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



Solicitation Title: FY 24 Invited to Apply - Sex Offender and Registration Notification Act

(SORNA)

Assistance Listing Number: 16.738

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-BJA-2024-172237

Solicitation Release Date: September 4, 2024

Step 1: Application Grants.gov Deadline: 8:59 p.m. Eastern Time on October 16, 2024 **Step 2: Application JustGrants Deadline:** 8:59 p.m. Eastern Time on October 21, 2024

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Synopsis

Program Description Overview

The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>Bureau of Justice Assistance</u> (BJA) is seeking application 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 invite entities to apply for funding in support of specific OJP initiatives. This solicitation is exclusively for those who received a letter from BJA to apply.

This program furthers the DOJ's mission to uphold the rule of law, to keep our country safe, and to protect civil rights.

Eligibility

Other

Applicants are limited to eligible State Administering Agencies (SAAs) for states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico that failed to substantially implement the SORNA portion of the Adam Walsh Act (34 U.S.C. § 20901, et seq.), requested to use 10 percent of Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds to work toward compliance, and received a letter of invitation to apply. The list of eligible states and allocation amounts can be found in Appendix A. Information on the designated SAAs can be found at OJP's State Administering Agencies page.

Agency Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this funding opportunity, contact Flora Lawson, State Policy Advisor, at 202-598-7449 or flora.d.lawson@usdoj.gov.

Application Submission Information

Registration

Before submitting an application, all applicants must register with the <u>System for Award Management (SAM)</u>.

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 <u>Submission Dates and Time</u> 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 <u>JustGrants.usdoj.gov</u>. See the <u>Submission Dates and Time</u> section for application deadlines.

Program Description

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, protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community.

With this solicitation, BJA seeks to invite entities to apply for funding in support of specific OJP initiatives. This solicitation is exclusively for those who received a letter from BJA to apply.

Statutory Authority

Pub. L. No. 109-248, Sec. 125(c) (codified at 34 U.S.C. 20927(c)); Pub. L. No. 90-351, Title I, Part E, Subpart 1 (codified at 34 U.S.C. 10151–10158).

Specific Information

The Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 is designed to protect children and adults from sexual exploitation and violent crime, prevent child abuse and child pornography, promote internet safety, and honor the memory of Adam Walsh and other crime victims. The Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act was enacted to protect the public from convicted sex offenders by establishing a comprehensive, national system for the registration of and notification about those offenders.

The Adam Walsh Act established a penalty for jurisdictions that failed to substantially implement SORNA by July 27, 2011, and for any year thereafter. For those jurisdictions that did not substantially implement SORNA by July 27, 2011, the SORNA penalty was first applied in fiscal year (FY) 2012. It will continue to be applied each subsequent year in which the recipient has not substantially implemented SORNA. See 34 U.S.C. § 20927(a) for details.

The Attorney General delegated the task of determining when a jurisdiction has substantially implemented SORNA's requirements to the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART Office).

Consistent with prior years, the SORNA penalty is calculated by subtracting 10 percent from the state government's JAG allocation (60 percent of the total award) after deduction of the "mandatory variable pass-through" that states are required to send to local governments. Note: The penalty applies to the portion of JAG funding awarded to the state to be shared with local governments not eligible for a direct JAG award ("less than \$10,000 jurisdictions") because the states retain control over these funds and may award them to another state agency (i.e., state police) in lieu of awarding them to a local government in localities where the state provides them with direct services. The penalty is not assessed against the mandatory pass-through, which is the portion of JAG funds awarded by states to local law enforcement, because the state cannot retain any portion of that award.

While BJA will be administering the SORNA reallocation funds awarded to eligible SAAs, OJP's SMART Office will assist jurisdictions with developing and/or enhancing programs designed to implement the SORNA portion of the Adam Walsh Act (34 U.S.C. § 20901, et seq.). **SAAs must pass through these reallocation funds to the designated SORNA contact agencies to carry out the activities described in the individual reallocation requests as previously approved by OJP.**

BJA strongly encourages all jurisdictions that have not yet substantially implemented SORNA to continue to work expeditiously to implement SORNA's requirements to better protect their communities from sexual violence and exploitation.

