

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



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**Solicitation Title:** BJA FY24 Presidential Nominating Conventions – Invited to Apply  
**Assistance Listing Number:** 16.738  
**Grants.gov Opportunity Number:** O-BJA-2024-172094  
**Solicitation Release Date:** April 18, 2024  
**Step 1: Application Grants.gov Deadline:** 08:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 26, 2024  
**Step 2: Application JustGrants Deadline:** 08:59 p.m. Eastern Time on May 10, 2024

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# Synopsis

## Program Description Overview

The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [Bureau of Justice Assistance](#) is seeking applications for funding.

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

With this solicitation, BJA seeks to provide funding for grants for law enforcement related activities associated with the 2024 presidential nominating conventions (PNCs).

## Eligibility

- Other

Only those applicants who receive an invitation may apply for funding. The eligible applicants are the City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and the City of Chicago, Illinois.

## Agency Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this funding opportunity, contact Stephen Fender, Division Chief, at 202-598-9490 or [Stephen.Fender@usdoj.gov](mailto:Stephen.Fender@usdoj.gov).

## Application Submission Information

### Registration

Before submitting an application, all applicants must register with the [System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#).

### Submission

Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process that begins in Grants.gov and is completed in JustGrants. See the [Submission Dates and Time](#) section for the Grants.gov and JustGrants application deadlines.

**Step 1:** The applicant must register for this opportunity in Grants.gov at <https://grants.gov/register> and submit by the Grants.gov deadline the required [Application for Federal Assistance standard form \(SF-424\)](#) and a [Disclosure of Lobbying Activities \(SF-LLL\)](#). See the [Submission Dates and Time](#) section for application deadlines.

**Step 2:** The applicant must submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](https://JustGrants.usdoj.gov). See the [Submission Dates and Time](#) section for application deadlines.

# Program Description

## Program Description Overview

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## Statutory Authority

Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2024 (Pub. L. No. 118).

## Specific Information

In furtherance of the statutory purpose, the funds will be awarded, subject to compliance with the requirements in this solicitation, to the Cities of Milwaukee and Chicago in equal shares, as hosts of the 2024 PNCs. Upon successful completion of the application process, the Cities of Milwaukee and Chicago will be the designated administrative agencies and fiscal agents for all 2024 PNC security funds.

## Management of Funds

- Applicants must explore other non-federal funding streams to ensure costs could not be otherwise funded through currently available state, local, or other sources.
- Funds may only be drawn on a reimbursement basis after BJA review and approval or reimbursement requests via Grant Award Modification (GAM). To be eligible for payment, all requests for reimbursement for the costs of providing law enforcement and related materials and services for the 2024 PNCs must be part of the project budget and be approved in writing as part of the host city security plan. Any requests for reimbursement submitted outside of this established process may not be considered by BJA.
- All revisions to the budget, whether within a line item or across budget categories, must be submitted for prior approval by OJP. A Budget Modification GAM must be submitted once these revisions are determined by the recipient, and no grant funds may be obligated or expended on new budget items until the GAM is approved.
- Recipients are required to provide a fair and transparent process for jurisdictions that are hosting official PNC events, or providing agreed upon mutual assistance, to receive reimbursement for reasonable law enforcement-related costs from the appropriated funds; and disburse grant funds to all authorized mutual aid partners involved in law enforcement and related law enforcement activities in a timely manner.

## Overtime costs

Overtime requests are designed to compensate recipient and subrecipient employees with overtime payments for work performed in excess of the established work week (usually 40

hours). Payment of more than occasional overtime is subject to periodic review by the awarding agency. In addition, overtime compensation is typically reviewed during site visits and audits.

#### Operational Security Plan (unclassified version)

Recipients will be required to make an unclassified operational security plan, including any amendments thereto, available for review by BJA or BJA designated officials, upon request.

#### Law Enforcement Agency List

At least 30 days prior to the commencement of the PNC, recipients will be required to submit to BJA documentation that identifies by name all state and local law enforcement agencies/jurisdictions that the recipient anticipates reimbursing with grant funds for law enforcement related costs, including overtime, associated with the PNC. No grant funds may be used for reimbursement of a state or local law enforcement agency/jurisdiction that is not included on this list, without specific approval.

