BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: FY 2024 SECOND CHANCE ACT COMMUNITY-BASED REENTRY INCUBATOR INITIATIVE

BJA

Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

Presenter

- **Andre Bethea – Senior Policy Advisor**

Agenda

Welcome and Introduction to OJP and BJA

Program Overview

Eligibility and Application Requirements

Application Resources

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

What is the Office of Justice Programs?

- The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) provides grant funding, training, research, and statistics to the criminal justice community.

- OJP is one of three grant-making components of the Department of Justice along with the **Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)** and the **Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)**.

BJA – Bureau of Justice Assistance

BJS – Bureau of Justice Statistics

NIJ – National Institute of Justice

OVC – Office for Victims of Crime

OJJDP – Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

SMART – Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking

U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance

Mission: BJA's mission is to provide leadership and services in grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support state, local, and tribal justice strategies to achieve safer communities. BJA works with communities, governments, and nonprofit organizations to reduce crime, recidivism, and unnecessary confinement, and promote a safe and fair criminal justice system.

Karhlton F. Moore, BJA Director

https://bja.ojp.gov/

How BJA Supports the Field

Investments

Provide diverse funding to accomplish goals.

Sharing Knowledge

Research, develop, and deliver what works to build capacity and improve outcomes.
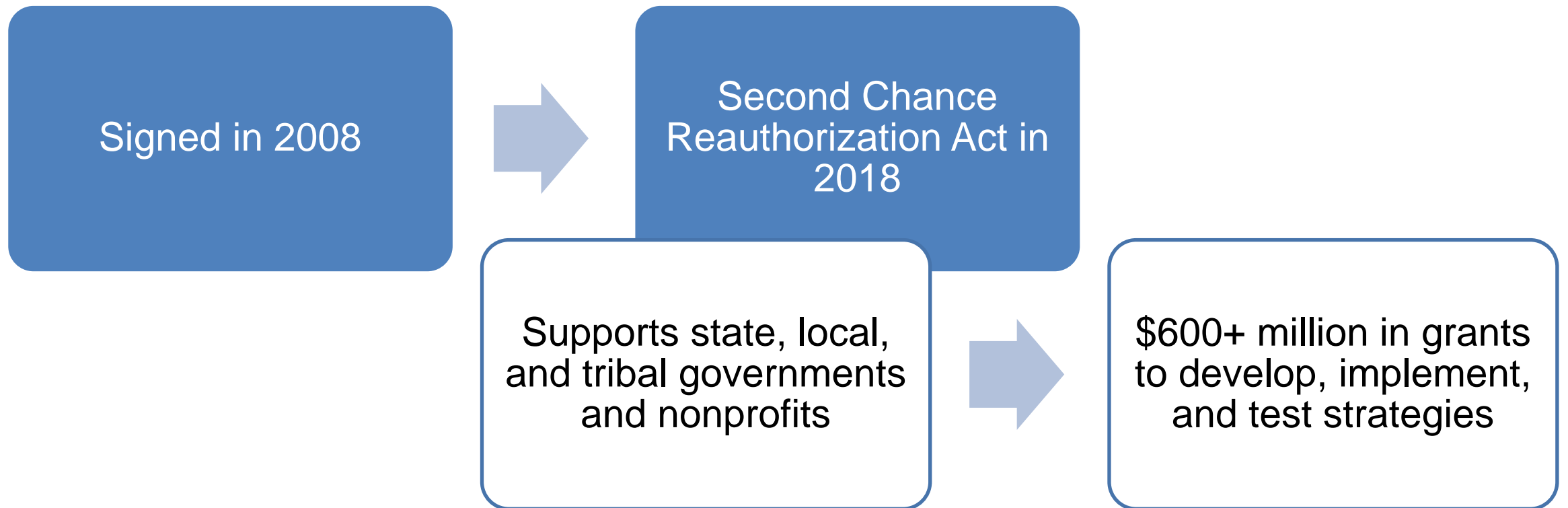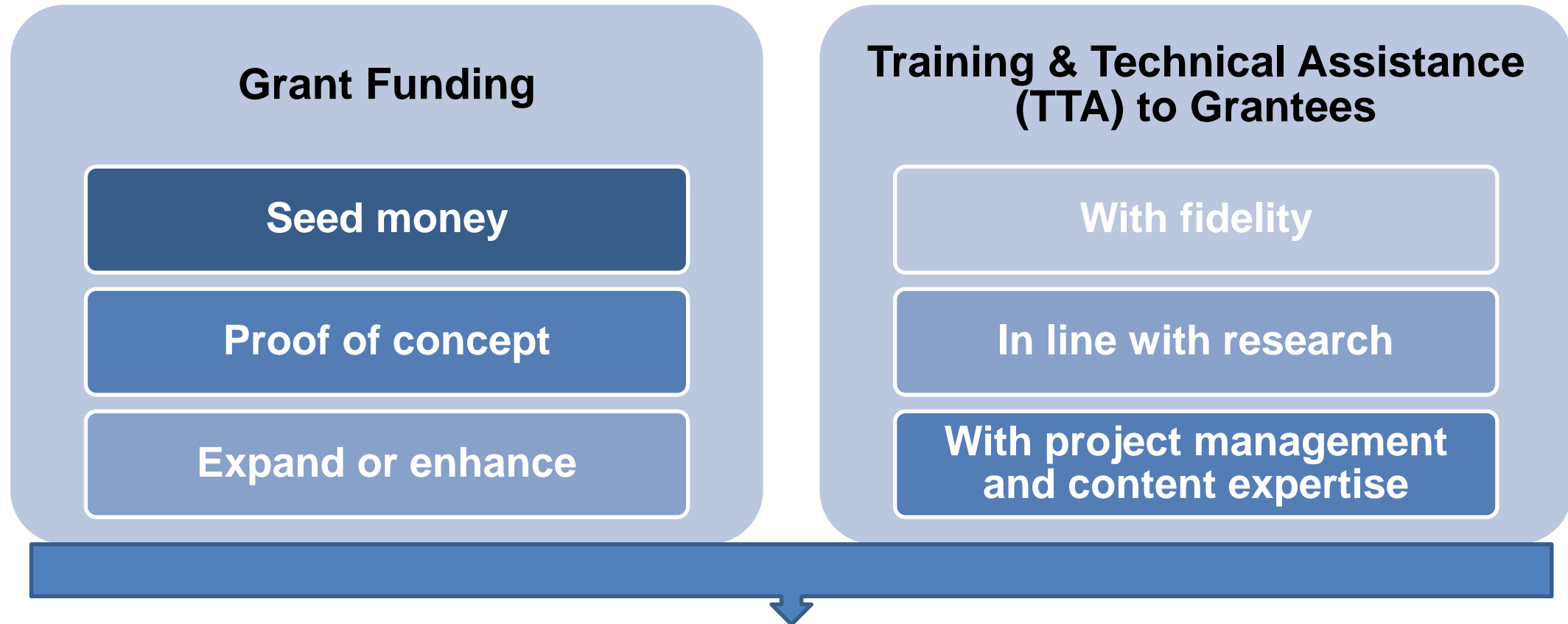
Engagement

