



BJA FY 21 Justice Reinvestment Initiative: State-level Training and Technical Assistance Program

Assistance Listing Number #	16.827
Grants.gov Opportunity Number:	O-BJA-2021-108001
Solicitation Release Date:	May 13, 2021 5:03 AM
Version:	1
Grants.gov Deadline:	July 06, 2021 11:59 PM
Application JustGrants Deadline:	July 23, 2021 11:59 PM

Overview

The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [Bureau of Justice Assistance](#) (BJA) is seeking applications for funding training and technical assistance (TTA) providers to help states pursue a Justice Reinvestment Initiative approach to implement data-driven strategies to improve public safety by reducing corrections spending and reinvesting those savings in efforts to decrease crime and strengthen neighborhoods. This program furthers the Department's mission to reduce crime and recidivism by helping states to more effectively and equitably allocate resources to efforts in the corrections system that facilitate the successful reintegration of individuals returning from incarceration to their communities.

This solicitation incorporates the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) by reference. The OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants on how to prepare and submit applications for funding to OJP. **If this solicitation expressly modifies any provision in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation as to that provision.**

Solicitation Categories

Competition ID	Category *	Number of Awards	Dollar Amount for Award	Performance Start Date	Performance Duration (Months)
C-BJA-2021-00099-PROD	Training and Technical Assistance (TTA)	2	\$8,800,000.00	10/1/21 12:00 AM	36
C-BJA-2021-00100-PROD	Policy Assessment	1	\$600,000.00	10/1/21 12:00 AM	36

Eligible Applicants:

For profit organizations other than small businesses, Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments), Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education, Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education, Private institutions of higher education, Public and State controlled institutions of higher education, Small businesses, Other

Other

Applicants must demonstrate expertise to conduct complex data analysis and understand and address regional and state-specific criminal justice problems.

To advance Executive Order 13929 Safe Policing for Safe Communities, as of October 28, 2020, the Attorney General determined that all state, local, and university or college law enforcement agencies must be certified by an approved independent credentialing body or have started the certification process to be allocated FY 2021 DOJ discretionary grant funding, as either a recipient or a subrecipient. For detailed information on this new certification requirement, please visit <https://cops.usdoj.gov/SafePolicingEO>.

All recipients and subrecipients (including any for-profit organization) must forgo any profit or management fee.

BJA will consider applications under which two or more entities would carry out the federal award; however, only one entity may be the applicant. Any others must be proposed as subrecipients (subgrantees). For additional information on subawards, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

BJA may elect to fund applications submitted under this FY 2021 solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and on the availability of appropriations.

Contact Information

For technical assistance with submitting the **SF-424 and SF- LLL** in Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, at [Grants.gov customer support webpage](#), or email at support@grants.gov. The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

For technical assistance with submitting the **full application** in DOJ's Justice Grants System (JustGrants), contact the JustGrants Service Desk at JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or at 833-872-5175. The JustGrants Service Desk operates 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST Monday - Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays.

An applicant that experiences unforeseen Grants.gov or JustGrants technical issues beyond its control that prevent it from submitting its application by the deadline must email the National Criminal Justice Reference Service Response Center (Response Center) at grants@ncjrs.gov **within 24 hours after the application deadline** to request approval to submit its application after the deadline.

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact the Response Center by telephone at 800-851-3420 or TTY: 301-240-6310 (hearing impaired only) or by email at grants@ncjrs.gov. Response Center hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. eastern time Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. eastern time on the solicitation close date.

Submission Information

In FY 2021, applications will be submitted to DOJ in a **NEW** two-step process.

Step 1: Applicants will submit an **SF-424 and an SF-LLL** in Grants.gov at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>. To register in Grants.gov, applicants will need to obtain a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) and System for Award Management (SAM) registration or renewal.

Step 2: Applicants will submit the **full application** including attachments in JustGrants at [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](https://www.justgrants.usdoj.gov).

To be considered timely, the full application must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline.