#### Equipment Certification

The recipient must submit a certification to BJA that all grant-funded equipment has been purchased and is already operational as of the date of the certification. The certification must be received by BJA no later than 14 calendar days prior to the commencement date of the presidential nominating convention with respect to which the grant is made. No funds awarded under this grant may be obligated, expended, or drawn down to cover costs for any equipment that is not covered by the certification.

### **Solicitation Goals and Objectives**

#### **Goals**

Recipients of the award will use the funds to support law enforcement related activity for the 2024 PNCs. Host cities must only use grant funding to address allowable PNC law enforcement related needs.

#### **Objectives**

Recipients of the award will:

- Ensure the safety and security of the PNCs.
- Provide necessary law enforcement related resources for the host city to hold a successful event.
- Administer grant funding in a manner to ensure adequate transparency throughout the award lifecycle and in compliance with DOJ guidelines and federal regulations.
- Procure necessary equipment/supplies to support the PNCs in compliance with DOJ guidelines and federal regulations.
- Adequately document, oversee, and reimburse subrecipients and subcontracts.

#### **Deliverables**

BJA will utilize the information provided by recipients to deliver status updates to Congress, as requested.

### **Federal Award Information**

#### **Awards, Amounts, and Durations**

Anticipated Number of Awards: 2

Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount per Award: \$75,000,000

Period of Performance Start Date: October 1, 2023

Period of Performance Duration (Months): 18

Anticipated Total Amount To Be Awarded Under Solicitation: \$150,000,000

### **Availability of Funds**

This funding opportunity, and awards under this funding opportunity, are subject to the availability of funding and to any changes or additional requirements that may be imposed by the agency or by law. In addition, nothing in this solicitation is intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

### **Type of Award**

OJP expects to make awards under this funding opportunity as grants. See the “[Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements](#)” section of the [Application Resource Guide](#) for a brief discussion of important statutes, regulations, and award conditions that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP grants.

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

This solicitation does not require a match.

### **Eligibility Information**

For eligibility information, [see the Synopsis section](#).

# How To Apply

## Application Resources

When preparing and submitting an application, the following resources may aid prospective applicants:

1. Grants.gov [“How To Apply for Grants”](#)
2. OJP [“How To Apply”](#) section in the [Application Resource Guide](#)
3. JustGrants [Application Submission Training](#)

This solicitation (notice of funding opportunity) incorporates guidance provided in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) (Application Resource Guide), which provides additional information for applicants to prepare and submit applications to OJP for funding. **If this solicitation requires something different from any guidance provided in the [Application Resource Guide](#), the difference will be noted in this solicitation and the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation, rather than the guidance in the [Application Resource Guide](#) that is in conflict.**

## How To Apply

### Registration

Before submitting an application, all applicants must register with the System for Award Management (SAM.gov). An applicant must renew their registration every 12 months. If an applicant does not renew their SAM.gov registration, it will expire. An expired registration can delay or prevent application submission in Grants.gov and JustGrants. Applicants are encouraged to start the SAM.gov registration process at least 30 days prior to the application deadlines. Applicants who fail to begin the registration or renewal process at least 10 business days prior to the Grants.gov deadline may not complete the process in time and will not be considered for late submission.

### Submission

Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process that begins in Grants.gov and is completed in JustGrants.

**Step 1:** After registering with SAM.gov, the applicant must submit the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL** in Grants.gov at <https://www.grants.gov/register> by the Grants.gov deadline. **To leave time to address any technical issues that may arise, an applicant should submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL as early as possible.** If an applicant fails to submit in Grants.gov by the deadline, they will be unable to apply in JustGrants. Applicants can confirm Grants.gov submission by verifying their application status shows as “submitted” or “agency tracking number assigned.”

**Step 2:** The applicant must then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](https://www.justgrants.usdoj.gov) by the JustGrants deadline.

