

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

BJA FY 2025 Rural Law Enforcement Violent Crime Reduction Initiative Notice of Funding Opportunity

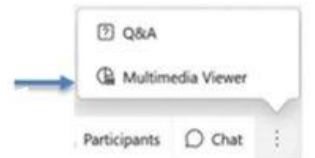
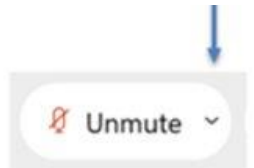
May 5, 2026



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Important Information for Today's Webinar

- **Having difficulties hearing?** Click the **caret** next to the **Mute/Unmute** icon to make adjustments or call in to the Webex from your phone.
- **Live-captioning:** Click on **Multimedia Viewer** to access.
- **Questions about the presentation?** Use the **Q&A box** to submit questions any time during the presentation. Questions will be answered at the end of the presentation.





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Presenter

- **Juliana Palmer**
Policy Advisor
- **Erin Feeley**
Grants Management Specialist

Agenda

- OJP Overview
- Program Overview
- NOFO Information
- OJP Funding Process Overview
- Application Resources
- Q&A



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OJP Overview

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



Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Assistance

BJA strengthens the Nation's criminal justice system and helps America's state, local, and tribal jurisdictions reduce and prevent crime, reduce recidivism, and promote a fair and safe criminal justice system.

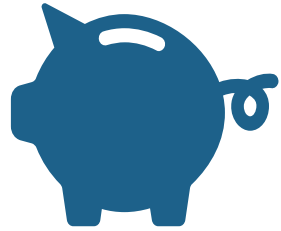


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<https://bja.ojp.gov/>

Tammie M. Gregg
Acting Director

How BJA Supports the Field



Investments

Provide funding to accomplish goals.



Sharing Knowledge

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



Engagement

Connect with the field.





Poll Question

Has your organization applied for OJP grants before?

My organization has applied for and received OJP grants.

My organization has applied for but not been awarded an OJP grant.

My organization has not applied for an OJP grant, but we've had other federal grants.

My organization is new to OJP grants and looking to learn more!



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Program Overview



Program Overview

Rural jurisdictions often encounter scarce resources and personnel to prevent, respond to, and reduce violent crime. This program supports rural law enforcement agencies and prosecutors' offices in their efforts to combat violent crime through the implementation of a violent crime reduction strategy.

yacobchuk/istockphoto.com



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Purpose of the Funding

- **Technological Enhancements to Reduce Violent Crime**
Investing in hardware, software, communications systems, intelligence centers, and equipment.
- **Personnel, Tactics, and Training to Reduce Violent Crime**
Identifying those geographic areas or suspects that are the greatest problems and applying resources accordingly.
- **Investing in Partnerships to Reduce Violent Crime**
Expanding on current traditional/governmental partnerships.
- **Data Analytics and Intelligence**
Operationalizing analytics through officers' everyday activities.



lpuwadol/shutterstock.com



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Unallowable Uses of Funds

NOFO

Unallowable Uses of Funds

The following are certain unallowable costs and certain activities that are out of the program scope and will not be funded.

1. Out of program scope is any program or activity, at any tier that, directly or indirectly, violates (or promotes or facilitates the violation of) federal immigration law (including 8 U.S.C. § 1373) or impedes or hinders the enforcement of federal immigration law—including by failing to comply with 8 U.S.C. § 1373, give access to DHS agents, or honor DHS requests and provide requested notice to DHS agents.
2. Out of program scope is any program or activity, at any tier that violates any applicable Federal civil rights or nondiscrimination law. This includes violations that— (1) indirectly violate the law, including by promoting or facilitating violations; or (2) unlawfully favor individuals in any race or protected group, including on a majority or minority, or privileged or unprivileged, basis, within a given area, population, or sector.
3. As specified in the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#), in Chapter 3.13 “Unallowable Costs” (“Legal Services for Aliens”), any obligations of funds, at any tier, under this award to provide (or to support the provision of) legal services to any removable alien or any alien otherwise unlawfully present in the United States shall be unallowable costs for purposes any award made under this notice, but the foregoing shall not be understood to apply— (1) to legal services to obtain protection orders for victims of crime; or (2) to immigration-related legal services that may be expressly authorized or required by any law, or any judicial ruling, governing or applicable to the award.

DOJ Grants Financial Guide

Legal Services for Aliens

Except as indicated in the following sentence, costs of providing legal services (that is, professional services of the kind lawfully provided only by individuals licensed to practice law) to any removable alien (see 8 U.S.C. § 1229a(e)(2)) or any alien otherwise unlawfully present in the United States are disallowed and may not be charged against the award.

Costs for legal services disallowed under the preceding sentence do not include costs for legal services— (1) to obtain protection orders for victims of crime (including associated or related orders (e.g., custody orders), arising from the victimization); (2) that are associated with or relate to actions under 18 U.S.C. ch. 77 (peonage, slavery, and trafficking in persons); (3) to obtain T-visas, U-visas, or “continued presence” immigration status (see, e.g., 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(T) & (U); 22 U.S.C. § 7105(c)(3)(A)); or (4) as to which such disallowance would contravene any express requirement of any law, or of any judicial ruling, governing or applicable to the award.

<https://www.ojp.gov/funding/financialguidedo>



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Agency Funding Priorities

- (a) Directly supporting law enforcement operations (including immigration law enforcement operations)
- (b) Combatting violent crime
- (c) Supporting services to American citizens
- (d) Protecting American children
- (e) Supporting American victims of trafficking and sexual assault
- (f) State/local law enforcement efforts that are coordinated with federal law enforcement efforts





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NOFO Information

Federal Award Information

Anticipated amount of funding

- \$5,838,546

Anticipated number of awards to be funded

- 15

Period of performance start date

- June 1, 2026

Period of performance duration

- 36 months

Anticipated maximum dollar amount per award

- \$400,000



Eligible Applicants

Government Entities

- State governments
- County governments
- City or township governments
- Special district governments
- Native American Tribal governments (federally recognized)

Other

- Other units of local government

Additional Eligibility Requirements

- Applicant must demonstrate that it proposes to serve a rural area or rural community.

A rural area or rural community is defined by 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(32) to mean:

- (a) any area or community, respectively, no part of which is within an area designated as a standard metropolitan statistical area by the Office of Management and Budget;
 - (b) any area or community, respectively, that is
 - (i) within an area designated as a metropolitan statistical area or considered as part of a metropolitan statistical area; and
 - (ii) located in a rural census tract; or
 - (c) any federally recognized Indian Tribe.
- Information on the required documentation is provided in the Eligibility section.
 - Mandatory Certification by the Chief Executive Officer (or senior official)

Mandatory Certification by the Chief Executive Officer (or senior official)



Required for State and Local Government Applicants


- All state and local government applicants **must** submit using the **Appendix 1** template.
- **Applications missing this certification will not proceed to peer review.**

Certification

- The applicant entity – including its officials and personnel – certifies compliance with 8 U.S.C. §§ 1373 and 1644 in any “*program or activity*” receiving federal financial assistance under any award made by OJP pursuant to this application.
- Subrecipients must also comply with 8 U.S.C. §§ 1373 and 1644.

Certification Submission Steps

01



Download/Print and Sign Certification

- Download/print Certification Form
 - Fill in required information
 - Signed by the Chief Executive Officer
- Blank certification form located at end of NOFO (Appendix 1)

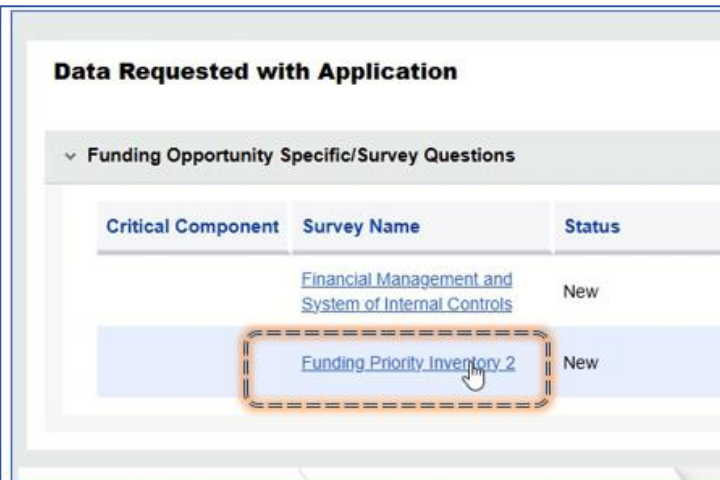
Basic Information	Eligibility	Program Description	Application Submission	Application Review	Award Notices	Post-Award Requirements	Other Information	Application Checklist
<p>Appendix 1</p> <p>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS</p> <p><u>Certification by the Chief Executive Officer (or senior official) of the Applicant Government</u></p> <p>On behalf of the applicant named below, and in support of its application, I certify under penalty of perjury to the Office of Justice Programs ("OJP"), U.S. Department of Justice ("USDOJ"), that all of the following are true and correct:</p> <p>(1) I am the chief executive officer of the State or local government ("the jurisdiction") of which the applicant entity named below is a part (or a senior official of the jurisdiction, with the legal authority to bind the same), I have received appropriate legal advice as to this certification, and I have the authority to make this certification on my own behalf as chief executive officer (or senior official) and on behalf of the jurisdiction and the applicant entity. I understand that OJP will rely upon this certification as a material representation in any decision to make an award to the applicant entity.</p> <p>(2) I have carefully reviewed (or have received pertinent legal advice concerning) § U.S.C. §§ 1373(a) & (b) and 1644, including the prohibitions on certain actions by State and local government entities, agencies, and officials regarding information on citizenship and immigration status.</p> <p>(3) I (and the applicant entity) understand that, for purposes of this certification, the term "program or activity" means what it means under title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (see 42 U.S.C. § 2000d-4a), and that terms used in this certification that are defined in 8 U.S.C. § 1101 mean what they mean under that section 1101, except that the term "State" also shall include American Samoa (cf. 42 U.S.C. § 901(a)(2)).</p> <p>(4) I (and the applicant entity) assure that the applicant entity (and its officials and other personnel) will comply with 8 U.S.C. §§ 1373 and 1644 in any "program or activity" receiving federal financial assistance under any award made by OJP pursuant to this application. I further certify that any subrecipient (at any tier) of such federal financial assistance (and its officials and other personnel) will also comply with 8 U.S.C. §§ 1373 and 1644.</p> <p>I acknowledge that a materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement (or concealment or omission of a material fact) in this certification, or in the application that it supports, may be the subject of criminal prosecution (including under 34 U.S.C. § 10271 or under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 or 1621, and may subject me and the applicant entity to civil penalties and administrative remedies for false claims or otherwise (including under 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729-3730 and §§ 3801-3812). I also acknowledge that OJP awards, including certifications provided in connection with such awards, are subject to review by USDOJ, including by OJP and by the USDOJ Office of the Inspector General.</p> <p>_____ Signature of Chief Executive Officer (or senior official) of the Applicant Government Date of Certification</p> <p>_____ Printed Name of Chief Executive Officer (or senior official) Title of Chief Executive Officer (or senior official)</p> <p>_____ Name of Applicant Government Entity</p>								

02



Funding Priority Inventory 2

- Go to the Data Requested with Application screen
- Click on Funding Priority Inventory 2



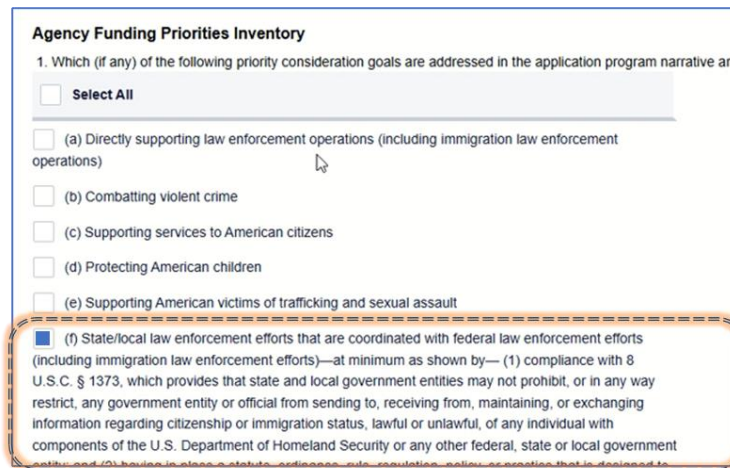
Critical Component	Survey Name	Status
	Financial Management and System of Internal Controls	New
	Funding Priority Inventory 2	New

03



Agency Funding Priorities Inventory

- Select option (f)
- Select all other applicable priority consideration goals that apply



Agency Funding Priorities Inventory

1. Which (if any) of the following priority consideration goals are addressed in the application program narrative and

Select All

(a) Directly supporting law enforcement operations (including immigration law enforcement operations)

(b) Combatting violent crime

(c) Supporting services to American citizens

(d) Protecting American children

(e) Supporting American victims of trafficking and sexual assault

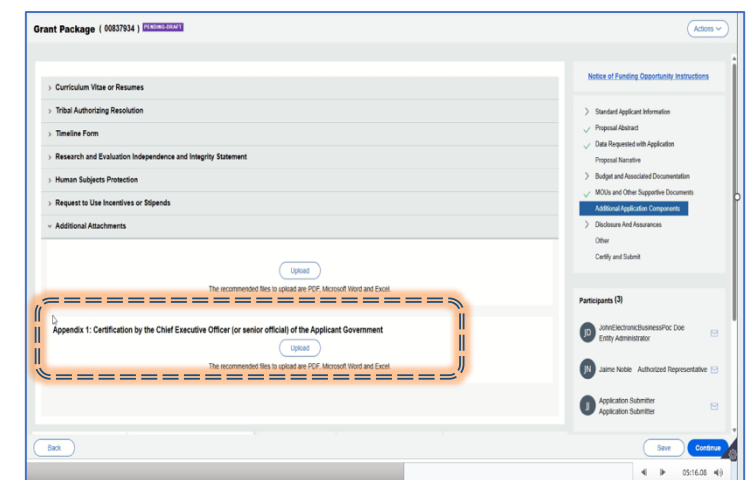
(f) State/local law enforcement efforts that are coordinated with federal law enforcement efforts (including immigration law enforcement efforts)—at minimum as shown by— (1) compliance with 8 U.S.C. § 1373, which provides that state and local government entities may not prohibit, or in any way restrict, any government entity or official from sending to, receiving from, maintaining, or exchanging information regarding citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual with components of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or any other federal, state or local government

04



Upload Certification Form

- Click the “Upload” button from the “Additional Application Components” screen



Grant Package | 00837934 | [View Details](#)

Curriculum Vitae or Resumes

Tribal Authorizing Resolution

Timeline Form

Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement

Human Subjects Protection

Request to Use Incentives or Stipends

Additional Attachments

Appendix 1: Certification by the Chief Executive Officer (or senior official) of the Applicant Government

Upload

Participants (3)

JANE@electronicbusiness.gov
Entity Administrator

JAME NOTE
Authorized Representative

Application Submitter
Application Submitter

Deliverables

- **Action Plan**

- Due within 6 months of award date
- Must outline efforts that the agency will undertake to implement the violent crime reduction strategy
- Incorporate elements of the S.A.R.A Model of Problem Oriented Policing (Scanning, Analysis, Response, Assessment)

- **Final Report**

- Due at the conclusion of the grant award
- May identify and partner with an independent consultant to plan, monitor, or evaluate activities linked to the violent crime reduction strategy
- Must include:
 - Efforts agency took to implement violent crime strategy
 - Data to demonstrate impact on violent crime



Merit Review Criteria

- Description of the Need (5%)
- Project Goals and Objectives: (15%)
- Project Design and Implementation (25%)
- Capabilities and Competencies (25%)
- Budget (15%)
- Plan for Collecting Performance Measures (5%)
- Sustainability (10%)



Proposal Abstract Requirements

Must Be Completed in JustGrants Web-Based Form

- **No more than 2,000 characters**
- Written in paragraph form – no bullets or tables
- Use third person language (e.g., they, the community, their)
- Do not include personally identifiable information (e.g., project director's name)
- Abstracts will be publicly posted on OJP.gov and USASpending.gov if awarded – ensure clarity and professionalism

What to Include

- Name of the proposed project
- Purpose – what the project will do and why it's needed
- Location – service area, if applicable
- Target population – who will be served
- Key activities to be carried out
- Partner organizations or subrecipients, if known
- Expected outcomes and deliverables



Basic Minimum Requirements

Proposal Narrative

Budget Detailed Form

Timeline

Certification by the Chief Executive Officer

Important Note

Applications that do not contain ALL elements designated by BJA as critical in the NOFO will not move forward to peer review.



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Application Checklist



APPLICATION CHECKLIST

BJA FY25 Rural Law Enforcement Violent Crime Reduction Initiative

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 [Eligibility: Eligible Applicants](#)).
- 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 [Eligibility: Cost Sharing/Match Requirement](#)).
- 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

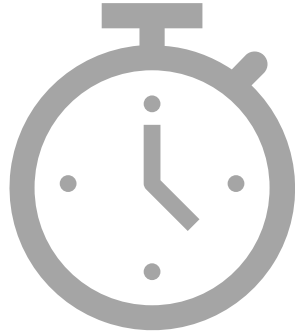
After registering with SAM.gov submit the SF-424 in Grants.gov.

- 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.



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Important Dates



Grants.gov deadline
11:59 p.m. Eastern Time
May 27, 2026



JustGrants deadline
8:59 p.m. Eastern Time
June 3, 2026





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OJP Funding Process Overview

Before You Apply For Funding

SAM.gov Registration – recommend beginning at least 30 days before the first application deadline

- Register/confirm “active” registration status
 - First-time registration – may take several weeks
 - Existing registration – annual renewal required
- Obtain/confirm **Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)**
- Identify current SAM.gov points of contact



Apply For OJP Funding: Overview

Step 1: Grants.gov – complete *at least* 48 hours before deadline in NOFO

- Register/confirm registration
- Submit Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

Step 2: JustGrants – complete *at least* 48 hours before deadline in NOFO

- Register/confirm access
- Submit full application, including required attachments



Apply For OJP Funding: Step 1

Step 1: Grants.gov

- Register/confirm registration
- Add/confirm users and their roles
- Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

You can complete the first two actions at any time. Check the [Grants.gov Quick Start Guide](#) for more tips.



Apply For OJP Funding: Step 2

Step 2: JustGrants

Complete the full application in JustGrants

- Standard Applicant Information
- Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Narrative
- Budget and Associated Documentation
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Other Supportive Documents
- Additional Application Components
- Disclosures and Assurances



What Happens Next?

After the JustGrants application deadline, OJP starts its review process:

- Basic Minimum Requirements
- Peer Review
- Programmatic and Financial Review
- Risk Review



Award Notices

Visit the OJP Grant Awards public website: ojp.gov/funding/ojpgrantawards

Funded applications:

- Notifications sent via JustGrants
- Accept or decline award within 45 days
- Follow steps in [DOJ Award Acceptance Checklist](#)





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Application Resources



OJP Grant Application Resource Guide

February 6, 2025

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to assist OJP grant applicants in applying for OJP funding. It complements notices of funding opportunities (NOFOs) by providing more detail about policies, statutes, and regulations that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP funding applicants or to grants and cooperative agreements awarded in fiscal year (FY) 2025. For detailed instructions on using the JustGrants system to submit applications, review the [Application Submission Resources](#). Some OJP NOFOs expressly modify a provision of this guide; in such cases, the applicant should follow the guidelines in the NOFO.