OJP encourages applicants to review the "How to Apply" section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Contents

Contact Information	1
Program Description	4
Overview	4
Statutory Authority	4
Specific Information	4
Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline	4
Evidence-Based Programs or Practices	5
Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities	5
Federal Award Information	5
Awards, Amounts and Durations	5
Continuation Funding Intent	5
Availability of Funds	5
Types of Awards	5
Financial Management and System of Internal Controls	5
Budget Information	5
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement	5
Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)	5
Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver	5
Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs	5
Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)	6
Eligibility Information	6
Application and Submission Information	6
Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)	6
Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)	6
Proposal Abstract	6
Proposal Narrative	6
Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline	7
Budget and Associated Documentation	7
Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)	7
Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)	7
Financial Management Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)	7
Additional Application Components	7
Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement	7
Timeline/Project Plan	7
Documentation of Proposed Subrecipients	7
Résumés for Key Personnel	7
Work Product Examples	7
Disclosures and Assurances	7
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	7
DOJ Certified Standard Assurances	7
Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items	7
DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements	7
Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable)	7
How to Apply	7
Submission Dates and Time	7
Application Review Information	8
Review Criteria	8
Review Process	8
Federal Award Administration Information	8
Federal Award Notices	8
Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements	8
Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses	8
General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements	8
Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)	8
Other Information	9
Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a)	9
Provide Feedback to OJP	9
Application Checklist	9
Appendix 1: Justice Reinvestment Initiative Process for Category 1 TTA	11
Appendix 2: Applicant Disclosure of Proposed Subrecipients	14

Program Description

Overview

The Department of Justice is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights, increases access to justice, supports crime victims, protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community.

Through this solicitation, BJA seeks training and technical assistance (TTA) providers and subject experts to help states apply the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) approach — data-driven problem analysis and evidence-based solutions — to improve public safety.

Statutory Authority

Any awards under this solicitation would be made under statutory authority provided by Pub. L. No. 116-260, 134 Stat 1182, 1260

Specific Information

JRI is an intensive, data-driven approach that helps justice stakeholders analyze, understand, and address key challenges in their justice systems, including crime, opioid addiction and mental illness, high correctional costs, and high recidivism rates. The initiative supports a multistaged process by which a jurisdiction increases the cost effectiveness of its criminal justice system and reinvests savings into high performing strategies to increase public safety.

BJA is seeking applications under two categories of assistance to support JRI: (1) training and technical assistance and (2) policy assessment.

Category 1: Training and Technical Assistance (TTA)

Up to two awards will be made to entities to provide TTA to four states to use the JRI process. The total amount is anticipated to be \$8,800,000, of which \$2,000,000 will pass through to the states (\$500,000 per state) to support their implementation efforts.

Category 2: Policy Assessment

One award for up to \$600,000 will be made to an entity to assess the outcomes of the policy and practice changes that states will make through their JRI engagements.

Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

Goals

The goal of this program is to facilitate states' use of the data-driven justice reinvestment process to examine policies, practices, and outcomes across their criminal justice systems. In the course of that work, this program can build capacity for state systems to return to post pandemic operation levels and sustain/advance virtual or other operations that resulted in improved or streamlined operations as a result of the pandemic. Additionally, this program seeks to assess the outcomes of those efforts and build states' capacity to continue monitoring, assessing, and improving them.

Objectives

The objectives of the JRI State-level Training and Technical Assistance Program are to:

- Identify drivers of criminal justice resource consumption.
- Improve states' capacity to prevent and respond to crime, including reducing the risk for recidivism (as measured by arrests for new crimes, convictions for new crimes, incarcerations for new crimes, and revocations based on technical violations). Specifically, identify individuals' risks for recidivism and related substance use and mental health needs, and mitigate their risk for engaging in criminal behavior or being the victims of crime in order to promote their successful reintegration into their communities after incarceration.
- Improve public safety through a reallocation of resources in high performing crime- and recidivism-reduction efforts.

