# FY 2024 PAUL COVERDELL FORENSIC SCIENCE IMPROVEMENT GRANTS PROGRAM – COMPETITIVE

| **Who May Apply:** | • State governments through State Administering Agencies (SAAs)  
• City or township, and county governments |
| **Why Apply:** | Receive funding to improve forensic science and medical examiner/coroner services—including services provided by forensic science laboratories operated by states and units of local government—and improve timeliness of services, and reduce forensic analysis backlogs. |
| **Maximum per Award:** | Up to $500,000 per award |
| **BJA encourages the following entities to apply:** | • Agencies that have not previously received BJA funding.  
• Convening or governing bodies that can apply on behalf of one or more entities. |
| **Examples of strategies/activities that can be funded:** | • Improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science or medical examiner/coroner services.  
• Eliminate any backlog in the analysis of forensic science evidence.  
• Train, assist, and employ forensic laboratory personnel and medicolegal death investigators.  
• Address emerging forensic science issues and technology.  
• Educate and train forensic pathologists.  
• Facilitate accreditation.  
• Address the specific challenges related to the proliferation of opioids and synthetic drugs. |
| **Where to get more information about this opportunity:** | Visit [https://bja.ojp.gov/program/coverdell/overview](https://bja.ojp.gov/program/coverdell/overview) for more information about the program and [https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/o-bja-2024-172111](https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/o-bja-2024-172111) for full funding information. |
Tips for Success:

- **Start early!** To apply, you must first have a valid registration in the System for Award Management (SAM). **Registration and renewal can take up to 10 business days** to complete. Register at: [sam.gov/content/home](https://sam.gov/).

- For questions about the program’s requirements or the application process, see the full solicitation at: [https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/O-BJA-2024-172111.pdf](https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/O-BJA-2024-172111.pdf) for information on who to contact.

- Visit **BJA Funding Webinars** at [bja.ojp.gov/events/funding-webinars](https://bja.ojp.gov/events/funding-webinars) and review the “Federal Funding Process: First Steps to Applying, How to Prepare Now, and Other Considerations.”

- **Subscribe** for email notifications from BJA about funding opportunities and other news at: [bja.ojp.gov/subscribe-newsfrombja](https://bja.ojp.gov/subscribe-newsfrombja).

- To be in the know about funding opportunities across the Office of Justice Programs, sign up to receive **JUSTINFO** at: [www.ojp.gov/news/justinfo](https://www.ojp.gov/news/justinfo) and/or the weekly **Funding News** at: [public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDOJOJP_COMMS/subscriber/new?topic_id=USDOJOJP_COMMS_25](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDOJOJP_COMMS/subscriber/new?topic_id=USDOJOJP_COMMS_25).

How to apply and when:

Submit a two-step application.

1. **Register in** [Grants.gov](https://grants.gov/) and follow the prompts to submit two forms by June 24, 2024.

2. Then complete the full application in [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](https://justgrants.usdoj.gov) by July 1, 2024. The application’s major elements are:

   - The **proposal abstract** that summarizes the problem you wish to address with your project (no more than 400 words).

   - The **proposal narrative** that describes your project’s strategies, activities, and major deliverables as well as your capacity to address the problem.

   - The **web-based budget** form that details how you will allocate the grant funds by task, date, and responsible person.

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**ABOUT BJA**

BJA helps America’s state, local, and tribal jurisdictions reduce and prevent crime, lower recidivism, and promote a fair and safe criminal justice system. BJA provides a wide range of resources—including grants, funding, and training and technical assistance—to law enforcement, courts and corrections agencies, treatment providers, reentry practitioners, justice information sharing professionals, and community-based partners to address chronic and emerging criminal justice challenges nationwide. To learn more about BJA, visit [bja.ojp.gov](https://bja.ojp.gov) or follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/DOJBJA](https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA)) and X (@DOJBJA). BJA is a component of the Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs.