# BJA FY25 Project Safe Neighborhoods -Formula Grants Program

Anticipated Total Amount To Be Awarded Under This Funding Opportunity: \$19,000,000

Anticipated Award Ceiling: Awards to be determined by formula calculation

Anticipated Period of Performance Duration: 36 months

Funding Opportunity Number: O-BJA-2025-172344

Deadline to submit SF-424 in Grants.gov: **March 12, 2025 by 11:59pm Eastern Time**Deadline to submit application in JustGrants: **March 19, 2025 by 8:59pm Eastern Time** 





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### **BASIC INFORMATION**

The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)</u> is accepting applications for funding in response to this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO).

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights, 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. OJP's grant programs further DOJ's mission to uphold the rule of law, to keep our country safe, and to protect civil rights.

Agency Name	U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Assistance
NOFO Title	Project Safe Neighborhoods - Formula Grants Program
Announcement Type	Initial
Funding Opportunity Number	O-BJA-2025-172344
Assistance Listing Number	16.609

#### **Executive Summary**

This funding opportunity seeks applications for funding under the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Formula Grant Program. The PSN program is a nationwide initiative that brings together federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement officials, prosecutors, community-based partners, and other stakeholders to identify the most pressing violent crime problems in a community and develop comprehensive solutions to address them. The PSN program aims to create safer communities by developing data-driven and community-based strategies to reduce violent crime, particularly gun violence.

PSN is coordinated by the U.S. Attorneys' Offices (USAOs) in the 94 federal judicial districts throughout the 50 states and U.S. territories.

Please see the Eligible Applicants section for the eligibility criteria.

## **Key Dates**

Funding Opportunity Release Date	January 16, 2025
Pre-Application Webinar	Forthcoming
	Recommend beginning process by February 10, 2025, and no later than February 26, 2025
Step 1: Grants.gov Application Deadline	11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on March 12, 2025
Step 2: JustGrants Application Deadline	8:59 p.m. Eastern Time on March 19, 2025
Award Notification Date	Generally by September 30

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## **Funding Details**

**Anticipated Total Amount To Be Awarded Under This Funding Opportunity:** \$19,000,000

**Anticipated Number of Awards: 93** 

**Anticipated award ceiling:** Awards to be determined by formula calculation

**Anticipated Period of Performance Start Date:** October 1, 2025

**Anticipated Period of Performance Duration:** 36 months

## **Availability of Funds**

This funding opportunity, and awards under this funding opportunity, are subject to the availability of funding and any changes or additional requirements that may be imposed by the agency or by law. In addition, nothing in this NOFO 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 or its departments, agencies, entities, officers, employees, agents, or any other person.

## **Statutory Authority**

Pub. L. No. 115-185 (codified at 34 U.S.C. 60701-60705).

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## **Agency Contact Information**

For assistance with the requirements of this funding opportunity:

#### OJP Response Center

Phone: 800-851-3420 or 301-240-6310 (TTY for hearing-impaired callers only)

Email: grants@ncjrs.gov

Hours of operation: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) Monday–Friday

and 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET on the funding opportunity closing date.

For assistance with **SAM.gov** (registration/renewal):

SAM.gov Help Desk Phone: 866-606-8220

Web: SAM.gov Help Desk (Federal Service Desk)

Hours of operation: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET Monday-Friday

For assistance with **Grants.gov** (registration, submission of the Application for Federal Assistance SF-424):

**Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline** 

Phone: 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035

Email: <a href="mailto:support@grants.gov">support@grants.gov</a>

Web: Grants.gov Customer Support

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays

For assistance with **JustGrants** (registration, submission of full application):

**JustGrants Service Desk** 

Phone: 833-872-5175

Email: <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u>

Hours of operation: 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET Monday-Friday and 9:00 a.m. to

5:00 p.m. ET on Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays.

For procedures related to unforeseen technical issues beyond the control of the applicant that impact submission by the deadlines, see <a href="Experiencing Technical Issues">Experiencing Technical Issues</a> <a href="Perventing Submission of an Application (Technical Waivers">Preventing Submission of an Application (Technical Waivers)</a>.

## **Resources for Applying**

**Pre-Application Webinar:** This NOFO may have a webinar. Please check the <u>BJA Funding</u> Webinars page for the latest updates.

<u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>: Referred to as the Application Resource Guide throughout the NOFO, this resource provides guidance to help applicants for OJP funding prepare and submit their applications.

<u>JustGrants Application Submission Training Webpage</u>: Offers helpful information and resources on the grant application process.

**Note:** If this NOFO requires something different from any guidance provided in the <u>Application</u> Resource Guide, the difference will be noted in this NOFO and the applicant should follow the guidance in this NOFO.



#### **ELIGIBILITY**

## **Eligible Applicants**

The types of entities that are eligible to apply for this funding opportunity are listed below:

• Other – Certified PSN Team fiscal agents for the federal judicial districts

All fiscal agents must be certified by the relevant district's United States Attorney (USA). Eligible USA-certified fiscal agents include states, units of local government, educational institutions, faith-based and other community organizations, private nonprofit organizations (including tribal nonprofits), and federally recognized American Indian tribal governments (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior).

## **Cost Sharing/Match Requirement**

For this opportunity, match is not required.