OJP recommends that applicants submit the complete application package in JustGrants as soon as possible. Some of the required sections of the application will be entered directly into JustGrants, and other sections will require documents to be uploaded and attached. Therefore, applicants should allow enough time before the JustGrants deadline to prepare all the requirements of the application. Applicants may save their progress in the system and add to or change the application as needed prior to hitting the “Submit” button at the end of the application in JustGrants.

An applicant will receive emails when successfully submitting in Grants.gov and JustGrants and should maintain all emails and other confirmations received from SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants systems.

For additional information, see the “How To Apply” section in the [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 p.m. ET, April 26, 2024.

The **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by 8:59 p.m. ET, May 10, 2024.

To be considered timely, the **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline. Failure to begin the SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants registration and application process in sufficient time (i.e., waiting until the due dates identified in this solicitation for those systems to begin the application steps) is not an acceptable reason to request a technical waiver.

### **Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues Preventing Submission of an Application (Technical Waivers)**

OJP will only consider requests to submit an application after the deadline when the applicant can document that a technical issue with a government system prevented submission of the application on time.

If an applicant misses a deadline due to unforeseen technical issues with SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants, the applicant may request a waiver to submit an application after the deadline. However, the waiver request will not be considered unless it includes documentation of attempts to receive technical assistance to resolve the issue prior to the application deadline. A tracking number is the most typical documentation and is generated when the applicant contacts the applicable service desks to report technical difficulties. Tracking numbers are generated automatically when an applicant emails the applicable service desks, and for this reason, long call wait times for support do not relieve the applicant of the responsibility of getting a tracking number.

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

- SAM.gov: contact the [SAM.gov Help Desk \(Federal Service Desk\)](#), Monday–Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET at 866-606-8220.
- Grants.gov: contact the [Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline](#), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays, at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, or [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov).
- JustGrants: contact the JustGrants Service Desk at [JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov](mailto:JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov) or 833-872-5175, Monday–Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET and Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET.

If an applicant has technical issues with SAM.gov or Grants.gov, the applicant must contact [stephen.fender@usdoj.gov](mailto:stephen.fender@usdoj.gov) within **24 hours of the Grants.gov deadline** to request approval to submit after the deadline.



If an applicant has technical issues with JustGrants that prevent application submission by the deadline, the applicant must contact [stephen.fender@usdoj.gov](mailto:stephen.fender@usdoj.gov) within **24 hours of the JustGrants deadline** to request approval to submit after the deadline.

Waiver requests sent to the OJP Response Center must—

- describe the technical difficulties experienced (provide screenshots if applicable);
- include a timeline of the applicant’s submission efforts (e.g., date and time the error occurred, date and time of actions taken to resolve the issue and resubmit; and date and time support representatives responded);
- include an attachment of the complete grant application and all the required documentation and materials;
- include the applicant’s Unique Entity Identifier (UEI); and
- include any SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants Service Desk tracking numbers documenting the technical issue.

OJP will review each waiver request and the required supporting documentation and notify the applicant whether the request for late submission has been approved or denied. An applicant that does not provide documentation of a technical issue (including all information listed above), or that does not submit a waiver request within the required time period, will be denied.

For more details on the waiver process, OJP encourages applicants to review the “Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues” section in the [Application Resource Guide](#).

## **Application and Submission Information**

### **Content of the SF-424 in Grants.gov**

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 [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 funding opportunity is subject to [Executive Order \(E.O.\) 12372](#). An applicant may find the names and addresses of State Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) at the following website: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/SPOC-list-as-of-2023.pdf>. If the applicant’s state appears on the SPOC list, the applicant must contact its SPOC to find out about, and comply with, the state’s process under E.O. 12372. On the SF-424, an applicant whose state appears on the SPOC list is to make the appropriate selection in response to question 19, once the applicant has complied with its State E.O. 12372 process. An applicant whose state does not appear on the SPOC list should answer question 19 by selecting “Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the state for review.”