For additional information about SORNA implementation, please see https://smart.ojp.gov/faqs.

Solicitation Goals and Objectives

Applicants should describe the purpose of their proposed projects, the objectives and deliverables/outcomes, and how the proposed projects will facilitate SORNA implementation. Applicants should also detail how their projects will operate during the funding period and describe the strategies that will be used to implement the proposed projects.

Goals

Applicants must explain how their proposed projects will bring their jurisdictions closer to implemented status by addressing the deficiencies identified in SMART's most recent SORNA substantial implementation review.

Objectives

An applicant should address the objectives that are relevant to their proposed program/project in the Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline web-based form.

Deliverables

Award recipients must submit quarterly Federal Financial Reports (SF-425) and semi-annual performance reports through JustGrants. To assist in fulfilling the Department's responsibilities under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), Public Law 103-62, applicants that receive funding under this solicitation must provide data that measure the results of their work. Failure to submit the required reports by their established deadlines may result in the freezing of grant funds and future high-risk designation.

Timeline

Applicants must provide a project timeline that identifies each objective, activity, expected completion date, and responsible person or organization. Applicants that received prior year and/or FY 2024 SORNA Reallocation Program funds must describe their progress toward obtaining full compliance with the SORNA portion of the Adam Walsh Act (34 U.S.C. § 20901, et seq.) and demonstrate how the FY 2024 SORNA Reallocation Program funds will continue these efforts.

Federal Award Information

Awards, Amounts, and Durations

Anticipated Number of Awards: 22

Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount of Awards: \$749,115

Period of Performance Start Date: August 1, 2024

Period of Performance Duration: 24 months

Anticipated Total Amount to Be Awarded Under Solicitation: \$3,353,845

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 "<u>Administrative</u>, <u>National Policy</u>, <u>and Other Legal Requirements</u>" section of the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for a brief discussion of important statutes, regulations, and award conditions that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP grants.

Cost Sharing or Match Requirement

This solicitation does not require a match.

Eligibility Information

For eligibility information, see the Synopsis section.

For the purposes of this notice of funding opportunity, "state" means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

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://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 <u>JustGrants.usdoj.gov</u> 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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> and the DOJ Application Submission Checklist.

Submission Dates and Time

The SF-424 and the SF-LLL must be submitted in Grants.gov by October 16, 2024.

The **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by October 21, 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 <u>SAM.gov Help Desk (Federal Service Desk)</u>, Monday–Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET at 866-606-8220.
- Grants.gov: contact the <u>Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline</u>, 24 hours a day, 7 days a
 week, except on federal holidays, at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, or
 <u>support@grants.gov</u>.
- JustGrants: contact the JustGrants Service Desk at <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u> 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 Flora Lawson at Flora.D.Lawson@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 Flora Lawson at Flora.D.Lawson@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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information on completing the SF-424.

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

Intergovernmental Review: This solicitation ("funding opportunity") is subject to <u>Executive Order 12372</u>. 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/2020/04/SPOC-4-13-20.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. In completing 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 the response that the "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) 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 25 numbered pages. The Proposal Narrative must include the following sections:

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

a. Description of the Issue

Applicants should describe the challenges their jurisdictions face in implementing or maintaining ongoing compliance with SORNA and how the challenges will be addressed by the strategies that will be funded by the grant. Applicants should describe the steps taken to assess and analyze their current sex offender registration and notification systems in relation to SORNA implementation or ongoing compliance. This section should also detail the jurisdictions' ongoing efforts to address implementation or maintain compliance.

b. Project Design and Implementation

Each applicant must explain how the proposed project will bring the jurisdiction closer to implementation of SORNA or enhance ongoing SORNA compliance. In developing and/or enhancing efforts or programs designed to implement or maintain compliance with SORNA, applicants must propose specific strategies and projects as previously outlined in their reallocation requests to the SMART Office, which were approved by OJP's Assistant Attorney General.