#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

## **General Purpose of the Funding**

The purpose of the PSN program is to create safer communities through collaborative partnerships between federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial (where applicable) law enforcement agencies and community-based organizations representatives (hereafter PSN Team) in each federal judicial district. The PSN Team in each federal judicial district, under the direction and guidance of the applicable USAO, develops a strategic plan to address the district's most pressing violent crime problems. The program awards formula funds to certified fiscal agents in each federal judicial district to support the implementation of those district's PSN strategies. The selected fiscal agent will make subawards to, or enter into contracts with, each entity that will carry out activities that support the district's PSN grant strategy. The fiscal agent must be certified by the district's USAO.

The PSN Team is a multidisciplinary working group that meets regularly to address and identify community based, data informed strategies to create safer neighborhoods. The PSN Team includes: the PSN Task Force which devises PSN strategy for their district, the PSN Selection Committee, which includes non-conflicted, non-federally employed individuals that must make all funding decisions, and the Fiscal Agent who administers the awards. The PSN Coordinator serves as a liaison between these entities.

PSN also encourages each district to develop practitioner-researcher partnerships that use data, evidence, and innovation to create strategies and interventions that are effective and make communities safer. PSN research partnerships have produced key findings related to the effectiveness of crime gun intelligence centers as well as the importance of focusing law enforcement resources on those of highest risk of committing gun-related violence.

PSN Team members will serve as allies and active partners in reducing crime and improving the quality of life in affected neighborhoods. Applicants will use awarded funds to support one or more of the following four PSN design features:

#### 1. Community Engagement

Meaningful engagement between and among communities, law enforcement, prosecutors, and other stakeholders is an essential component of an effective violence reduction strategy. Absent community trust, support, and legitimacy, violence reduction strategies are likely to have only short-term, limited, or no effect and may create divisions between law enforcement agencies and prosecutors and the communities they serve. Ongoing engagement involves open communication and builds relationships, trust, and shared public safety values between community members and law enforcement.

#### 2. Prevention and Intervention

Effective PSN Teams engage in problem-solving approaches that address violent crime using all the tools at their disposal. This includes utilizing strategies to address risk and protective factors, which often involves building relationships with representatives of agencies and organizations most suited to provide education, social services, physical and behavioral health supports, job training and placement, reentry programs, restorative practices, or similar resources to those in need. Prevention and intervention activities can provide individuals and families with skills, opportunities, and alternatives that can ultimately help to reduce violent crime in communities.

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#### 3. Focused and Strategic Enforcement

To address violent crime, PSN initiatives often focus strategic enforcement on a limited number of problem places and individuals driving violent crime. Violent crime is often driven by a small number of individuals who are often involved in gangs, neighborhood crews, and violent street groups and are typically concentrated in hotspots and small "micro-places" (e.g., a street segment with abandoned homes; a problem bar, gas station, or convenience store; or an open-air drug market). In some jurisdictions, intimate partner violence is the main violent crime concern.

Critical elements of strategic enforcement include understanding the most significant drivers of violence and resources, leveraging technology and analytics, developing and implementing enforcement strategies, and deterring others from engaging in violence—including through public awareness about enforcement actions and available assistance.

#### 4. Accountability

PSN represents a major investment of funding, technical assistance resources, human capital, and other resources at the national, state, and local levels. The goal of PSN is to reduce the level of violence in our communities. Analyzing and assessing information about the incidence of violence and the effectiveness of strategies to address it are important for PSN's success and credibility. A research partner is especially valuable in this process and can assist with measuring the impact of PSN strategies on violent crime and community health. In addition, research partners have helped PSN districts identify and interrupt crime drivers by assessing how local violent crime is associated with factors such as domestic violence; youth, emerging adults, and adults who commit violent offenses; gangs; returning citizens; street disputes; and/or illegal drug markets.

Each design element is discussed in the <a href="Project Safe Neighborhoods Blueprint for Success">Project Safe Neighborhoods Blueprint for Success</a>, which can be a resource to the PSN Team and FY 2025 formula grant applicants. BJA sponsors <a href="PSN Training and Technical Assistance Program">PSN Teams</a> needs related to investigative practices, partnerships, crime analysis, technology implementation, engagement with special populations (e.g., youth, victims and witnesses of violent crime, historically underserved communities), and many other key issues confronting PSN initiatives. PSN Teams should also access the Department's <a href="Violent Crime Reduction Roadmap">Violent Crime Reduction Roadmap</a> for further guidance on essential steps for jurisdictions to take on addressing violent crime.

Applicants should refer to <u>Application Contents</u>, <u>Submission Requirements</u>, <u>and Deadlines</u>: <u>Budget Detail Form</u> for information on allowable and unallowable costs that may inform the development of their project design.

## **Program Goals and Objectives**

PSN aims to identify and address the most pressing violent crime problems in a community through developing comprehensive solutions, building partnerships, and employing a data-driven problem-solving approach.

#### Goals

 Create and implement sustainable collaborations and comprehensive violent crime reduction strategies with federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial (where applicable) law enforcement officials, prosecutors, community-based partners, and other stakeholders to address the most pressing violent crime problems in a community.

Information

- Foster community trust in, and increase legitimacy of, federal, state, and local law enforcement entities through the development of violent crime reduction strategies, public education approaches, and transparent accountability mechanisms.
- Use intelligence and data to identify violent crime drivers and individuals at risk of violence victimization or perpetration to intervene, prevent, and improve outcomes.

#### **Objectives**

- Implement one or more effective strategies to prevent, respond to, and reduce violent crime in the PSN district.
- Support the implementation of specific activities and resource requirements related to the district's PSN strategy in collaboration with all relevant partners and stakeholders.
- Develop and implement a data-driven strategy to inform how PSN grant funds are used to support the district's violent crime reduction strategy.