### **Content of the JustGrants Application Submission**

#### **Entity and User Verification (First Time Applicant)**

For first time JustGrants applicants, once the application is received from Grants.gov, DOJ will send an email (from [DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov](mailto:DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov)) to the individual listed in Section 8F of the SF-424 with instructions on how to create a JustGrants account. This email should arrive within

24 hours after this individual receives confirmation from Grants.gov of their SF-424 and SF-LLL submissions. Register the Entity Administrator (the person who manages who can access JustGrants on behalf of the applicant), the Application Submitter, and Authorized Representative for the applicant with JustGrants as early as possible and (recommended) not later than 48-72 hours before the JustGrants deadline. Once registered in JustGrants, the Application Submitter will receive a link in an email to complete the rest of the application in JustGrants. Find additional information on JustGrants Application Submission in the [Application Resource Guide](#).

### ***Standard Applicant 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 their 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 its purpose, primary activities, expected outcomes, the service area, intended beneficiaries, and subrecipients (if known)—must be completed in the JustGrants web-based form. This abstract should be in paragraph form without bullets or tables, written in the third person, and exclude personally identifiable information. Abstracts will be made publicly available on the OJP and USASpending.gov websites if the project is awarded. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for an [example](#) of a proposal abstract.

### ***Data Requested With Application***

The following application elements should be submitted in the web-based forms in JustGrants.

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

The Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire helps OJP assess the financial management and internal control systems, and the associated potential risks of an applicant as part of the pre-award risk assessment process. Every OJP applicant (other than an individual applying in their personal capacity, not representing an applicant organization) is required to complete the web-based Questionnaire form in JustGrants. See the [Application Resource Guide: Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire \(including Applicant Disclosure of High Risk Status\)](#) for additional guidance on how to complete the questionnaire.

### ***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 size font; have no less than 1-inch margins; and should not exceed 10 numbered pages. The Proposal Narrative must include the following sections:

- a. Description of the Issue

Describe the nature and scope of the problem in the jurisdiction to be addressed by this project and describe the law enforcement related expenses incurred with respect to local law enforcement's role in providing security associated with the 2024 PNC.

b. Project Design and Implementation

Describe the proposed project and how it will be accomplished. Identify the project's security needs; explain how the strategy will achieve the identified goals and objectives. Detail how the project will operate throughout the grant period. Identify any leveraged resources (cash or in-kind) from other federal, state, or local sources to support the project, as well as any other federal, state, or private foundation grants that serve the same local area and target population. Also provide a narrative that describes the process for other jurisdictions that are hosting PNC-related events, or providing mutual aid to the host city, to receive reimbursement for costs associated with the provision of law enforcement services at these events from appropriated funds awarded to the fiscal agent.

c. Capabilities and Competencies

Describe the roles and responsibilities of project staff and explain the program's organizational structure and operations. Describe how the project will be managed and staffed. Management and staffing should be clearly connected to the project design. Describe the experience and capability of the applicant's organization and any contractors who will be used to effectively implement and manage the project. Any prior experience implementing projects of similar design or magnitude should be highlighted in this section.

d. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for This Solicitation's Performance Measures

Describe the process for measuring project performance. Identify who will collect the data, who is responsible for performance measurements, and how the information will be used to guide and evaluate the project's impact. Describe the process to accurately report data. Note: An applicant is **not** required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included to provide notice that award recipients will be required to submit performance data as part of each award's reporting requirements.

OJP will require each award recipient to submit regular performance data that show the completed work's results. The performance data directly relate to the solicitation goals and objectives identified in the "[Goals and Objectives](#)" section. Applicants can visit [OJP's performance measurement page](#) at [www.ojp.gov/performance](http://www.ojp.gov/performance) for more information on performance measurement activities.

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found at [performance-measures-semiannual-narrative-questions.pdf \(ojp.gov\)](#). Some measures are presented as examples, while others are the exact measures that every recipient will be expected to address.

BJA will require award recipients to submit performance measure data and performance reports in JustGrants. Monthly status reports are also required and will be submitted separately as deliverables in JustGrants. BJA will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process.

