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

Updated October 11, 2018

**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 federal source of criminal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. The JAG Program provides states, territories, 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, and mental health programs and related law enforcement and corrections programs, including behavioral programs and crisis intervention teams.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 there was \$269 million available under JAG (approximately \$184.5 million to states and territories and \$84 million to local units of government) and there were 1,148 local jurisdictions and 56 states/territories eligible to apply for funding.

**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 review the [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 2018 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 for awards that are less than \$25,000. 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 semi-annual programmatic performance reports depending on award year. Detailed reporting information can be found here: [JAG Reporting Requirements](#).

**REDUCTIONS/PENALTIES:** Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA). SORNA, which is Title I of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006, mandates a 10 percent reduction in a JAG award to a state that has failed to substantially implement SORNA. Further, states that have substantially implemented SORNA have an ongoing obligation to maintain that status each year. A JAG reduction will be applied for each year a jurisdiction has failed to have substantially implemented SORNA.

For additional information regarding SORNA implementation, including requirements and a list of states that will be affected in FY 2018 by the 10 percent reduction to the JAG award, send inquiries to [AskSMART@usdoj.gov](mailto:AskSMART@usdoj.gov). Additional SORNA guidance can be found within the [SORNA FAQs](#).

The PREA Standards are set out at 28 C.F.R. Part 115, and apply to confinement facilities including adult prisons and jails, juvenile facilities, and police lockups. Under PREA, if a state's chief executive (e.g., governor) does not certify full compliance with the National PREA Standards, the state is subject to the loss of five percent of certain DOJ grant funds, including JAG award funds, unless: (1) the chief executive submits an assurance to DOJ that no less than five percent of such funds will be used solely for the purpose of enabling the state to achieve and certify full compliance with the PREA Standards in future years; or (2) the chief executive requests that the affected funds be held in abeyance by DOJ. See 34 U.S.C. § 30307(e)(2). For additional information concerning PREA implementation, send inquiries to the PREA Management Office at [PREACompliance@usdoj.gov](mailto:PREACompliance@usdoj.gov) and/or review the [PREA FAQs](#).

#### **NIBRS COMPLIANCE**

In FY 2016, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) formally announced its intention to sunset the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program's traditional Summary Reporting System (SRS) and replace it with the UCR Program's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). By January 1, 2021, the FBI intends for NIBRS to be the law enforcement crime data reporting standard for the nation.

By statute, JAG Program awards are calculated using summary Part 1 violent crime data from the FBI's UCR Program. See 34 U.S.C. § 10156. Once SRS has been replaced by NIBRS, JAG award amounts will be calculated using NIBRS data. In preparation for the FBI's 2021 NIBRS compliance deadline, beginning in FY 2018, BJA is requiring, through the application of a special condition, that direct JAG award recipients not certified by their state (or, as applicable, the FBI) as NIBRS compliant to dedicate three percent of their JAG award toward achieving full compliance with the FBI's NIBRS data submission requirements under the UCR Program. The three percent requirement will assist state and local jurisdictions in working toward compliance to ensure they continue to have critical criminal justice funding available through JAG when SRS is replaced by NIBRS in FY 2021.