## **How Awards Will Contribute to Program Goals/Objectives**

PSN award recipients in each federal judicial district will work to reduce violent crime by implementing evidence-based strategies to target high-crime areas and address the most significant drivers of violence and crime in their communities. PSN funding will help to strengthen partnerships between federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, fostering more coordinated efforts to combat gun violence and other violent crimes. Additionally, recipients will engage with their communities through prevention program and outreach efforts, helping to build trust and cooperation between law enforcement and the community. These efforts will directly support PSN's goals of reducing violent crime, improving community safety, and enhancing the effectiveness of law enforcement and community partnerships.

## **Expected Outcomes: Deliverables and Performance Measures**

To achieve the goals and objectives of this funding opportunity, OJP has identified expected deliverables that must be produced by a recipient. OJP has also identified performance measures (pieces of data) that will indicate how a recipient is achieving the performance goals and objectives identified above. Recipients will need to collect and report this performance measure data to OJP.

#### **Deliverables**

Deliverables are what the applicant will create or produce under the award. The term "deliverables" as used here refers to discrete products under an award. An award may support activities (e.g., personnel time for award activities) that are part of recipient performance but are not considered deliverables. Award recipients will be expected to develop and submit the deliverables listed below in the course of implementing their proposed project.

- Periodic reports to BJA as required by the terms of the grant.
- If the grant supports the activities of a research partner, a final analysis report of the PSN projects as an attachment to the Final Progress Report.

#### **Performance Measures**

Performance measures are data that show a recipient's progress in implementing their project, such as the number of people served or number of trainings conducted. OJP will require each award recipient to submit regular performance reports that communicate progress toward achieving the goals and objectives identified in <a href="Program Goals and Objectives">Program Goals and Objectives</a>. Applicants can

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

A list of performance measure questions for this funding opportunity can be found at: <a href="https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/performance-measures/PSN-Measures.pdf">https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/performance-measures/PSN-Measures.pdf</a>.

## **Funding Instrument**

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/Match Requirements**

This funding opportunity does not require a match.

## APPLICATION CONTENTS, SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS, AND DEADLINES

This NOFO contains all the information needed to apply for this funding opportunity. The application for this funding opportunity is submitted through web-based forms and attachments in Grants.gov and JustGrants through the steps that follow.

## Unique Entity Identifiers (UEIs) and SAM.gov Registration

To submit an application, an applicant must have an active registration in the <u>System for Award Management (SAM.gov</u>). SAM.gov assigns entities a unique entity identifier (UEI) that is required for the entity to apply for federal funding. Applicants will enter their UEI with their application. Award recipients must then maintain an active UEI for the duration of their award's period of performance.

**First-time Registration:** Entities registering in SAM.gov for the first time will submit information about their entity type and structure, financial information (such as dates of the fiscal year, banking information, and executive compensation), entity points of contact, and other information. The information is reviewed and verified by SAM.gov, and then a UEI is issued. This process may take several weeks, so entities considering applying for funding should begin the registration process as soon as possible.

**Renewing an Existing Registration:** Entities must renew their SAM.gov registration every 12 months to keep it active. If an entity does not renew their SAM.gov registration, it will expire. An expired registration can delay or prevent the submission of an application for funding in Grants.gov and JustGrants.

Applicants are encouraged to start the SAM.gov registration or renewal process at least 30 days prior to the application's Grants.gov deadline. Applicants who fail to begin the registration or renewal process at least 10 business days prior to the Grants.gov deadline may not be able to complete the process in time and will not be considered for a technical waiver that allows for late submission.

## **Submission Instructions: Summary**

Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process that begins in Grants.gov and is completed in JustGrants. See <u>Basic Information: Key Dates</u> for the Grants.gov and JustGrants application deadlines.

- **Step 1:** The applicant must submit the required <u>Application for Federal Assistance SF-424</u> by the Grants.gov deadline.
- **Step 2:** The applicant must submit the full application, including attachments, through JustGrants by the deadline (see <u>JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov</u>).

## Submission Step 1: Grants.gov Submission of SF-424

#### **Access/Registration**

If the applicant does not already have a Grants.gov account, they will need to register for this opportunity in Grants.gov. Applicants should follow the Grants.gov Quick Start Guide for Applicants to register, create a workspace, assign roles, submit an application, and troubleshoot issues.

#### **Submission of the SF-424**

Applicants will begin the application process in Grants.gov with the submission of the SF-424, which collects the applicant's name, address, and UEI; the funding opportunity number; and proposed project title, among other information. The SF-424 must be signed by the Grants.gov Authorized Organizational Representative for the applicant.

See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information on completing the SF-424.

**Section 8F – Applicant Point of Contact:** Please include the name and contact information of the individual **who will complete the application in JustGrants.** JustGrants will use this information (i.e., email address) to assign the application to this user in JustGrants.

#### **Section 19 – Intergovernmental Review:**

This funding opportunity is subject to <a href="Executive Order (E.O.">Executive Order (E.O.</a>) 12372 (Intergovernmental Review). States that participate in the Intergovernmental Review process have an opportunity to review the applicant's submission. An applicant may find the names and addresses of state Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) for Intergovernmental Review at the following website:

<a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/SPOC-list-as-of-2023.pdf">https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/SPOC-list-as-of-2023.pdf</a>. 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 must 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."

An applicant should submit the SF-424 as early as possible and recommended not later than 48 hours before the Grants.gov deadline. If an applicant fails to submit the SF-424 in Grants.gov by the deadline, they will be unable to submit their application in JustGrants.