The applicant should provide a broad statement, written in general terms, that conveys the project's intent to change, reduce, or eliminate the problem described. Please note that all elements of the proposal narrative, including the identification of each SORNA requirement to be implemented or enhanced as a result of the proposed project, must be consistent with the individual state reallocation request previously submitted to and approved by OJP.

Applicants should describe the goal of their proposed projects and identify the objectives and deliverables/outcomes. The applicant should explain how the project will accomplish its purpose. The objectives should be quantifiable and describe the steps and activities necessary to accomplish the project's goal. When formulating the project's objectives, the applicant should be cognizant of the performance measures that successful applicants will be required to provide.

Applicants should also detail how the projects will operate during the funding period and describe the strategies that will be used to implement the proposed projects.

c. Capabilities and Competencies

Describe the capabilities and competencies of the applicant and any proposed subrecipients (including contractors and consultants) that the applicant will use to implement and manage the project; highlight any previous experience implementing projects of similar scope, design, and magnitude. The management and organizational structure described should match the goals, objectives, and tasks/outcomes outlined in the project design.

d. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for This Program/Project's Performance Measures

The application should demonstrate the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements for this grant program and detail how the applicant will gather the required 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

<u>OJP's performance measurement page</u> at <u>www.ojp.gov/performance</u> for more information on performance measurement activities.

BJA will require award recipients to submit performance measure data and performance reports in JustGrants. BJA will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process, if the applicant is selected for award.

Note on Project Evaluations

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

Application Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline Web-Based Form

The applicant will submit the project's goals, objectives, deliverables, and timeline in the JustGrants web-based form. This is a summary of the goals, objectives, deliverables, and timeline that relate to the proposal narrative. The applicant will also enter the projected fiscal year and quarter that each objective and deliverable will be completed. Please refer to the Application Submission Job Aid for step-by-step directions.

- **Goals:** The applicant should describe the project's intent to change, reduce, or eliminate the problem noted in the proposal narrative.
- **Program Objectives and Timeline:** The applicant should include objectives to accomplish its goals. Objectives are specific, measurable actions to reach the project's desired results. The included timelines should be clearly linked to the goal.
- **Deliverables and Timeline:** Project deliverables refer to outputs—tangible (for example, a report or a website) or intangible (for example, greater feelings of safety reported by the community)—that are documented and submitted within the scope of a project. Deliverables include timelines.

Deliverables Expected by Award Recipients

Program objectives and deliverables should be included in one timeline.

Funding Restrictions

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

Budget and Associated Documentation

The applicant will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form, which includes both detailed calculations and budget narrative sections.

For additional information about how to prepare a budget for federal funding, see the "<u>Application Resource Guide</u>" section on <u>Budget Preparation and Submission Information</u> and the technical steps to complete the budget form in JustGrants in the <u>Complete the Application in JustGrants: Budget</u> training.

Each applicant's proposal, which must match the individual state reallocation request as approved by OJP, may budget for the purchase of equipment for items such as digital fingerprint and palm print technology, scanners to transfer existing records and documents into a digital format, computer hardware, and DNA collection. Allowable software purchases include software needed by the jurisdiction to facilitate information sharing between a jurisdiction's sex offender registry database, law enforcement-operated databases, and local law enforcement; software that facilitates information sharing between a jurisdiction's sex offender registry and federal databases; software necessary to support registration kiosks; and software or technical assistance necessary to facilitate use of SMART Office-provided software and resources.

Applicants should be aware that the SMART Office has developed information technology resources that are available to all SORNA jurisdictions for the purpose of meeting the requirements of participation in the Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender Public Website. These resources include software such as mapping technology, geographic radius and email address search applications, and community notification and email notification applications.

Unallowable Uses of Funds

In addition to the unallowable costs identified in the <u>DOJ Grants Financial Guide</u>, SORNA Reallocation Program funds cannot be used for administrative costs, including any indirect costs.

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.

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.

For additional information about how to prepare a budget for federal funding, see the "Application Resource Guide" section on <u>Budget Preparation and Submission Information</u> and the technical steps to complete the budget form in JustGrants in the <u>Complete the Application in JustGrants: Budget</u> 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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> 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.

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.

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.

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

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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.

