

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Bureau of Justice Assistance



BJA FY 21 Implementing the PREA Standards, Protecting Inmates, and Safeguarding Communities

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Overview

The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [Bureau of Justice Assistance](#) (BJA) is seeking applications for funding of projects designed to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse and sexual harassment in confinement facilities, and to achieve and maintain compliance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) standards. This program furthers the Department's mission by reducing violent crime and promoting law enforcement officer safety.

This solicitation incorporates the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) by reference. The OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants for the preparation and submission to OJP of applications for funding. **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-2021-00 021-PROD	Units of state government agencies	8	\$250,000.00	10/1/21 12:00 AM	30 months
C- BJA-2021-00 022-PROD	Units of county or city local government agencies	8	\$250,000.00	10/1/21 12:00 AM	30 months
C- BJA-2021-00 023-PROD	Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)	2	\$250,000.00	10/1/21 12:00 AM	30 months

Eligible Applicants:

City or township governments, County governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), State governments, Other

Other

To advance Executive Order 13929 Safe Policing for Safe Communities, 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 eligible for FY 2021 DOJ discretionary grant funding. To become certified, the law enforcement agency must meet two mandatory conditions: (1) the agency’s use of force policies adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws; and (2) the agency’s use of force policies prohibit chokeholds except in situations where use of deadly force is allowed by law. The certification requirement also applies to law enforcement agencies receiving DOJ discretionary grant funding through a subaward. For detailed information on this new certification requirement, please visit <https://cops.usdoj.gov/SafePolicingEO> to access the Standards for Certification on Safe Policing for Safe Communities, Implementation Fact Sheet, and List of Designated Independent Credentialing Bodies.

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 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.

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](#).

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Program Description

Overview

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) directs DOJ to provide grants to jurisdictions and agencies nationwide to “protect inmates (particularly from prison rape) and to safeguard the communities to which inmates return.” 34 U.S.C. § 30305(a).

Federal funds awarded to grantees may be used to protect inmates by “undertaking efforts to more effectively prevent prison rape; investigating incidents of prison rape; or prosecuting incidents of prison rape.” 34 U.S.C. § 30305 (b)(1).

Statutory Authority

34 USC § 30305

Any awards under this solicitation will be made under the statutory authority provided by a full-year Department of Justice appropriations act for FY 2021

Specific Information

On June 20, 2012, DOJ published the [Final Rule](#) formally creating National Standards to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape (PREA standards), as required by PREA. The standards apply to [adult prisons and jails](#), [juvenile confinement facilities](#), [police lock-ups](#), and [community confinement facilities](#). The PREA standards, which took effect on August 20, 2012, seek to prevent sexual abuse and sexual harassment and to reduce the harm they cause.

All applicants should be aware that under federal law, OJP may not award grant funds to procure or obtain any equipment, system, or service that uses “covered telecommunications equipment or services” as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. In general, with limited exceptions, “covered telecommunications equipment or services” includes telecommunications and video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by a foreign entity that is specifically designated by statute, or designated by the federal government pursuant to statute.

Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

Goals

The goal of this Implementing the PREA Standards, Protecting Inmates, and Safeguarding Communities Grant Program is to assist confinement facilities and the agencies that oversee them in preventing, identifying, and responding to sexual abuse and sexual harassment in these facilities, and to support compliance with the PREA standards.

Any PREA audit funded under this grant program must comply with DOJ’s auditing requirements in the [PREA Auditor Handbook](#).

Objectives

The objectives of the PREA Grant Program are to:

- Reduce sexual abuse in confinement facilities.
- Increase staff capacity for preventing sexual abuse in confinement facilities.
- Promote integration of the PREA standards into the day-to-day operations and cultures of confinement facilities.
- Identify and document innovative and promising practices in order to inform

similar efforts across the nation.

- Create cultures of “zero tolerance” of sexual abuse in confinement facilities.

Deliverables

Required program deliverables are:

1. A comprehensive, individualized PREA implementation plan that will guide the grantee’s PREA-related activities. Plans must be finalized during the first 6 months following approval of the grant budget, and they must be supported, in close consultation with BJA, by a TTA coach.
2. A sustainability plan, developed in conjunction with the TTA coach, which ensures that the BJA-funded PREA strategies and activities will continue after the grant period ends.
3. Documentation, developed in conjunction with the TTA coach, of innovative and promising work accomplished during the grant period, which will be made publicly available.

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.