Once the first part of the application has been successfully submitted in Grants.gov, the Grants.gov Workspace status will change from "In Progress" to "Submitted." Applicants will also receive a series of four Grants.gov email notifications. Refer to the <a href="DOJ Application Submission Checklist">DOJ Application Submission Checklist</a> for additional details.

If an applicant needs to update information in the SF-424 after it is submitted in Grants.gov, they can update the information as part of their JustGrants submission (see <u>Application Contents</u>, <u>Submission Requirements</u>, and <u>Deadlines</u>: <u>Standard Applicant Information</u>). They do not need to submit an update in Grants.gov.

## **Submission Step 2: JustGrants Submission of Full Application Access/Registration**

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 email address 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 confirmation from Grants.gov of the SF-424 submission.

Creating and setting up a JustGrants account consists of three steps:

1. Follow the instructions in the email to first confirm who will be the Entity Administrator (the person who manages which staff can access JustGrants on behalf of the applicant).

- Log in to JustGrants and confirm the information in the Entity Profile.
- 3. Invite other individuals who will serve as the Application Submitter and the Authorized Representative for the applicant to register for JustGrants.

These steps should be completed in JustGrants as early as possible and recommended not later than 48 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. Applicants can find additional information on JustGrants registration in the DOJ Grant Application Submission Checklist.

#### **Preparing for Submission**

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, enter, and upload all the requirements of the application.

Applicants may save their application 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. After the application deadline, no changes or additions can be made to the application. **OJP** recommends that applicants submit the complete application package in JustGrants at least 48 hours prior to the JustGrants deadline.

For additional information, including file name and type requirements, see the "How To Apply" section in the <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.

#### **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 can make whatever edits are needed. Within this section, the applicant will need to add ZIP codes for areas affected by the project; confirm their Authorized Representative; and confirm the organization's unique entity identifier, legal name, and address.

#### **Proposal Abstract**

A proposal abstract (no more than 2,000 characters) summarizing the proposed project must be completed in the JustGrants web-based form. The text from abstracts will be made publicly available on the OJP.gov and USASpending.gov websites if the project is awarded, so this section of the application should not contain any personally identifiable information (e.g., the name of the project director).

The abstract should be in paragraph form without bullets or tables and written in the third person (e.g., they, the community, their, themselves, rather than I or we). The abstract should include the following information:

- The name of the applicant's proposed project.
- The purpose of the proposed project (i.e., what the project will do and why it is necessary).
- Where the project will take place (i.e., the service area, if applicable).
- Who will be served by the project (i.e., who will be helped or have their needs addressed by the project).

Information

- What activities will be carried out to complete the project.
- The subrecipient(s)/partner organizations or entities, if known.
- Deliverables and expected outcomes (i.e., what the project will achieve).

See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for an <u>example</u> of a proposal abstract.

## **Data Requested With Application**

## 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 what financial management and internal control systems the applicant has in place, whether these systems would be sufficient to maintain a funding award, 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 form in JustGrants. See the <a href="Application Resource Guide: Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire">Application Resource Guide: Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire</a> (including Applicant Disclosure of High-Risk Status) for additional guidance on how to complete the questionnaire.

#### **Proposal Narrative**

**Format of the Proposal Narrative:** The Proposal Narrative will 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; have numbered pages; and should not exceed 10 pages.

**Sections of the Proposal Narrative:** The Proposal Narrative must include all of the following sections.

- **a. Description of the Issue:** This section must identify the violent crime issue(s) to be addressed through this grant award, the data used to identify the violent crime issue, the selected target enforcement area(s), as well as the key partners who need to be included in project activities.
  - What type of violent crime issue(s)/challenge(s)/driver(s) will your grant strategy address? What PSN design feature(s) will your grant strategy focus on?
  - Which geographical area(s) will be the focus of your PSN grant strategy, and what is driving violence in this area(s)?
  - What type of data did you use to analyze the violent crime issue in your district?
  - Which agencies/types of agencies assisted in the violent crime assessment?
  - How has the input of the community and stakeholder organizations been incorporated into the grant strategy?
  - How will grant funding be useful in addressing the specific violent crime issue(s)?
  - What community resources (community-based organizations, state and local social service providers, public health, and behavioral health resources, etc.) are available to assist in the grant strategy's implementation and impact?
- **b. Project Goals and Objectives:** How will the proposed project address the need identified and address the purpose of the NOFO? Please include:

Information

- Broad program goals that align with the PSN Teams violent crime reduction strategies for the district.
- Specific objectives that include detailed and measurable outcomes such as reductions in shootings, increasing arrests, increasing prosecution rates.
- A description of how the goals and objectives align with the goals of PSN to reduce violent crime and create safer communities.
- **c. Project Design and Implementation:** This section must describe the strategy that will be implemented to address the violent crime issue(s), the roles of the key partners, and the data that will be collected and analyzed to inform and measure the grant strategy's outcomes.
  - What will grant funding be used for and how will it be used to implement the relevant PSN design feature(s)? What are the plans to meet the goals and objectives?
  - Which agencies (and representatives, if necessary) will participate in the grant strategy's
    implementation, and what will be their roles? Please be sure to include the USAO, fiscal
    agent, applicable PSN Team members, selection committee members, community
    leaders/members, and others, if applicable.
  - What specific agencies or organizations will receive subawards to support the PSN grant strategy (if known)? What will the award amount be for each subaward (if known), and how will each subawardee use funds to support the grant strategy's goals and objectives?
  - What type of data will the fiscal agent and PSN Team use to monitor implementation progress and measure outcomes, and how often will data be analyzed?
  - Will you collaborate with a research partner to select and assess your PSN strategy?
- **d. Gang Task Force Set-Aside:** Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. §§60701-05, 30 percent of PSN funding must be used to support gang task forces in regions of the United States "experiencing a significant or increased presence of criminal or transnational organizations engaging in high levels of violent crime, firearms offenses, human trafficking, and drug trafficking." Applicants must clearly describe how they will comply with the requirement to use 30 percent of grant funds to support the activities of gang task forces. Please see <a href="Project Safe Neighborhoods">Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN)</a> Frequently Asked Questions | Bureau of Justice Assistance (ojp.gov) to learn more.
  - State whether violence in your geographical area(s) is being driven by criminal or transnational organizations.
  - If violence is being driven by criminal or transnational organization(s), please describe how 30 percent of the grant funding will support a gang task force(s).
  - If the violent crime issue(s) is not driven by criminal or transnational organizations, please describe how 30 percent of the grant funding will support the law enforcement objectives within the confines of the 30 percent gang set-aside requirement as defined by this NOFO.
- **e. Capabilities and Competencies:** Describe the capabilities (what the applicant brings to the project such as resources, experience, expertise) and competencies (the unique skills and abilities of the applicant) required to accomplish the goals and objectives of the project.
  - Describe how effective communication and coordination among the fiscal agent and the PSN Team and PSN Coordinator will be implemented throughout the program period.

Information

• Identify personnel other than the team members who are critical to the program's success and discuss their roles, responsibilities, and qualifications.

#### Each fiscal agent will be required to:

- Organize, draft, and submit the required PSN application and subaward materials, including, but not limited to, writing subaward notices of funding opportunities, if applicable, based on project-related information from the PSN Team and selection committee.
- Manage all fiscal matters, including, but not limited to:
  - Drafting contracts and subaward notices of funding opportunities using projectrelated information from the PSN Team and selection committee and overseeing the contracts/subawards process, including receiving subaward proposals from applicants.
  - Posting and distributing a notice of funding opportunities, if applicable.
  - Notifying subrecipients and vendors of award selection.
  - Accounting for all funds awarded.
  - Drawing down federal funds, as needed, and keeping the PSN Team informed about challenges and problems.
  - Making payments to each contractor or subrecipient and keeping the PSN Team informed about challenges and problems.
- Prepare the required federal reports.
- Work with BJA staff to submit Grant Adjustment Modifications (GAMs), as needed.
- Provide requested information and revisions in a timely manner.
- Work with federal monitors or auditors, as needed.
- Establish a process to award and monitor each subaward to ensure that subaward recipients adhere to the financial and administrative rules in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide.
- Complete the DOJ Grants Financial Management training online or in person within 120 days of accepting the federal grant award, unless the fiscal agent award administrator and financial manager have already done so.
- Ensure compliance with all award conditions.

It is recommended that a fiscal agent have experience with overseeing and accounting for funds, especially federal grant funds.

All grant funding decisions must be made by a nonfederal, nonconflicted PSN selection committee. However, in some instances, nonfederal, nonconflicted PSN Team members may determine that the fiscal agent is the most appropriate entity to carry out aspects of the district's PSN grant strategy in addition to administering the grant. In these cases, the fiscal agent can retain PSN funds, in addition to the 10 percent in administrative funds, to support allowable activities associated with implementing the PSN grant strategy. The fiscal agent's grant application and budget must reflect input from the PSN Team, the agreed-upon distribution of funds for all proposed grant project goals, and clear documentation of the decision and team participants.

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

#### **Budget and Associated Documentation: Budget Detail Form**

The applicant will complete the JustGrants budget detail form. The form collects the individual costs under each cost category needed to implement the proposed project. Applicants should ensure that the name/description of each cost is clear and provide the detailed calculation (e.g., cost per unit and number of units) for the total cost. Applicants should enter additional narrative, as needed, to fully describe the cost calculations and connection to the project goals and objectives.

Budget proposals should include the funding needed to implement the proposed activities. In preparing their budget proposals, applicants should consider what types of costs are allowable, if awarded funding. Costs are allowable when they are reasonable, allocable to, and necessary for the performance of the project funded under the federal award and when they comply with the funding statute and agency requirements, including the conditions of the award and the cost principles set out in <u>2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E</u> and the <u>DOJ Grants Financial Guide</u>.

In addition to the unallowable costs identified in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide, award funds may not be used for the following:

- Prizes, rewards, entertainment, trinkets (or any type of monetary incentive)
- Client stipends
- Gift cards
- Food and beverage

**2025 PSN Conference:** Award recipients must reserve travel funds in their budget to support three nonfederal members of the PSN Team to participate in the 2025 PSN Conference. Applicants should estimate these costs based on the transportation and per diem costs for 3 days and 2 nights in the Washington, D.C., area. (**Note:** Conference attendees or their agency will require a separate subaward. Fiscal agents do need to identify those subawards at the time of the application).

**Gang Task Force Set-Aside:** Award recipient must allocate 30 percent of grant funds to the investigation and prosecution of criminal and/or transnational organizations in compliance with the gang task force set-aside requirement outlined in the NOFO.

**Costs Associated With a Conference/Meeting/Training:** An applicant that proposes to use award funds for activities related to a conference, meeting, training, or similar event should review the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for information on prior approval, planning, and reporting costs for a conference/meeting/training.

Costs Associated With Language Assistance and Access: 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 in specific grant programs. Costs to provide reasonable accommodation and facilitate language access for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may also be allowable in specific grant programs. See the <a href="Application Resource-Guide">Application Resource-Guide</a> for information on costs associated with language assistance

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:</u> <u>Budget</u> training.