Deliverables

In Category 1, BJA seeks up to two entities to provide intensive TTA to help four states use the JRI process — stakeholder engagement, data analysis, policy development, implementation planning and execution, sustainability — to prevent and respond to crime and recidivism. (See Appendix 1 for more information about the JRI process.) BJA will evaluate the problem statement of any state before accepting it into JRI. Category 1 TTA providers will:

- Conduct intensive and objective agency-spanning data analyses that states could not otherwise procure on their own. They will put context to the data by taking a comprehensive look at states' systems, engaging everyone from law enforcement to parole officers.
- Provide results of the data analyses to the states and BJA. They will create a shared understanding of priority issue areas by making the crime, corrections, and recidivism data analyzed through JRI available to all criminal justice partners.
- Build the collaboration necessary to make changes to statewide policy and practice, based on the data, while taking into account all aspects of the criminal justice system, including local perspectives.
- Craft innovative and research-based solutions to improve public safety, including contemplating policies that are working well in other states to cut crime, recidivism, and costs. They will provide policy and practice recommendations to the states and BJA.
- Develop detailed implementation plans to help states put into place the adopted policy and practice changes.
- Improve collaboration between behavioral health and criminal justice agencies and stakeholders.
- Ensure that victim needs and community safety are addressed in policies that aim to increase public safety while holding people accountable.
- Administer subaward funds in the amount of \$500,000 to each state as seed funding to support implementation.
- Monitor states' performance and outcomes and provide those data to the states and BJA.

The Category 2 assessment provider will deliver:

- Coordination assistance to BJA, including tracking engagements and logistical and substantive support for a Justice Reinvestment Steering Committee composed of project partners.
- A framework to assess state-level JRI as a whole and state-level or topical activities therein.
- Approximately four state or topical assessments with clear implications for the program and the field at large.

- Dissemination of assessment results through formats and venues accessible to the field at large to learn from states' efforts to impact these issues.

The Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables are directly related to the performance measures that demonstrate the results of the work completed, as discussed under Application and Submission Information.

Evidence-Based Programs or Practices

OJP strongly emphasizes the use of data and evidence in policymaking and program development in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. For additional information and resources on evidence-based programs or practices, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities

OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the programs and activities funded under this solicitation. For additional information, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) section entitled "Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities."

Federal Award Information

Solicitation Category

Competition ID Enter to sort	Category *	Number of Awards	Dollar Amount for Award	Performance Start Date	Performance Duration (Months)
C-BJA-2021-00099-PROD	Training and Technical Assistance (TTA)	2	\$8,800,000.00	10/1/21 12:00 AM	36
C-BJA-2021-00100-PROD	Policy Assessment	1	\$600,000.00	10/1/21 12:00 AM	36

Awards, Amounts and Durations

Period of Performance Start Date

10/1/21 12:00 AM

Period of Performance Duration (Months)

36

Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation

\$9,400,000.00

Additional Information

• Category 1: Up to two awards totaling \$8,800,000 (of which \$2,000,000 will pass through to the states in the amount of \$500,000 per state) • Category 2: One award up to \$600,000

Continuation Funding Intent

BJA may, in certain cases, provide additional funding in future years to awards made under this solicitation, through continuation awards. OJP will consider, among other factors, OJP's strategic priorities, a recipient's overall management of the award, and progress of award funded work, when making continuation award decisions.

Availability of Funds

This solicitation, and awards (if any are made) under this solicitation, are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by the agency or by law. In addition, nothing in this solicitation is intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

Types of Awards

BJA expects to make awards under this solicitation as cooperative agreements, which provide for OJP to have substantial involvement in carrying out award activities. See the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section of the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Financial Management and System of Internal Controls

Award recipients and subrecipients (including recipients or subrecipients that are pass-through entities) must, as described in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.303, comply with standards for financial and program management. The "Part 200 Uniform Requirements" means the DOJ regulation at 2 C.F.R. Part 2800, which adopts (with certain modifications) the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200. See [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Budget Information

Award recipients under Category 1 are expected to pass through up to \$500,000 per state via subaward grants to states that have enacted JRI policy changes to assist in implementation. Accordingly, budgets for Category 1 must include the maximum amount per state to be served. Pass-through funding recipients and amounts must be approved by BJA before being committed.