### [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](#).

### ***Budget and Associated Documentation***

#### ***Funding Restrictions***

##### **General Limitation**

The funds provided through this grant are intended to address law enforcement related activities associated with the 2024 PNCs, including overtime, equipment, and other related costs. Costs that do not have a law enforcement nexus will not be allowed, and BJA staff will provide careful oversight of all requested expenditures.

##### **Prohibited and Controlled Equipment**

Consistent with [Executive Order 14074](#), “Advancing Effective, Accountable Policing and Criminal Justice Practices To Enhance Public Trust and Public Safety,” OJP has prohibited the use of federal funds under this award for purchases or transfers of specified equipment by law enforcement agencies. In addition, OJP requires the recipient, and any subrecipient (“subgrantee”) at any tier, to put in place specified controls prior to using federal funds under this award to acquire or transfer any property identified on the “controlled equipment” list. See [Award condition: Compliance with restrictions on the use of federal funds-prohibited and controlled equipment under OJP award](#) for additional information.

##### **Limitation on Direct Administrative Costs**

Funds may not be used for direct administrative costs that exceed 5 percent of the total award amount.

##### **Prohibition of Supplanting**

Funds may not be used to supplant state or local funds but must be used to increase the amounts of such funds that would, in the absence of federal funds, be made available.

##### **Subaward Limitations**

- Funds may not be used for subawards that are awarded on the basis of partisan political considerations.
- For any subawards made to the Host Committees, the grantee must conduct subrecipient monitoring and may only provide grant funds to these organizations on a direct reimbursement basis for all supported costs once confirmed. Grant funds cannot be subawarded directly for the full amount of the subaward to these entities in order to ensure adequate oversight of grant funds. Any adjustments to this monitoring and reimbursement process for the Host Committees must be approved in advance by BJA, in writing.

##### **Food and Beverage**

For the purposes of PNC awards, food and/or beverages expenses are deemed reasonable and allowable only to the extent that: (1) such costs are directly related to law enforcement operations associated with the PNC; (2) such costs have been specifically included in the

budget approved by OJP; (3 ) such costs are consistent with the grantee's policies regarding meal reimbursement, if it has one, or GSA per diem rates; and (4) actual costs related to food and beverage are reported directly to OJP after the convention. Recipients may not expend funds for food and/or beverage expenses that are related to other conferences or meetings or are otherwise deemed unreasonable or unallowable by BJA and/or OJP's Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO).

#### Procurement Contracts for Liability Insurance

Any procurement contract for liability insurance that is funded (in whole or in part) by awards made under this solicitation, whether by the recipient or by any subrecipient at any tier. The provisions of this condition must be among those included in any subaward (at any tier) must include provisions allowing for full or partial termination and reimbursement of the contract in the event of an emergency cancellation of the PNC activities funded under the grant.

#### 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.

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

#### Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Attachment)

The applicant will complete the budget worksheet attachment and submit it by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Please be aware that all costs contained in the budget must be approved prior to the award being made. All cost breakdowns must be provided and sufficient justification on how requested items relate to law enforcement activity must be well documented. Any administrative costs must be clearly delineated.

The Budget Narrative should thoroughly and clearly describe every category of expense listed in the Budget Detail Worksheet as they relate to law enforcement activities. OJP expects proposed budgets to be complete, cost effective, and allowable (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

Applicants should demonstrate in their budget narratives how they will maximize cost effectiveness of grant expenditures. Budget narratives should generally describe cost effectiveness in relation to potential alternatives and the goals of the project. For example, a budget narrative should detail why planned in-person meetings are necessary, or how technology and collaboration with outside organizations could be used to reduce costs, without compromising quality.

The narrative should be mathematically sound and correspond with the information and figures provided in the Budget Detail Worksheet. The narrative should explain how the applicant estimated and calculated all costs, and how they are relevant to the completion of the proposed project. The narrative may include tables for clarification purposes but need not be in a spreadsheet format. As with the Budget Detail Worksheet, the Budget Narrative should be broken down by year.