### **Budget and Associated Documentation: Budget/Financial Attachments**

**Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable):** An applicant with a current, federally approved indirect cost rate agreement should upload it as an attachment in JustGrants.

Indirect costs are costs of an organization that are not readily assignable to a particular project but are necessary for the operation of the organization and the performance of the project. Examples of costs usually treated as indirect include those incurred for operation and maintenance of offices or workspaces and salaries of administrative or support staff. 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. See the <a href="DOJ Grants Financial Guide">DOJ Grants Financial Guide</a> and the <a href="OJP Grant Application Resource Guide">OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</a> for additional information on indirect cost rate agreements.

**Consultant Rate (if applicable):** OJP has established maximum rates for consultants; see the "Listing of Costs Requiring Prior Approval" section of the <u>DOJ Grants Financial Guide</u> for more information. If an applicant proposes a rate for a consultant on their project that is higher than the established maximum rate and receives an award, then the award recipient must submit a document requesting approval for the rate and cannot incur costs at the higher rate without prior OJP approval. The award recipient must provide justification for why the proposed rate is higher than the established maximum rate, such as why the rate is reasonable and consistent with that paid for similar services in the marketplace.

**Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards Over \$250,000; Waiver (if applicable):** This notice of funding opportunity expressly modifies the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide by not incorporating the "Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver" provisions in the "Financial Information" section of the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

#### 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.

#### **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (if applicable)**

For each named partner, applicants should include a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or a letter of intent that confirms the partner's agreement to support the project through commitments of staff time, space, services, or other project needs. MOUs or letters of intent demonstrate the commitment of partner organizations to participate in the project. An MOU is a formalized commitment of staff and/or resources that is signed by authorized representatives of both partner organizations. A letter of intent indicates the organizations' intention to partner, but the details of the commitment have not been fully worked out and officially agreed to.

Each MOU should include the following:

- Names of the organizations involved in the agreement.
- What service(s) and other work will be performed under the agreement by what organization.
- Duration of the agreement.

MOUs should be submitted as one separate attachment to the application.

Unsigned draft MOUs may be submitted with the application, but the applicant should describe in a cover page to the attachment why it is unsigned.

## **Additional Application Components**

The applicant will attach the additional requested documentation in JustGrants.

Fiscal Agent Certification Letter: The applicant will provide a letter to the Bureau of Justice Assistance signed by the applicable United States Attorney (USA) certifying the fiscal agent applicant. If an applicant is a fiscal agent or other entity that has not received the required certification by its local USA, its application will not be considered for funding.

**List of Subaward Recipients (If Known):** The applicant will provide the name, address, and organizational affiliation of all proposed subaward recipients (if known). Note: Including this information in the application does not signify subaward approval. Any subaward made by the fiscal agent must be expressly authorized by BJA via GAM post-award before funds can be obligated for subawards.

**Curriculum Vitae or Resumes (if applicable):** Provide resumes of key personnel who will work on the proposed project, or a description of the experience and skills of key personnel necessary to implement the project.

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.

**Timeline:** Provide a timeline listing key activities and milestones, and the quarters during which they will take place.

#### **Disclosures and Assurances**

The applicant will address the following disclosures and assurances.

**Disclosure of Lobbying Activities:** JustGrants will prompt each applicant to indicate if it is required to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure under 31 U.S.C. § 1352.

The applicant is required by law to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure form (Standard Form/SF-LLL) if it has paid or will pay any person to lobby in connection with the award for which it is applying AND this application is for an award in excess of \$100,000. This disclosure requirement is not applicable to such payments by an Indian Tribe, Tribal organization, or any other Indian organization that are permitted by other federal law.

Lobbying means (for this requirement) influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress. See 31 U.S.C. 1352; 28 C.F.R. part 69. Note: Most applicants do not engage in activities that trigger this disclosure requirement.

An applicant that is not required by law (31 U.S.C. 1352) to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure, should enter "No." By doing so, the applicant is affirmatively asserting (under applicable penalties) that it has nothing to disclose under 31 U.S.C. § 1352 with regard to the application for the award at issue.

**Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items:** To ensure funding coordination across grantmaking agencies, and to avoid unnecessary or inappropriate duplication of grant funding, the applicant must disclose if it has any pending applications for federal funding, including pending applications for subawards of federal funds, for the same project and the same budget items included in this proposal. Complete the JustGrants Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

**DOJ Certified Standard Assurances:** Review and accept the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

**DOJ Certifications:** Review the DOJ document <u>Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law <u>Enforcement and Community Policing.</u> An applicant must review and sign the certification document in JustGrants. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for more information.</u>

Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High-Risk Grantees (if applicable): If applicable, submit the DOJ High-Risk Disclosure and Justification as an attachment in JustGrants. A DOJ high-risk recipient 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 that is otherwise not responsible. See the <a href="Application Resource Guide">Application Resource Guide</a> for additional information.

#### **Submission Dates & Times**

Refer to **Basic Information**: Key Dates for the submission dates and times.

Applicants should submit their applications as early as possible and recommended not later than 48 hours before the deadlines. To be considered timely, the full application must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline. Applicants will use the "Certify and Submit" feature in JustGrants to confirm that all required application components have been entered, which includes identifying the Authorized Representative for the applicant. Once the application is submitted, the Application Submitter, Authorized Representative, and Entity Administrator receive a confirmation email.

An applicant will receive emails after successfully submitting application components in Grants.gov and JustGrants and should retain all emails and other confirmations received from the SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants systems.