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

This solicitation does not require a match.

Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) information on Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs).

Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) information on Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver.

Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs.

Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on Costs Associated with Language Assistance.

Eligibility Information

For eligibility information, see the solicitation cover page.

Application and Submission Information

The following application elements **MUST** be included in the application submission for an application to meet the basic minimum requirements (BMR) to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding:

- Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form)
- Timeline/Task plan
- Documentation of Proposed Subrecipients
- Résumés of Key Personnel
- Work Product Examples

See the "Application Elements and Formatting Instructions" section of the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on what happens to an application that does not contain all the specified elements or that is nonresponsive to the scope of the solicitation.

Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

The SF-424 will be submitted in Grants.gov. The SF-424 is a required standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications, applications, and related information. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on completing the SF-424.

In Section F of the SF-424, please include the name and contact information of the individual who will complete application materials in JustGrants. JustGrants will use this information (*email address*) to assign the application to this user in JustGrants.

Intergovernmental Review: This solicitation ("funding opportunity") **is not** subject to [Executive Order 12372](#). (In completing the SF-424, an applicant is to answer question 19 by selecting the response that the "Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.")

Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)

The Standard Applicant Information section of the JustGrants application is pre-populated with the SF-424 data submitted in Grants.gov. Applicants will need to review the Standard Applicant Information in JustGrants and make edits as needed. Within this section, applicants will need to: add zip codes for areas affected by the project; confirm their Authorized Representative; and verify the organization's legal name and address.

Proposal Abstract

A proposal abstract (no more than 400 words) summarizing the proposed project including primary activities, products and deliverables, the service area, and who will benefit from the proposed project, will be completed in the JustGrants Web-based form.

Proposal Narrative

The proposal narrative should be submitted as an attachment in JustGrants. The attached document should be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point Times New Roman font; have no less than 1-inch margins; and should not exceed 15 pages. Pages should be numbered and submitted as an attachment. If the proposal narrative fails to comply with these length restrictions, BJA may negatively consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions.

The following sections must be included as part of the proposal narrative:

a. Description of the Issue

Describe the need for JRI to assist states to reduce crime and recidivism. Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the JRI process and the unique way it can be used to improve criminal justice outcomes. Also describe the need for TTA and data analysis to support states to use the JRI process.

b. Project Design and Implementation

Describe how the applicant will deliver the proposed assistance by meeting the objectives and completing the deliverables described in the solicitation. Provide a project task timeline (as an attachment) for completing the deliverables and identify the percentage of time to be dedicated by the individuals responsible for those tasks.

c. Capabilities and Competencies

Describe the applicant, and if applicable, its partners and each organization's role. Demonstrate the capability of the lead organization and any partners (subrecipients) to complete each deliverable.

Also describe the organization's ability to provide proactive, comprehensive, user-friendly TTA to complete the deliverables, and provide examples of the organization's experience in using those TTA strategies and completing similar deliverables. For applicants to **Category 1**, specifically address components of the JRI process including large data collection and analysis; presentations to high level government officials and diverse stakeholders; and the ability to manage and monitor subawards passed through to states up to \$500,000, develop and track performance metrics, and position states to sustain policy and practice changes.

List the consultants with whom the applicant plans to work to deliver TTA services (see Appendix 2).

d. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures

Describe the process for measuring project performance. Identify who will collect the data, who is responsible for performance measurements, and how the information will be used to guide and evaluate the impact of the project. Describe the process to accurately report data.

Note: applicants are **not** required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measures information is included as an alert that successful applicants will be required to submit performance data as part of the reporting requirements under an award.