For additional information about how to prepare a budget for federal funding, see the [“Application Resource Guide”](#) section on [Budget Preparation and Submission Information](#) and the technical steps to complete the budget form in JustGrants in the [Complete the Application in JustGrants: Budget](#) training.

#### [Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs](#)

OJP strongly encourages every applicant that proposes to use award funds for any conference-, meeting-, or training-related activity (or similar event) to review carefully—before submitting an application—the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on prior approval, planning, and reporting of conference/meeting/training costs.

#### [Costs Associated With Language Assistance \(if applicable\)](#)

If an applicant proposes a program or activity that would deliver services or benefits to individuals, the costs of taking reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to those services or benefits for individuals with limited English proficiency may be allowable. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on costs associated with language assistance.

#### [Budget/Financial Attachments](#)

##### [Pre-Agreement \(Pre-Award\) Costs \(if applicable\)](#)

Pre-agreement costs are defined as costs requiring approval incurred by the applicant prior to the start date of the period of performance of the federal award. OJP does not typically approve pre-agreement costs. If a successful applicant, in anticipation of the federal award, but before the start date of the period of performance, incurs costs which are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the funded project, those costs may not be charged to the award. See the “Costs Requiring Prior Approval” section in the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide Post-Award Requirements](#) for more information.

##### [Indirect Cost Rate Agreement \(if applicable\)](#)

Indirect costs are costs of an organization that are not readily assignable to a particular project but are necessary to the operation of the organization and the performance of the project. Examples of costs usually treated as indirect include those incurred for facility operation and maintenance, depreciation, and administrative salaries. The requirements for the development and submission of indirect cost proposals and cost allocation plans are listed in Appendices III – VII of 2 C.F.R. Part 200. A non-federal applicant should follow the guidelines applicable to its type of organization. If applicable, an applicant with a current federally approved indirect cost rate agreement will upload it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the [DOJ Financial Guide](#) for additional information on [Indirect Cost Rate Agreement](#).

##### [Consultant Rate \(if applicable\)](#)

Costs for consultant services require prior approval from OJP. If the proposed project expects to fund consultant services, compensation for individual consultant services is to be reasonable and consistent with that paid for similar services in the marketplace. See the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#) for information on the consultant rates, which require prior approval from OJP.

##### [Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards Over \\$250,000; Waiver \(if applicable\)](#)

If an applicant proposes to hire employees with federal award funds, for any award of more than \$250,000 made under a funding opportunity, an award recipient may not use federal funds to pay total cash compensation (salary plus cash bonuses) to any employee of the recipient at a rate that exceeds 110 percent of the maximum annual salary payable to a member of the

federal government's Senior Executive Service (SES) at an agency with a Certified SES Performance Appraisal System for that year. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on the "Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards over \$250,000; Waiver."

#### [Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation \(if applicable\)](#)

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

### **[Additional Application Components](#)**

#### [Project Timeline](#)

Annualized project timeline containing each project goal; related objective, activity, expected completion date; and responsible person or organization. Specify activities as: "Year 1," "Month 1," etc.

#### [Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement \(if applicable\)](#)

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

### **[Disclosures and Assurances](#)**

The applicant will address the following disclosures and assurances.

#### [Disclosure of Lobbying Activities](#)

The SF-LLL attachment that was completed and submitted in Grants.gov is attached to this section.

#### [Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items](#)

To ensure funding coordination across grant making agencies, and to avoid unnecessary or inappropriate duplication among grant awards, the applicant will disclose if it has any pending applications for federal funding, including pending applications for subawards of federal funds. Complete the JustGrants web-based Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

#### [DOJ Certified Standard Assurances](#)

Review and accept the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

#### [DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing](#)

Review and accept in JustGrants the DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

#### [Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High-Risk Grantees](#)

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; noncompliance with award terms and conditions on prior awards or is otherwise not responsible. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

#### **Certification with respect to federal taxes for awards greater than \$5,000,000**

All award recipients with awards greater than \$5,000,000 must submit a certification to OJP that the recipient has filed all federal tax returns, has not been convicted of a criminal offense, and has not been notified of any unpaid federal tax assessment. The certification must be dated and indicate the full name and title of the signer as well as the full legal name of the recipient. A recipient that is exempt from filing federal taxes must advise OJP that it is not subject to any legal requirement.