DOJ Grant Application Process Overview [↗](#)

See the [YouTube Terms of Service](#) TM and [Google Privacy Policy](#) TM

Initiate an application

Initiate an application in Grants.gov and submit required documents

Note: Complete and submit the required documents in Grants.gov at least 48–72 hours prior to the Grants.gov deadline.

Watch on YouTube

Want to apply for Department of Justice (DOJ) funding? This video offers a quick look at the systems you'll use to complete your grant application—SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants—and shows you where to find assistance with any step in the grant application process.

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 - [Funding Opportunity Review and Project Planning](#)
- [How To Apply: Application Contents, Submission Requirements, and Deadlines](#)
 - [Unique Entity Identifier \(UEI\) and SAM.gov Registration/Renewal](#)
 - [First-Time Registration](#)
 - [Renewing an Existing Registration](#)
 - [Applying as an Individual](#)
 - [Applying as a Small Business](#)
 - [Submission Step 1: SF-424 in Grants.gov](#)
 - [First-Time Registration](#)
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 - [Guidance for Specific SF-424 Fields](#)
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 - [Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities](#)
 - [Note on Project Evaluations](#)
 - [Freedom of Information and Privacy Act \(5 U.S.C. § 552 and § 552a\)](#)
 - [Provide Feedback to OJP](#)
 - [OJP Peer Reviewers](#)



JustGrants Resources Website

Share Your Feedback

⚠ SAM.gov Entity Registration and Renewal Requirement

All entities seeking Department of Justice (DOJ) grant funding must have an "active" registration in [SAM.gov](#). **Begin the SAM.gov registration or renewal process 30 days prior to any deadlines** to allow time to complete the full process.

For additional support, visit [SAM.gov Help](#).



Video: DOJ Grant Application Process Overview

Want to apply for Department of Justice (DOJ) funding? This video offers a quick look at the systems you'll use to complete your grant application—SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants—and shows you where to find assistance with any step in the grant application process.

[Watch the Video](#)

See the [YouTube Terms of Service](#) and [Google Privacy Policy](#)

LOGIN



JustGrants Login

Select the access graphic above to log in to the Justice Grants System (JustGrants).

TRAINING



Training

Learn to navigate JustGrants effectively and complete various essential grants management tasks.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



FAQs

Find answers to frequently asked questions regarding the Justice Grants System (JustGrants) and the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP).

USER SUPPORT



User Support

Access self-service, topic-specific, and technical support options for assistance in using the JustGrants System.

RESOURCES



Resources

Links to resource guides, financial and administrative resources for grant management, funding opportunities, and ASAP training and resources.

NEWS & UPDATES



News & Updates

View the latest information and updates on DOJ's grants management and payment management systems and sign up for JusticeGrants Updates emails from the COPS Office, OJP, and OVW.

Application Assistance

Grants.gov

Assistance with submitting the **SF-424**.

- **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/support>
 - support@grants.gov

JustGrants

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

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



OJP Response Center

9am to 5pm ET, Monday - Friday

**Additional
Questions?**



Email: OJP.ResponseCenter@usdoj.gov



Toll free: 800-851-3420



TTY: 202-353-5556
(hearing impaired only)



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Stay Connected!

- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/DOJOJP>
- **X:** <https://x.com/OJPgov>
- **YouTube:**
<https://www.youtube.com/@OJPOCOM>

For information on funding opportunities, publications, and initiatives, visit the **OJP website** at www.ojp.gov.

To receive OJP news releases and publication advisories, subscribe at <https://www.ojp.gov/subscribe>.



Q&A



Please submit your questions via **Q&A Box**.