OJP will require each successful applicant to submit regular performance data that demonstrate the results of the work carried out under the award. The performance data directly relate to the goals, objectives, and deliverables identified under "Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables."

Applicants can also visit OJP's performance measurement page at www.ojp.gov/performance for an overview of performance measurement activities at OJP.

Award recipients will be required to submit performance measure data in the BJA TTA Reporting Portal and/or JustGrants. Examples of the performance measures questionnaire can be found at: [TTA and Deliverable Performance Metrics Extract from Data Dictionary \(ojp.gov\)](#). Further guidance on the post-award submission process will be provided, if selected for award.

Note on Project Evaluations

An applicant that proposes to use award funds through this solicitation to conduct project evaluations must follow the guidance under "Note on Project Evaluations" in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

Applicants will submit the JRI goals, objectives, deliverables, and timelines in the JustGrants Web-based form. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Budget and Associated Documentation

Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)

Applicants will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form. Budgets for Category 1 must include \$500,000 in subawards per state proposed to be served. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

Applicants will submit their indirect cost rate agreement by uploading the agreement as an attachment in JustGrants. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Financial Management Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)

Applicants will download the questionnaire in JustGrants and submit by uploading the completed questionnaire as an attachment in JustGrants. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Additional Application Components

Applicants will attach the additional requested documentation in JustGrants.

Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement

If an application proposes research (including research and development) and/or evaluation, the applicant must demonstrate research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, before it may receive award funds. Applicants will submit a description of their research and evaluation independence and integrity by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants. For additional information regarding demonstrating research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Timeline/Project Plan

Provide a timetable indicating roughly when key activities or program milestones are to be accomplished in support of the Project Design and Implementation. Applicants will submit the timeline by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

Documentation of Proposed Subrecipients

Complete Appendix 2 to indicate proposed subrecipients of JRI funding, including the name, organizational affiliation, and city and state of the proposed subrecipient entity. Applicants will submit Appendix 2 by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

Résumés for Key Personnel

Applicants will submit the résumés by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

Work Product Examples

Attach two to three examples of relevant products the organization has produced that demonstrate understanding of this program's deliverables, exemplify high quality product, and the ability to communicate effectively with stakeholders (e.g., fact sheet, research brief, link to archived webinar, TA final report with recommendations, infographics, etc.). Applicants will submit the examples by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

Disclosures and Assurances

Applicants will complete the following disclosures and assurances.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Applicants will complete and submit the SF-LLL in Grants.gov. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

DOJ Certified Standard Assurances

See the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items

Applicants will complete the JustGrants web-based Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Applicants will review and accept the DOJ Certified Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements. See [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable)

If applicable, applicants will submit as an attachment in JustGrants. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information. A DOJ High Risk Grantee is a recipient that has received a DOJ High Risk designation based on a documented history of unsatisfactory performance, financial instability, management system or other internal control deficiencies, or noncompliance with award terms and conditions on prior awards, or that is otherwise not responsible.

How to Apply

Applicants will submit an SF-424 and an SF-LLL in Grants.gov at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>.

Applicants will submit the **full application** including attachments in JustGrants at [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](https://www.justgrants.usdoj.gov).

For additional information, see the "How to Apply" section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) and the [DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#).

Submission Dates and Time

The SF-424 and the SF-LLL will be submitted in Grants.gov by 11:59pm July 6, 2021. OJP urges applicants to submit applications at least 72 hours prior to the application due date to allow time for the applicant to receive validation messages or rejection notifications from Grants.gov and to correct in a timely fashion any problems that may have caused a rejection notification.

The **full application** will be submitted in JustGrants on 11:59pm July 23, 2021.

To be considered timely, the full application must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline.