### **Application Review Information**

#### **Review Process**

OJP reviews the application to make sure that the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, achievable, and consistent with the solicitation. For invited applications, OJP reviews for consistency with the invitation letter and invited applicant guidance. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on the application review process.

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.gov.

Important note on Responsibility/Qualification Data (formerly FAPIIS): An applicant, at its option, may review and comment on any information about itself that currently appears in SAM.gov and was entered by a federal awarding agency. OJP will consider such comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in SAM.gov, 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 BJA recommendations, but also other factors as indicated in this section.

### **Federal Award Administration Information**

#### **Federal Award Notices**

Generally, award notifications are made by the end of the current Federal fiscal year, September 30. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on award notifications and instructions.

#### **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 (programs or practices that have been evaluated as effective), see the [Application Resource Guide](#).

#### **Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities**

OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the projects and activities funded under this solicitation. For additional information on what should be included in the application, see the



[Application Resource Guide](#) section entitled “Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities.”

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

### **Civil Rights Compliance**

If a successful applicant accepts funding from OJP—as a recipient of OJP funding—that award recipient must comply with certain federal civil rights laws that prohibit it from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disability in how the recipient delivers its program’s services or benefits and in its employment practices. The civil rights laws that may be applicable to the award include Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), the nondiscrimination provisions of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (Safe Streets Act), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. These and other federal civil rights laws are discussed in greater detail here: [Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2024 Awards](#) under the “Civil Rights Requirements” section, and additional resources are available from the [OJP Office for Civil Rights](#).

Part of complying with civil rights laws that prohibit national origin discrimination includes recipients taking reasonable steps to ensure that people who are limited in their English proficiency (LEP) because of their national origin have meaningful access to a recipient’s program and activity. An LEP person is one whose first language is not English and who has a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English. To help recipients meet this obligation to serve LEP persons, DOJ has published a number of resources, including a language access assessment and planning tool, which are available at <https://www.lep.gov/language-access-planning>. Additional resources are available at <https://www.ojp.gov/program/civil-rights-office/limited-english-proficient-lep>. If the award recipient proposes a program or activity that would deliver services or benefits to LEP individuals, the recipient may use grant funds to support the costs of taking reasonable steps (e.g., interpretation or translation services) to provide meaningful access. Similarly, recipients are responsible for ensuring that their programs and activities are readily accessible to qualified individuals with disabilities. Applicants for OJP funding must allocate grant funds or explain how other available resources will be used to ensure meaningful and full access to their programs. For example, grant funds can be used to support American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter services for deaf or hard of hearing individuals or the purchase of adaptive equipment for individuals with mobility or cognitive disabilities. For resources, see <http://www.ADA.gov> or contact OJP.

### **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 [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

### **Information Technology Security Clauses**

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

### **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 must submit quarterly financial reports, semi-annual programmatic reports, monthly expenditure reports, monthly status 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 [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), contact information for Grants.gov, and contact information for JustGrants, see the solicitation Synopsis.

### **Other Information**

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

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

#### **Provide Feedback to OJP**

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

### **Performance Measures**

For information on the performance measures for these awards, see the following link for the question set required: [BJA Narrative Questions](#).

## Application Checklist

### BJA FY24 Invited to Apply—Presidential Nominating Conventions

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. For more information, reference [The OJP Application Submission Steps in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) and the [DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#).

#### Pre-Application

##### *Before Registering in Grants.gov*

- Confirm your entity's registration in the [System for Award Management \(SAM.gov\)](#) is active through the solicitation period; submit a new or renewal registration in SAM.gov if needed (see [Application Resource Guide](#)).