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

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. OJP will only consider requests to submit an application via alternative methods or after the deadline when the applicant can document that there is a technical issue with a government system that was beyond their control and that prevents submission of the application via the standard process prior to the deadlines. Issues resulting from circumstances within the applicant's control, such as failure to begin the SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants registration and application process in sufficient time, will not be considered.

Requests and documentation must be sent to the OJP Response Center at grants@ncjrs.gov. Applicants should follow these steps if they experience a technical issue:

1. Contact the relevant help desk to report the issue and receive a tracking number.

See <u>Basic Information: Contact Information</u> for the phone numbers, email addresses, and operating hours of the SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants help desks. Reports of technical issues to the help desk must occur **before** the application deadline.

If an applicant calls the help desk and experiences a long wait time, they can also email the help desk to obtain a tracking number. Tracking numbers are generated automatically when an applicant emails the applicable service desk, and for this reason, long call wait times for support do not relieve the applicant of the responsibility of getting a tracking number.

- 2. If an applicant has technical issues with SAM.gov or Grants.gov, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center at grants@ncjrs.gov within 24 hours of the Grants.gov deadline to request approval to submit after the deadline. The applicant's request will need to include:
  - A description of the technical difficulties experienced (provide screenshots if applicable).
  - 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).

- An attachment of the complete grant application and all the required documentation and materials (this serves as a "manual" submission of the application).
- The applicant's unique entity identifier (UEI).
- Any SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants Service Desk tracking/ticket numbers documenting the technical issue.
- 3. If an applicant has technical issues with JustGrants that prevent application submission by the deadline, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center at grants@ncjrs.gov within 24 hours of the JustGrants deadline to request approval to submit after the deadline. See step 2 for the list of information the applicant must provide as part of its request.

As a reminder: 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. 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 previously listed), 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 Technical Issues" section in the Application Resource Guide.

## **APPLICATION REVIEW**

#### **Review Process and Criteria**

OJP will review applications to ensure the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, achievable, and consistent with the goals of the funding opportunity. See the <a href="OJP Grant Application Resource Guide">OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</a> for information on the application review process for formula grants.

#### **Risk Review**

Pursuant to the Part 200 Uniform Requirements, before award decisions are made, OJP also reviews information related to applicant risk. OJP assesses whether an applicant with one or more prior federal awards has a satisfactory record of performance, integrity, and business ethics, including by (among other things) checking whether the applicant is listed in SAM.gov as excluded from receiving a federal award.

Depending on the severity and nature of the risk factors, the risk assessment may result in additional post-award conditions and oversight for any awarded applicant.

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 may review and comment on any information about its organization 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.

#### **Selection Process**

All final award decisions will be made by the Assistant Attorney General, unless a statute explicitly authorizes award decisions by another official or there is written delegation of authority to another official. This official may consider not only program office recommendations but also other factors as indicated in the "Application Review" section. For additional information on the application review process, see the Application Resource Guide.



Award notifications are usually sent by September 30 (the end of the current federal fiscal year). For successful applicants, JustGrants will send a system-generated email to the Application Submitter, Authorized Representative, and

Entity Administrator with information on accessing their official award package in JustGrants. The award package will include key information (such as funding amount and period of performance) as well as award conditions that must be followed. An authorized representative for the entity should accept or decline the award within 45 days of the notification. See the <a href="Application Resource Guide">Application Resource Guide</a> for information on award notifications and instructions.



## POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

## Reporting

All award recipients under this funding opportunity will be required to submit the following reports and data:

- Quarterly financial reports.
- Quarterly performance reports.
- Final financial and performance reports.
- If applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with the Part 200 Uniform Requirements or specific award conditions.

See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measure data and the method for submitting reports in OJP's online systems. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent (in appropriate cases, OJP may require additional reports).

## **Performance Measure Reporting**

Award recipients are required to submit performance measure data in the Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) quarterly and separately submit a semi-annual performance report in JustGrants. Applicants selected for an award will receive further guidance on post-award reporting processes.

## **Program- and Award-Specific Award Conditions**

OJP includes various conditions on its awards. These may include program-specific conditions, which typically apply to all recipients of a funding opportunity, and award-specific conditions, which are included to address recipient-specific issues (e.g., programmatic or financial risk). Recipients may view all conditions, and actions required to satisfy those conditions, in the award package in JustGrants.

## 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 the award recipient from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disability in how it delivers its program's services or benefits and in its employment practices. The civil rights laws that may be applicable to the award include, but are not limited to, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the nondiscrimination provisions of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of

1968, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. These and other federal civil rights laws are discussed in greater detail on OJP's <u>Legal Overview—FY 2025 Awards</u> webpage under the "Civil Rights Requirements" section. Additional resources are available from the <u>OJP Office for Civil Rights</u>.

Complying with civil rights laws that prohibit national origin discrimination includes the requirement that recipients and subrecipients take reasonable steps to ensure that people with limited English proficiency (LEP) have meaningful access to a recipient's programs and activities. An individual with LEP is one whose first language is not English and who has a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English. DOJ offers resources to help recipients meet this requirement, including <u>Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons</u>; a <u>language access assessment and planning tool</u> with <u>commonly asked questions</u>; and additional resources on <u>the Office of Justice Programs' Office for Civil Rights website</u>.