Application Review Information

Review Criteria

a. Merit Review Criteria

Applications that meet basic minimum requirements will be evaluated by peer reviewers. Applications will be evaluated on how the proposed project/program addresses the following criteria:

1. Statement of the Problem/Description of the Issue (15%) - evaluate the applicant's understanding of the program/issue to be addressed.
2. Project Design and Implementation (40%) - evaluate the adequacy of the proposal, including the goals, objectives, timelines, milestones, and deliverables.
3. Capabilities and Competencies (30%) - evaluate administrative and technical capacity of the applicant to successfully accomplish the goals and objectives.
4. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (5%) - evaluate the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements and the plan for collecting the required data.
5. Budget (10%) - evaluate for completeness, cost effectiveness, and allowability (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

b. Other Review Criteria/Factors

Other important considerations for BJA include geographic diversity, strategic priorities, available funding, past performance, and the extent to which the Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form) accurately explain project costs that are reasonable, necessary, and otherwise allowable under federal law and applicable federal cost principles.

Review Process

Applications submitted under this solicitation that meet basic minimum requirements, will be evaluated for technical merit by a peer review panel(s) in accordance with OJP peer review policy and procedures using the stated review criteria above.

OJP screens applications to ensure they meet the basic minimum requirements prior to conducting peer review. Although specific requirements may vary, the following are common requirements applicable to all solicitations for funding under OJP programs:

- The application must be submitted by an eligible type of applicant.
- The application must request funding within programmatic funding constraints (if applicable).
- The application must be responsive to the scope of the solicitation.
- The application must include all items necessary to meet the basic minimum requirements.

Pursuant to the Part 200 Uniform Requirements, before award decisions are made, OJP also reviews information related to the degree of risk posed by the applicant. Among other things to help assess whether an applicant that has one or more prior federal awards has a satisfactory record with respect to performance, integrity, and business ethics, OJP checks whether the applicant is listed in SAM as excluded from receiving a federal award.

In addition, if OJP anticipates that an award will exceed \$250,000 in federal funds, OJP also must review and consider any information about the applicant that appears in the non-public segment of the integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently, the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System, FAPIIS).

Important note on FAPIIS: An applicant, may review and comment on any information about itself that currently appears in FAPIIS and was entered by a federal awarding agency. OJP will consider any such comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in FAPIIS, in its assessment of the risk posed by the applicant.

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final award decisions will be made by the Assistant Attorney General, who may take into account not only peer review ratings and BJA's recommendations, but also other factors as indicated in this section.

Federal Award Administration Information

Federal Award Notices

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on award notifications and instructions.

Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements

If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the OJP-approved application, the recipient must comply with all award conditions, and all applicable requirements of federal statutes and regulations (including applicable requirements referred to in the assurances and certifications executed in connection with award acceptance).

For additional information on these legal requirements, see the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of information related to information technology security. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on information technology security.

General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements

In addition to the deliverables described in the Program Description section, any recipient of an award under this solicitation will be required to submit certain reports and data.

Required reports. Recipients typically must submit quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports, final financial and progress reports, and, if applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with the Part 200 Uniform Requirements or specific award conditions.

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measures data.

Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For OJP contact(s), see solicitation cover page.

For contact information for Grants.gov and JustGrants, see solicitation cover page.

Other Information

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a)

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a).

Provide Feedback to OJP

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on how to provide feedback to OJP.

Application Checklist

Justice Reinvestment Initiative: State-level Training and Technical Assistance Program

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. The [DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#) is another resource.

What an Applicant Must Do:

Prior to Registering in Grants.gov:

- Acquire a DUNS Number (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Acquire or renew registration with SAM (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

To Register with Grants.gov:

- Acquire AOR and Grants.gov username/password (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Acquire AOR confirmation from the E-Biz POC (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

To Find Funding Opportunity:

- Search for the Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov
- Select the correct Competition ID
- Access Funding Opportunity and Application Package (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Sign up for Grants.gov email [notifications](#) (optional) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Read [Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov](#)
- Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting available at [ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/PostawardRequirements/chapter3.10a.htm](#) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements:

- Review the "[Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grans and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2021 Awards](#)" in the [OJP Funding Resource Center](#).