Consult, connect, and convene.

The Second Chance Act (SCA)

Funding to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for youth and adults leaving detention and incarceration to return to their communities.

Signed in 2008 → Second Chance Reauthorization Act in 2018

Supports state, local, and tribal governments and nonprofits → $600+ million in grants to develop, implement, and test strategies

BJA SCA Funding

Grant Funding

- **Seed money**
- **Proof of concept**
- **Expand or enhance**

Training & Technical Assistance (TTA) to Grantees

- **With fidelity**
- **In line with research**
- **With project management and content expertise**

National Reentry Resource Center to support SCA TTA providers and the reentry field.

The National Reentry Resource Center (NRRC)

The Council of State Governments Justice Center operates the NRRC as a collaborative project of BJA and OJJDP.

The primary mission of the NRRC is to advance the knowledge base of the reentry field.

The NRRC serves as a convener and coordinator of SCA grantees.
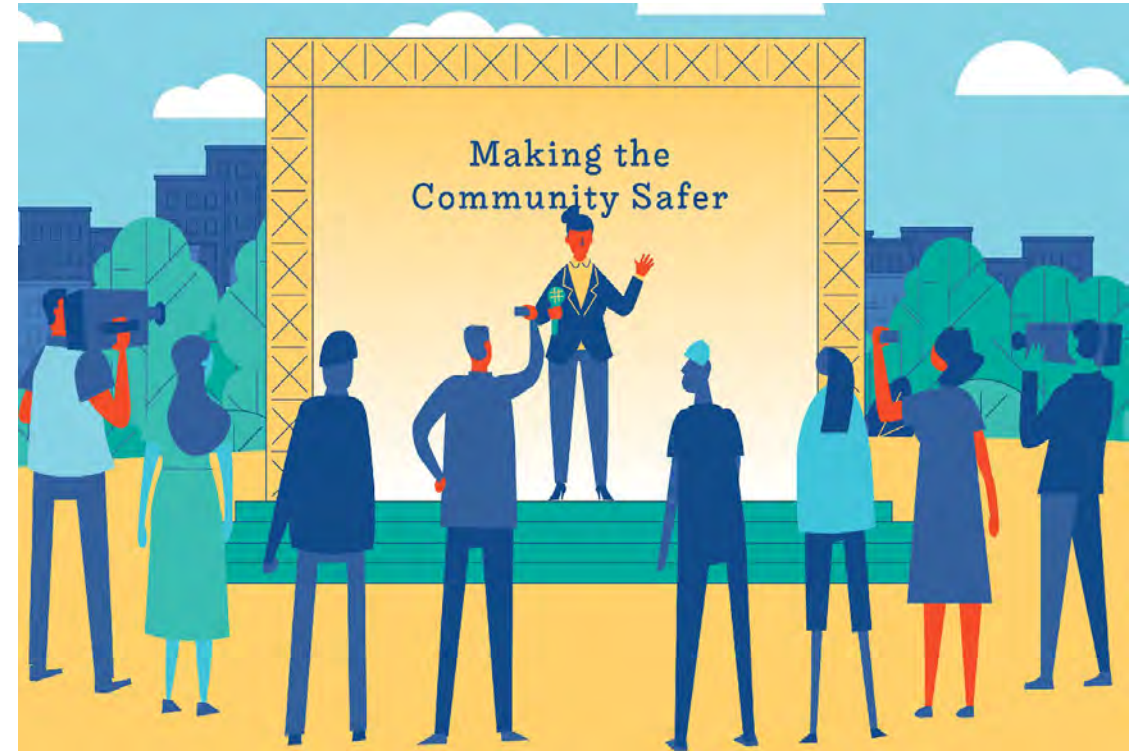
SECTION 2

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

SCA Community-based Reentry Incubator Initiative

The purpose of the SCA Community-based Reentry Incubator Initiative is to fund intermediary organizations ("awardees") to operate incubator models to build capability, capacity, and sustainability among community- and faith-based organizations ("subawardees") that are serving people returning home from incarceration.

SCA Community-based Reentry Incubator Initiative

Through this solicitation, BJA seeks to fund organizations that serve as financial intermediaries to community-based reentry programs (subawardees) and to provide support via an incubator model that will increase capability and capacity within the subawardees' organizations.

Deadlines:
- **Grants.gov**
  July 8, 2024
  8:59 p.m. ET
- **JustGrants**
  July 15, 2024
  8:59 p.m. ET

SCA Community-based Reentry Incubator Initiative
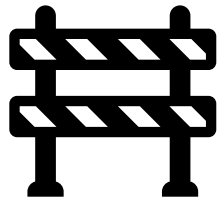
- Community- and faith-based organizations (CBOs) provide critical reentry services for people returning from incarceration to their communities, yet many CBOs face significant barriers directly accessing and managing federal grants.
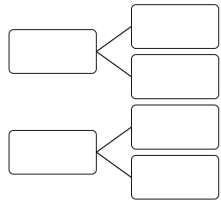
- BJA seeks to fund up to two intermediary organizations that will design and administer a competitive incubator initiative for community- and faith-based reentry providers.

- These intermediary organizations will provide subawards, oversight, and comprehensive TTA services to help build capability, capacity, and sustainability among CBO subawardees to meet the needs of people returning home from incarceration and to apply for and manage private and public grant funding in the future.

SECTION 3

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

SCA Community-based Reentry Incubator Initiative

- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education are eligible to apply.
- For this solicitation, awardees are CBOs that are experienced at delivering reentry services, managing federal grants, administering subawards, and training others to do the same.
- Awardees will operate incubators – learning communities where subawardees can learn and grow – to help smaller CBOs enhance the delivery of reentry services and their operation management.
- Awardees will also have a fiscal and administrative oversight of subawardees funding and projects.

SCA Community-based Reentry Incubator Initiative

- Applicant should submit proposals to operate incubators and describe their experience with reentry programming across a variety of settings, managing federal subawards, and building capacity of CBOs to implement reentry programming.
- BJA is open to a range of models to be used by intermediary organizations serving as fiscal agents.
- Applicants may propose to focus on a particular geographic area (e.g., region), or subject matter (e.g., employment).
- In collaboration with BJA, Awardees are expected to competitively select CBOs to receive subawards and provide TTA support for subawardees to build capacity their capacity and sustain those new capacities following the end of the project.