Faith-based organizations may apply for this award on the same basis as any other organization subject to the protections and requirements of 28 C.F.R. Part 38 and any applicable constitutional and statutory requirements, including 42 U.S.C. 2000bb et seq. The Department of Justice will not, in the selection of recipients, discriminate for or against an organization on the basis of the organization's religious character, motives, or affiliation, or lack thereof, or on the basis of conduct that would not be considered grounds to favor or disfavor a similarly situated secular organization. A faith-based organization that participates in this funded program will retain its independence from the Government and may continue to carry out its mission consistent with religious freedom and conscience protections in federal law. An organization may not use direct federal financial assistance from the Department of Justice to support or engage in any explicitly religious activities except when consistent with the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment and any other applicable requirements. An organization receiving federal financial assistance also may not, in providing services funded by the Department of Justice, or in their outreach activities related to such services, discriminate against a program beneficiary or prospective program beneficiary on the basis of religion, a religious belief, a refusal to hold a religious belief, or a refusal to attend or participate in a religious practice.

#### 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 set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.303, comply with standards for financial and program management. See the <u>Application Resource</u> Guide for additional information.

#### **Information Technology Security Clauses**

An application in response to this NOFO may require inclusion of information related to information technology security. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for more information.

#### **Other Reporting Requirements**

Applicants and recipients are required to notify OJP if you know that you or any of your organization's principals for the award transaction are presently excluded or disqualified (i.e., debarred or suspended) or otherwise meet any of the criteria in 2 C.F.R. 180.335. Recipients must comply with requirements in 2 C.F.R. Part 180, as implemented by DOJ in 2 C.F.R. Part

2867, which, among other things, require recipients to check certain information sources and, in some cases, notify the federal awarding agency prior to the agency awarding federal funds via contracts or subawards.

If a recipient's award includes a federal share of more than \$500,000 over the period of performance of the award, then the award (per 2 C.F.R. 200.113) will include a condition that may require the recipient to report and maintain certain information (relating to certain criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings) in SAM.gov. See <a href="https://www.ojp.gov/funding/explore/legaloverview2025/otherrequirements">https://www.ojp.gov/funding/explore/legaloverview2025/otherrequirements</a> for more information.



### **OTHER INFORMATION**

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

OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the projects and activities funded under this NOFO. For additional information on what should be included in the application, see the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> section "Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities."

#### Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

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

Applicants are advised not to include any unnecessary personally identifiable information, sensitive law enforcement information, or confidential financial information with the application.

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

See the Application Resource Guide for information on how to provide feedback to OJP.



## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

#### **Project Safe Neighborhoods Formula Grant Program**

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.

#### SAM.gov Registration/Renewal

• Confirm that your entity's registration in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) is active through the NOFO period; submit a new or renewal registration in SAM.gov, if needed (see Application Resource Guide).

#### **Grants.gov Registration**

- 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).

#### **Grants.gov Opportunity Search**

- 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 under "OJP Application Submission Steps" in the Application Resource Guide).
- Sign up for Grants.gov email notifications (optional) (see Application Resource Guide).

### **Funding Opportunity Review and Project Planning**

- Review all sections of the NOFO.
- Confirm your entity is eligible to receive funding (see <u>Eligibility: Eligible Applicants</u>).
- Confirm your proposed budget is within the allowable limits (see Basic Information: Funding Details), includes only allowable costs (see Application Contents, Submission Requirements, and Deadlines: Budget Detail Form), and includes cost sharing if applicable (see Program Description: Cost Sharing/Match Requirements).
- Review the performance measures for this funding opportunity and confirm you will be prepared to collect and report on this data (see Program Description: Performance Measures).
- Review the "Legal Overview—FY 2025 Awards" in the OJP Funding Resource Center and confirm you are prepared to follow the requirements.
- Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting under "Listing of Costs Requiring Prior Approval" in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide or see the Application Resource Guide.

#### **Submission Step 1: Grants.gov**

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

- Complete and submit the SF-424 by the deadline.
- Confirm Section 8F of the SF-424 lists the name and contact information of the individual who will complete the application in JustGrants.

Application Application Basic Eligibility Program Award Post-Award Other **Application** Information Description Submission Review **Notices** Requirements Information Checklist

- Submit documents for Intergovernmental Review (if applicable).
- Confirm that, within 48 hours of your submission in Grants.gov, you receive four (4) Grants.gov email notifications:
  - A submission receipt
  - A validation receipt
  - A grantor agency retrieval receipt
  - o An agency tracking number assignment
- If no Grants.gov receipt and validation email is received, or if error notifications are received, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, or <a href="mailto:support@grants.gov">support@grants.gov</a> regarding technical difficulties (see the <a href="mailto:Application">Application</a> Resource Guide section on "Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues").
- Confirm that, within 24 hours after receipt of confirmation emails from Grants.gov, the individual listed in Section 8F of the SF-424 receives an email from JustGrants with login instructions.

### **Submission Step 2: JustGrants**

- Complete the following information:
  - Entity and User Verification (first-time applicants)
  - Standard Applicant Information
  - Proposal Abstract
  - Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)
- Upload the Proposal Narrative.
- Complete the budget detail form.
- Upload the other budget/financial attachments, as applicable.
- Upload additional application components, as applicable.
- Complete the required disclosures and assurances:
  - Disclosure of Lobbying Activities and submission of SF-LLL, if prompted by the system
  - Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items
  - DOJ Certified Standard Assurances
  - Applicant Disclosure and Justification DOJ High-Risk Grantees
- Complete the required DOJ Certification on Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing.

#### JustGrants Review, Certification, and Application Submission

- Address any validation errors displayed on screen after attempted submission, then return to the "Certify and Submit" screen to submit the application.
- Note the confirmation message 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 an 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.