Scope Requirement:

- The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of:
- Category 1: Up to two awards totaling \$8,800,000 (of which \$2,000,000 will pass through to the states in the amount of \$500,000 per state)
- Category 2: \$600,000

Eligibility Requirement:

- Public and state controlled institutions of higher education
- Native American tribal organizations (other than federally recognized tribal governments)
- Nonprofit organizations having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education Nonprofit
- organizations that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education Private
- institutions of higher education
- For-profit organizations other than small businesses
- Small businesses

- Submit **SF-424** and **SF-LLL** in Grants.gov

After SF-424 and SF-LLL submission in Grants.gov, Receive Grants.gov Email Notifications That:

- Submission has been received in Grants.gov

- Submission has either been successfully validated or rejected with errors (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

If Grants.gov Receipt, and Validation or Error Notifications are Received:

- Contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, at [Grants.gov customer support webpage](#), or email at support@grants.gov regarding technical difficulties (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#)).

Receive email notification to complete application in JustGrants:

- Complete Application in JustGrants

Content of Application Submission:

The following items are critical application elements required to pass Basic Minimum Requirements review. An application that OJP determines does not include the application elements that must be included in the application submission in order for the application to meet the basic minimum requirements, will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.

- **Proposal Abstract**
- **Proposal Narrative**
- **Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form)**
- **Timeline/Task Plan**
- **Documentation of Proposed Subrecipients**
- **Résumés of Key Personnel**
- **Work Product Examples**

- Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) in Grants.gov
- Standard Applicant Information (SF-424 information from Grants.gov)

Budget and Associated Documentation

- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

Additional Application Components

- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

Disclosures and Assurances

- [Disclosure of Lobbying Activities \(SF-LLL\)](#) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- DOJ Certified Standard Assurance (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

Submit Application in JustGrants:

- Application has been successfully submitted in JustGrants

If No JustGrants Application Submission, Validation, or Error Notifications are Received:

- Contact JustGrants Service Desk at JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or 833-872-5175 regarding technical difficulties.

Appendix 1: Justice Reinvestment Initiative Process for Category 1 TTA

• Stakeholder Engagement

The TTA provider will work with governmental and nongovernmental stakeholders of the state's criminal justice system to: (1) orient them to the justice reinvestment process, including drafting a publication documenting the challenges states seek to address and describing the process to come; (2) seek input on understanding justice system data and processes, and interpreting analytical and qualitative findings; (3) involve and inform stakeholders on implementation activities; and (4) set up processes for continued stakeholder engagement as TA concludes. Stakeholders typically include judges, corrections executives (both institutional and community supervision), prosecutors, defense counsel, law enforcement, parole board members, business leaders, nonprofit service providers, local private foundations, leadership from departments that provide behavioral health treatment and recovery services, victims' advocates, and individuals with relevant lived experience.

• Data Analysis

TTA providers will: (1) conduct a comprehensive analysis of state criminal justice data, including crime and arrest rates, conviction rates, pretrial, probation, parole, and prison and jail populations; (2) conduct a system assessment to ascertain the extent to which policies, procedures, and practices are consistent with evidence-based practices; (3) assess the capability of justice system stakeholders to collect, analyze, and share information for purposes of making data-driven policy decisions related to crime, corrections, and sentencing; (4) evaluate the cost-effectiveness of state spending on a variety of public safety investments, including corrections and community corrections; and (5) present findings to the state in a clear and concise manner.

This comprehensive analysis and evaluation should include an analysis of the following:

- Reported crime and arrest data across crime types, based on up-to-date local data, as available.
- Felony conviction data to understand sentencing trends by offense types.
- Prison admissions and length-of-stay data over a 3- to 5-year period, allowing state stakeholders to determine the availability of prison beds and treatment resources for those convicted of serious offenses and those at highest risk of reoffending.
- Current capacity and effectiveness of institutional- and community-based risk-reduction supervision to ensure moderate- to high-risk individuals receive appropriate levels of custody and control, and programs such as cognitive behavioral therapy, drug treatment, mental health, and other social services that may reduce recidivism among offenders on community supervision.
- Criminal justice expenditures and the development of practical, data-driven policy initiatives, including high-performing programs that research shows can increase public safety, improve offender accountability, reduce recidivism, and assess the effectiveness of corrections spending to achieve those ends.

