.

d. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation’s Performance Measures

- For each objective, identify the criteria that will determine how and if it was successfully met, as well as one or more specific measurable outcome(s) and the data sources that will be used to determine whether or not the outcome was accomplished. All applicants must indicate their willingness and ability to collect and report performance and outcome data through BJA’s reporting tools (no personally identifiable information will be collected).
- 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 project’s impact.

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 [www.ojp.gov/performance](http://www.ojp.gov/performance) for an overview of performance measurement activities at OJP.

BJA will require the award recipient 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. A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found [here](#).

**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 [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

**Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline**

The applicant will submit the DDRC goals, objectives, and deliverables in the JustGrants web-based form.

**Budget and Associated Documentation**

**Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)**

The applicant will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional](#) information. Please budget for a minimum of two staff to attend one national meeting

annually for 2 days and 3 nights in Washington, D.C.

**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**

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

**Additional Application Components**

The Applicant will attach the additional requested documentation in JustGrants.

**Timeline Form**

Applicant will attached their Timeline/Project Plan.

**Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement**

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

**Letters of Commitment, Memorandums of Understanding, or Cooperation Agreements from Core Regional Data Sources**

Applicant will attach their Letters of Commitment, Memorandums of Understanding, or Cooperation Agreements from Core Regional Data Sources.

**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; 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 in [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](https://www.justgrants.usdoj.gov).

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

### **Submission Dates and Time**

The **SF-424** and the **SF-LLL** must be submitted in Grants.gov by 8:59 PM ET on July 12, 2022.

The **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by 8:59 PM ET on July 18, 2022.

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

### **Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues**

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

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

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

An applicant requesting a waiver to submit a late application must document their request for technical assistance in an email to the OJP Response Center at [grants@ncjrs.gov](mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov) **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:

1. Statement of the Problem (15 percent) — Evaluate the applicant’s understanding of the program/issue to be addressed.
2. Project Design and Implementation (40 percent) — Evaluate the adequacy of the proposal, including the goals, objectives, timelines, milestones, and deliverables.
3. Capabilities and Competencies (25 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 (specifically including, but not limited to, those priority areas already mentioned), 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 the basic minimum requirements will be evaluated for technical merit by a peer review panel(s) in accordance with OJP peer review policy and procedures using the review criteria listed above.

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

- The application must be submitted by an eligible type of applicant.

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

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

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

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

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

## **Federal Award Administration Information**

### **Federal Award Notices**

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

### **Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements**

If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the OJP-approved application, the recipient must comply with all award conditions and all applicable requirements of federal statutes and regulations, including 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 [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

### **Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses**

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

### **General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements**

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

Required reports. Award recipients typically must submit quarterly financial reports, 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 [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measure data.

### **Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)**

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

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

For contact information for JustGrants, see the solicitation cover page.

## Other Information

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

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

### Provide Feedback to OJP

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

## Application Checklist

### Drug Data Research Center to Combat the Opioid Crisis

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

#### What an Applicant Must Do:

*Prior to registering in Grants.gov:*

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

*To register in Grants.gov:*

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

*To find the funding opportunity:*

- Search for the funding opportunity in Grants.gov using the opportunity number, Assistance Listing or keyword(s)
- 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 <https://www.ojp.gov/funding/financialguidedo/iii-postaward-requirements#6g3y8> (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 \$3,566,519.



**Review Eligibility Requirement:**

- Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education

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

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

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

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

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

- Contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, at [Grants.gov customer support](#), 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)
- Letters of Commitment, Memorandums of Understanding, or Cooperation Agreements
- 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 [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Disclosure of Process related to Executive Compensation (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

**Additional Application Components:**

- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

**Disclosures and Assurances:**

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

*Submit application in JustGrants:*

- Application has been successfully submitted in JustGrants

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

- Contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or [JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov](mailto:JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov) regarding technical difficulties.