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 <u>Application</u> 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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> 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.

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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for information on award notifications and instructions.

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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> 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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.

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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> 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, and semi-annual performance reports, final financial and performance reports, and, if applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with the Part 200 Uniform Requirements or specific award conditions. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent (in appropriate cases, OJP may require additional reports).

See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measure data.

Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For OJP contact(s), 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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> 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.

Plan for Collecting the Data required for this Program/Project's Performance Measures

The application should demonstrate the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements for this grant program and detail how the applicant will gather the required data.

Note: The applicant is not required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included as an alert that each successful applicant 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. The applicant can also visit OJP's performance measurement page at www.ojp.gov/performance for an overview of performance measurement activities at OJP.

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found at <u>Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act Performance Measures</u>. Note on Project Evaluations BJA will require award recipients to submit performance measure data and performance reports in JustGrants. BJA will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process, if selected for award.

Application Checklist

BJA FY24 Invited to Apply—SORNA Reallocation

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. For more information, reference <u>The OJP Application Submission Steps in the OJP Grant Application</u> Resource Guide and the DOJ Application Submission Checklist.

Pre-Application

Before Registering in Grants.gov

 Confirm your entity's registration in the <u>System for Award Management (SAM.gov)</u> 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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u>).
- Sign up for Grants.gov email <u>notifications</u> (optional) (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>).
- Read <u>Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov</u> (about <u>browser compatibility and special characters in file names</u>).

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).

Review Eligibility Requirement

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

Application Step 1

After registering with SAM.gov (unless applicant is an individual), 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, receive four (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, <u>Grants.gov customer support</u>, or <u>support@grants.gov</u> 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
- Proposal Narrative: Application Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline webbased form

Budget and Associated Documentation

- Budget Detail and Narrative web-based form OR Budget Worksheet and Narrative attachment
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see <u>Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u>)
- Disclosure of Process related to Executive Compensation (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)

Additional Application Components

- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (if applicable) (see <u>Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u>)
- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)

Disclosures and Assurances

- <u>Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)</u> (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)
- Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (see Application Resource Guide)
- DOJ Certified Standard Assurances (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)

- DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification DOJ High-Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)

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 <u>Application Submission Validation Errors Quick</u>
 <u>Reference Guide</u> 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 <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u> regarding technical difficulties. See the <u>Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

Standard Solicitation Resources

<u>Application Resource Guide</u> provides guidance to assist OJP grant applicants in preparing and submitting applications for OJP funding.

<u>DOJ Grants Financial Guide</u> 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.

<u>JustGrants Resources Website</u> 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 <u>JustGrants Update e-newsletter</u>.

<u>JustGrants Application Submission Training page</u> 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.

<u>Weekly Training Webinars</u> are advertised here and provide opportunities for users to receive topic-specific training, direct technical assistance, and support on JustGrants system functionality.

Appendix A: FY 2024 Invited to Apply—SORNA Reallocation Program Eligible Award Amounts

State/Territory	Amount	BJA State Policy Advisor
Alaska	\$69,919	Flora Lawson
Arizona	\$131,284	Flora Lawson
Arkansas	\$114,403	Flora Lawson
California	\$749,115	Flora Lawson
Connecticut	\$113,796	Flora Lawson
Hawaii	\$42,780	Flora Lawson
Idaho	\$60,304	Flora Lawson
Illinois	\$252,492	Flora Lawson
Indiana	\$144,036	Flora Lawson
lowa	\$99,052	Flora Lawson
Kentucky	\$145,203	Flora Lawson
Massachusetts	\$249,233	Flora Lawson
Minnesota	\$136,971	Flora Lawson
Montana	\$61,378	Flora Lawson
New Hampshire	\$61,097	Flora Lawson
North Dakota	\$25,196	Flora Lawson
Oregon	\$116,841	Flora Lawson
Pennsylvania	\$335,312	Flora Lawson
Puerto Rico	\$228,828	Gerardo Velazquez
Rhode Island	\$47,940	Flora Lawson
West Virginia	\$84,793	Flora Lawson
Wisconsin	\$141,244	Flora Lawson