• Recommendations and Policy Development

TTA providers will: (1) develop data-driven policy initiatives that can increase public safety and improve accountability and outcomes; (2) model the impact of recommendations, as data availability will allow, and compare that impact to the cost of maintaining current business practices; and (3) document recommended policies in a publication for both state stakeholders and a national audience.

After policy recommendations are delivered, TA providers may be reengaged to assist with implementation, pending request from the state and BJA approval.

• Implementation Planning and Execution

During the orientation to justice reinvestment, TA providers will inform state leaders that the state will be eligible for implementation assistance if state leaders can demonstrate that they have analyzed the data, developed responsive policies, and memorialized criminal justice changes via state legislation or another mechanism. An eligible state will be required to submit an application for assistance to BJA, and BJA expects that the provider will assess and provide recommendations to BJA regarding the state's readiness to receive implementation assistance.

Implementation TTA tasks and deliverables include: (1) assisting in developing implementation plans to guide timely implementation of adopted policies; (2) providing technical expertise and guidance regarding operational and programmatic aspects of implementation, as well as stakeholder education regarding the enacted policy changes; and (3) submitting for BJA approval the making and monitoring of subaward grants to seed implementation (setting aside \$500,000 per state). Subawards will provide limited assistance to supplement a state's funding of implementation efforts, and may be requested for the following uses:

- Build state capacity to improve data sharing across probation, parole, and law enforcement agencies to support analysis of local arrest, crime, and supervision data to better understand and respond to precipitous increases in persistently high crime and admissions to prison, and to analyze the effectiveness of community supervision to mitigate risk of recidivism and support crime reduction efforts.
- Provide training of corrections and community corrections, judicial, behavioral health, and other key staff on evidence-based practices for reducing recidivism; provide training to assist jurisdictions in implementing and validating new risk and needs assessment tools; assist in developing quality assurance mechanisms for these practices; and/or provide stakeholder education regarding the enacted policy changes.
- Assist in establishing high-performing programs, including violence reduction programs, pretrial programs, and pre- and post-plea diversion programs in order to prioritize confinement space and other criminal justice resources for serious, chronic, or violent offenders.

• Supporting Sustainability

The provider will work with state stakeholders to establish a sustainability plan to establish objectives and activities for continued data-driven decision making and system improvements in keeping with the objectives of justice reinvestment.

The successful applicant TTA provider must complete the following deliverables:

- In consultation with BJA, develop and disseminate to state-level government officials and policymakers materials required for states to indicate their interest in JRI participation.
- Conduct an in-depth review and assessment of each JRI applicant, including site visits and data scoping, and make recommendations to BJA and the JRI Steering Committee (comprising JRI TTA providers and funders) of appropriate state candidates to participate in JRI.
- Coordinate and collaborate with BJA and the organization responsible for assessing JRI (to be selected) to collect appropriate evaluation and assessment data from participating states in order to determine the effectiveness of the policies and programs implemented with JRI assistance and subaward funding.
- Submit monthly progress reports and performance measurement data to the organization responsible for assessing JRI (to be selected through Category 2).
- Cooperate with the organization responsible for assessing JRI to ensure access to data, state JRI meetings, and state JRI service consumers.
- Publish state-specific reports to document three milestones in the JRI process: (1) upon the state's launch, a publication to lay out the challenges to be addressed through JRI; (2) after policy development and prior to a state's enactment, a publication to memorialize the recommended policy options; and (3) post-implementation, a report on implementation results.
- Make ongoing recommendations to BJA on relevant criminal justice research and ways to continue to improve the effectiveness of JRI.