##### *Register in Grants.gov*

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

##### *Find the Funding Opportunity*

- Search for the funding opportunity in Grants.gov using the opportunity number, assistance listing number, or keyword(s).
- Access the funding opportunity and application package (see Step 7 in the [Application Resource Guide](#)).
- Sign up for Grants.gov email [notifications](#) (optional) (see [Application Resource Guide](#)).
- Read [Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov](#) (about [browser compatibility and special characters in file names](#)).
- Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting available at <https://www.ojp.gov/funding/financialguidedo/iii-postaward-requirements#6g3y8> (see [Application Resource Guide](#)).

##### *Review the Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements*

- Review the "[Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements – FY 2024 Awards](#)" in the [OJP Funding Resource Center](#).

##### *Review the Scope Requirement*

- The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of \$75,000,000.

##### *Review Eligibility Requirement*

- Review "Eligibility" in the Synopsis section and "Eligibility Information" section in the solicitation.

#### Application Step 1

After registering with SAM.gov, submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL in Grants.gov.

- In Section 8F of the SF-424, include the name and contact information of the individual **who will complete the application in JustGrants and the SF-LLL in Grants.gov**.
- Submit Intergovernmental Review (if applicable).

Within 48 hours after the SF-424 and SF-LLL submission in Grants.gov, 4 Grants.gov email

notifications:

- A submission receipt.
- A validation receipt.
- A grantor agency retrieval receipt.
- An agency tracking number assignment.

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

- Contact BJA or Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, [Grants.gov customer support](#), or [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov) regarding technical difficulties (see [“Application Resource Guide” section on Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues](#)).

Within 24 hours after receipt of confirmation emails from Grants.gov, the individual in Section 8F of the SF-424 will receive an email from JustGrants with login instructions.

- Proceed to Application Step 2 and complete application in JustGrants.

## **Application Step 2**

Submit the following information in JustGrants:

### ***Application Components***

- Entity and User Verification (First Time Applicant)
- Standard Applicant information (SF-424 information from Grants.gov)
- Proposal Abstract
- Data Requested With the Application
- Proposal Narrative Attachment

### ***Budget and Associated Documentation***

- Budget Worksheet and Narrative (attachment)
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see [Application Resource Guide](#))
- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see [Application Resource Guide](#))

### ***Additional Application Components***

- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (if applicable) (see [Application Resource Guide](#))
- Project timeline

### ***Disclosures and Assurances***

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

### **Review, Certify, and Submit Application in JustGrants**

- Any validation errors will immediately display on screen after submission.
- Correct validation errors, if necessary, and then return to the “Certify and Submit” screen to submit the application. Access the [Application Submission Validation Errors Quick Reference Guide](#) for step-by-step instructions to resolve errors prior to submission.
- Once the application is submitted and validated, a confirmation message will appear at the top of the page. Users will also receive a notification in the “bell” alerts confirming submission.

If no JustGrants application submission confirmation email or validation is received, or if error notification is received—

- Contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or [JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov](mailto:JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov) regarding technical difficulties. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

## **Standard Solicitation Resources**

[Application Resource Guide](#) provides guidance to assist OJP grant applicants in preparing and submitting applications for OJP funding.

[DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#) serves as the primary reference manual to assist award recipients in fulfilling their fiduciary responsibility to safeguard grant funds and to ensure funds are used for the purposes for which they were awarded. It compiles a variety of laws, rules and regulations that affect the financial and administrative management of DOJ awards. This guide serves as a starting point for all award recipients and subrecipients of DOJ grants and cooperative agreements in ensuring the effective day-to-day management of awards.

[JustGrants Resources Website](#) is an entryway into information about JustGrants and the grants management system itself. Through this portal both award recipients and applicants can access training resource and user support options, find frequently asked questions, and sign up for the [JustGrants Update e-newsletter](#).

[JustGrants Application Submission Training page](#) offers helpful information and resources on the application process. This training page includes e-learning videos, reference guides, checklists, and other resources to help applicants complete an application.

[Weekly Training Webinars](#) are advertised here and provide opportunities for users to receive topic-specific training, direct technical assistance, and support on JustGrants system functionality.