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## Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Fact Sheet

Updated January 7, 2016

**PROGRAM OVERVIEW:** The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program was created as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005, which merged the discretionary Edward Byrne Memorial Grant Program with the formula-based Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) program. The JAG Program, administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), is the leading source of federal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. The JAG Program provides states, tribes, and local governments with critical funding necessary to support a range of program areas including law enforcement, prosecution and court, prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, planning, evaluation, and technology improvement, and crime victim and witness initiatives.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 there was \$255.7 million available under JAG (approximately \$156 million to states and territories and \$99.7 million to local units of government) and 1,087 local and 56 state applications eligible to be submitted.

**LEGISLATION:** Public Law 109-162, Title XI—Department of Justice Reauthorization, Subtitle B—Improving the Department of Justice's Grant Programs, Chapter 1—Assisting Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Agencies, Sec. 1111 Merger of Byrne Grant Program and Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program.

**FORMULA:** The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) calculates, for each state and territory, a minimum base allocation which, based on the congressionally mandated JAG formula, can be enhanced by (1) the state's share of the national population and (2) the state's share of the country's Part 1 violent crime statistics. Once the state funding is calculated, 60 percent of the allocation is awarded to the state and 40 percent to eligible units of local government. For additional details regarding the JAG formula and award calculation process, with examples, please click here: [JAG Technical Report](#).

**ELIGIBILITY AND PROGRAM GUIDANCE:** All 56 states and territories are eligible, as well as units of local government identified annually in the JAG allocation charts. BJA posts annual JAG program solicitations (program guidance) and allocation charts to its [JAG webpage](#); which also contains a direct link to [JAG Frequently Asked Questions](#), which are updated regularly.

**HOW/WHEN TO APPLY:** All applications must be submitted via the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) [Grants Management System \(GMS\)](#). FY 2015 State and Local JAG solicitations and allocations can be found on the [JAG webpage](#).

**AWARD LENGTH:** Awards of at least \$25,000 or more begin October 1 of the FY and are four years in length. Awards that are less than \$25,000 begin October 1 of the FY and are two years in length. Requests for up to two additional years to complete performance of the award will be granted automatically. Extensions beyond a four- year period for all JAG awards may be approved on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of BJA.

**MATCH REQUIREMENT:** Match is not required.

**REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:** JAG recipients are required to submit quarterly performance metrics reports, quarterly Federal Financial Reports (SF-425s) and an annual or semi-annual programmatic performance reports depending on award year. Detailed reporting information can be found here: [JAG Reporting Requirements](#).

**REDUCTIONS/PENALTIES:** The Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), Title I of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006, required that the 50 states, District of Columbia (DC), 5 principal territories, and some federally recognized tribes substantially implement SORNA by July 27, 2009. Two full-year deadline extensions were provided, and a final statutory deadline of July 27, 2011 was established.

SORNA mandates a 10 percent reduction in JAG funding if a state, territory, or DC failed to substantially implement SORNA by the July 27, 2011 deadline. For those jurisdictions, the reduction was first applied in FY 2012 and will continue to be applied in each subsequent year until the JAG funding recipient has substantially implemented SORNA. While the reduction may impact states, territories, and DC, it will not be applied to the portion of the JAG award that is reserved for local or tribal jurisdictions. For additional information regarding SORNA implementation, including requirements and a list of states/territories that will be impacted in FY 2015 by the 10-percent reduction, contact the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART) Policy Advisor Samantha Opong at [Samantha.Opong@usdoj.gov](mailto:Samantha.Opong@usdoj.gov) or 202-514-9320.

The Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 stipulates that a state whose Governor does not certify full compliance with the National PREA Standards is subject to the loss of 5 percent of certain DOJ grant funds, including JAG, that it would otherwise receive for prison purposes unless the Governor submits an assurance to DOJ that no less than 5 percent of such funds will be used solely for the purpose of enabling the state to achieve and certify full compliance with the standards in future years. 42 U.S.C. § 15607 (c)(2). A five percent JAG reduction will be applied each year a jurisdiction does not certify full compliance. For additional information concerning PREA implementation, send inquiries to the PREA Management Office at [PREACompliance@usdoj.gov](mailto:PREACompliance@usdoj.gov).