Subawards

The applicant should propose:

- A pass-through amount for the subawardees
- An administrative amount to be retained by the applicant
- An amount to contract and manage a process or outcomes evaluation, if applicable

BJA expects awardees to retain 30 percent of their budget to support their work as intermediaries and pass the other 70 percent to competitively selected subawardees.

- For example, if the applicant applies for the maximum amount of $4,000,000, BJA would expect the grantee to provide $2,800,000 to the subawardees.

The subawards are expected to range between $50,000 and $150,000.

Subawards

Plans

- Applicants are encouraged to include plans and proposed criteria in their proposals for identifying and selecting the subrecipients.

Approval

- OJP must approve the application process, selection criteria, and selection of subrecipients suggested by the applicant.

Capacity

- The process and design should recognize and serve the capacity limitations of smaller entities to apply for and administer grant funding and suggest methods to build capacity while also ensuring accountability to reach the desired program outcomes, while also proposing cost-effective approaches.

Subawards

Subawards to CBOs may cover:

$ Salary support

✈   Equipment, materials, training opportunities, and travel costs associated with TTA

📄   Development of curricula, assessment tools, or organizational policies and procedures, such as wellness plans, to support reentry service provider staff

In administering financial support to CBOs through subawards, intermediary organizations are responsible for ensuring that all funds are used appropriately according to the applicable accounting and financial management principles as set forth in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide. The requirements for subrecipient monitoring can be found in 31 U.S.C. § 7502 and in Title 2 C.F.R. § 200 (including, but not limited to, the sections on "Subrecipient Monitoring and Management" contained in Subpart D and audit requirements applicable to subrecipients contained in Subpart F).

Goal

Build programmatic, financial, and organizational capacity in CBOs and faith-based institutions to provide sustainable and effective services to people leaving incarceration that focus on community and family reintegration, building strengths-based assets, and reducing recidivism (including reducing arrests, new charges, convictions for new offenses, and reincarceration).

Objectives

Increase the administrative, operational, and organizational capacity of subawardees to serve the target population effectively using comprehensive case management plans and validated criminogenic risk assessments to deliver or facilitate reentry services in a manner consistent with participants' learning styles and abilities.

Ensure the responsible and effective administration of subawards to competitively selected CBOs providing reentry services to individuals transitioning from jail or prison to the community.

Deliverables Expected by Successful Applicants

Develop, in collaboration with BJA, a solicitation or request for proposals with agreed-upon selection criteria and in accordance with OJP regulations.

Develop, market, and host, in collaboration with BJA, a pre-application webinar for potential applicants.

Conduct a CBO selection process, in collaboration with BJA, to identify and award the subawards.

Deliverables

Once the subawards are made, the award recipients will:

- Conduct meetings with CBOs on a periodic basis and memorialize the proceedings with meeting notes, transcripts, and/or recordings.

- Complete capacity needs assessments for each participating CBO and work with the CBO to prepare a capacity development plan that is tailored to its current capacity and resources. This includes building bandwidth for sustainability after the subaward and competency to access new funding. The capacity development plan will guide the CBO and it will be reviewed and updated, as necessary, during the incubator project period..

- Work with every subawardee to build capacity for ensuring participants' criminogenic needs are met and that strength-based services and outcomes are provided and captured.

- Conduct regional and/or topical meetings for the subawards on common issue areas. These meetings should include existing subject matter experts and material from DOJ programs and initiatives.

Deliverables

- Provide content to the NRRC to post online for subawardees and other interested parties to search and access any knowledge products (e.g., reports, research briefs, webinars, or podcasts) created by the award recipient(s) and other relevant, existing knowledge products related to reentry service provision and capacity enhancement.

- If applicable, submit a final process evaluation report that includes:
  - Clear summary description of the reentry services supported by the subawards;
  - An assessment of the CBOs ability to identify and serve people in reentry at moderate to high risk of recidivism and/or service capacity enhancement outcomes;
  - Identification of promising or effective practices;
  - Lessons learned and challenges encountered; and
  - Recommendations for future program capacity development. This report should emphasize an evidence-informed assessment framework that is attentive to the contextual factors at the participating CBOs.

Priority Considerations Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government

1A: Applications that propose project(s) that are designed to meaningfully advance equity and remove barriers to accessing services and opportunities for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization.

1B: Applicants that demonstrate that their capabilities and competencies for implementing their proposed project(s) are enhanced because they (or at least one proposed subrecipient that will receive at least 40% of the requested award funding, as demonstrated in the Budget Web-Based Form) are a population specific organization that serves communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization.

Additional Statutory Priority Consideration

As articulated in the SCA, priority consideration will be given to applications that provide for an independent process and outcome evaluation.

To receive priority consideration, applicants must specify, in the proposal narrative, how they will address the priority consideration(s).

Applicants seeking statutory priority consideration should budget no more than 10 percent of the federal requested amount to contract and manage an independent process and outcome evaluation

Addressing these priority areas is one of many factors that OJP considers in making funding decisions. Receiving priority consideration for one or more priority areas does not guarantee an award.

Review Criteria

Applications that meet the basic minimum requirements will be evaluated by peer reviewers on:

Statement of the Problem/Description of the Issue (15%)

Project Design and Implementation (35%)

Capabilities and Competencies (25%)

Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (15%)

Budget (10%)

SECTION 4

APPLICATION RESOURCES

https://www.ojp.gov/funding/apply/ojp-grant-application-resource-guide

https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/

Application Assistance

Grants.gov

- Provides technical assistance with submitting the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL.**
  - **Customer Support Hotline**
    - 800–518–4726 or 606–545–5035
    - Operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.
  - **Web and Email**
    - https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html
    - support@grants.gov
- Provides information on available federal funding opportunities for various federal agencies.

JustGrants Technical Support

Provides technical assistance with submitting the full application in DOJ's Justice Grants System (JustGrants).

- **Customer Support Hotline:**
  - 833–872–5175
  - Monday – Friday between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. ET
  - Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. ET
- **Web and Email**
  - https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/user-support
  - JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov

Email Updates

Text OJP [your email address] to 468-311 to subscribe.

(Message and data rates may apply.)

https://www.ojp.gov/subscribe

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- **Facebook:** https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA

- **X:** https://x.com/DOJBJA

- **YouTube:** https://www.youtube.com/dojbja

- Use the QR code to subscribe to **"Justice Matters" and "News From BJA"** to receive the latest information from BJA and the field.

- For information on funding opportunities, publications, and initiatives, visit **BJA's website:** www.bja.ojp.gov.
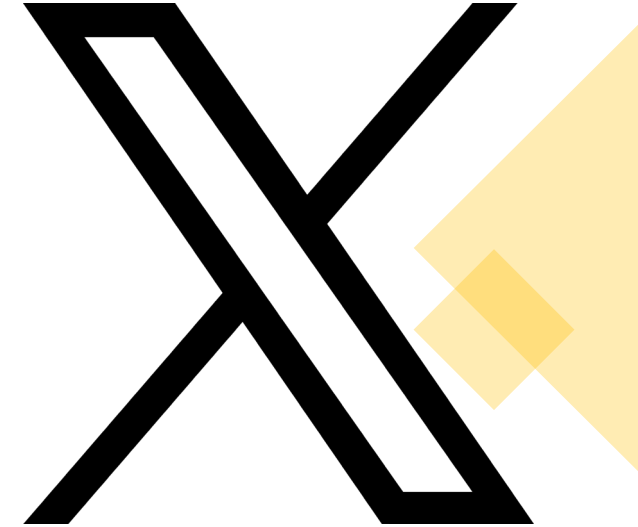
Additional Questions?

Contact the **OJP Response Center**:

- Email: grants@ncjrs.gov
- Toll free: 800–851–3420
- TTY: 301–240–6310 (hearing impaired only)

The Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday.

Reminder: Dual Deadlines

Applications must be submitted in a two-step process, each with its own deadline:

- Step 1: Submit an SF-424 and an SF-LLL at Grants.gov.

- Step 2: Submit the full application, with attachments, at JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov.

NOTE: Submission deadline times for both Grants.gov and JustGrants are now 8:59 p.m. ET, not 11:59 p.m. ET as in past years.

Read the solicitation carefully for further guidance.

Quick Reference: Important Contacts

For technical assistance submitting the SF-424 and SF-LLL into Grants.Gov, **call:** 800–518–4726 or 606–545–5035, 24 hours a day, or **email:** support@grants.gov.

For technical assistance submitting the **full application** into JustGrants, **call:** 833–872–5175, 7–9 ET, M–F, and 9–5 ET, weekends and holidays, or **email:** JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov.

For technical assistance with the programmatic requirements, **call the OJP Response Center**: 800–851–3420, 10–6 ET, M–F, or **email:** grants@ncjrs.gov.