Strategic Support and Assistance to Grantees Selected under this Solicitation

BJA will provide a TTA coach at no cost to each grantee awarded under this solicitation to provide strategic support and assistance during the life of this grant. The TTA coach will also work with the PREA grantees to leverage resources available through the [National PREA Resource Center \(PRC\)](#). The PRC serves as a clearinghouse for current information related to PREA implementation.

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.”

OJP Priority Areas

In Category 1, priority consideration will be given to applications that:

1. Declare the governor of the state in which the applicant’s jurisdiction lies was unable to certify to DOJ full compliance with the PREA standards for Audit Year 1 of Cycle 3 (August 20, 2019 – August 19, 2020). The governor must have submitted to DOJ by October 15, 2020, an assurance that not less than 5 percent of certain DOJ grant funds will be used solely for the purpose of enabling the state to achieve full compliance with the PREA standards in future years. See 34 U.S.C § 30307(e)(2).

2. Describe the specific difficulties that prevented the jurisdiction from coming into full compliance with the PREA standards; and
3. Detail how this federal award will be used to address these barriers.

For all categories, priority consideration will be given to applications that address specific findings in Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) reports (<https://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=tp&tid=20>) or other available data that describe the characteristics of sexual abuse in applicant facilities such as variations in victimization rates among subpopulations of inmates/residents/detainees, contextual circumstances surrounding victimization, and the dynamics of sexual abuse. Priority consideration will also be given to applicants that focus on confinement facilities demonstrating high rates of sexual abuse, based on data reported annually to BJS or other data that suggest past problems with sexual abuse within the facility.

OJP Policy Priority Areas

In FY 2021, and in addition to executing any program-specific prioritization that may be applicable, OJP will give priority consideration to applications as follows:

- Applications that address specific challenges that rural communities face.
- Applications that demonstrate that the individuals who are intended to benefit from the requested grant reside in high poverty areas or persistent-poverty counties.
- Applications that offer enhancements to public safety in economically distressed communities (Qualified Opportunity Zones).

To receive priority consideration under the rural priority, applicants must describe what makes the geographic service area rural (using U.S. Census or other appropriate government data; for assistance, applicants may wish to refer to <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural.html>), how isolated the area is from needed services, and how they will address specific challenges in rural communities.

To receive priority consideration under the poverty priority, the applicant must provide information to demonstrate that the individuals who are intended to benefit from the requested grant reside in high poverty areas or persistent poverty counties. For purposes of this priority consideration, the term “high poverty area” means any census tract with a poverty rate of at least 20 percent as measured by the 2013–2017 5-year data series available from the American Community Survey of the Census Bureau (applicants may search by census tract at <https://www.census.gov/acs/www/data/data-tables-and-tools/narrative-profiles/2017/>) and the term “persistent poverty counties” means any county that has had 20 percent or more of its population living in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses and the most recent Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (applicants may search by county at <https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/dec/census-poverty.html> and at <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saie.html>).

To receive priority consideration under the Qualified Opportunity Zones (QOZs) priority, applicants must include information that specifies how the project will enhance public safety in the specified QOZs. For resources on QOZs, and for a current list of designated QOZs, see the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s resource webpage, accessible at <https://www.cdfifund.gov/pages/opportunity-zones.aspx>.

OJP Policy priority consideration will consist of receiving additional points in the application scoring process. Receipt of priority consideration does not guarantee that an application will be funded; nor will the failure to receive priority consideration necessarily mean that an application will not be funded.

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-2021-0 0021- PROD	Units of state government agencies	8	\$250,000.00	10/1/21 12:00 AM	30 months
C- BJA-2021-0 0022- PROD	Units of county or city local government agencies	8	\$250,000.00	10/1/21 12:00 AM	30 months
C- BJA-2021-0 0023- PROD	Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)	2	\$250,000.00	10/1/21 12:00 AM	30 months

Awards, Amounts and Durations

Period of Performance Start Date

10/1/21 12:00 AM

Period of Performance Duration (Months)

30

Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation

\$4,500,000.00

Additional Information

N/A

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

All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

BJA expects to make awards under this solicitation as grants. See the “Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements” section of the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for a brief discussion of important statutes, regulations, and award conditions that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP grants (and cooperative agreements).

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

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

This solicitation requires a 50 percent **cash or in-kind match**. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on this match requirement.

Match Waiver: The Attorney General may be authorized to waive the match requirement upon a determination of fiscal hardship. To be considered for a match waiver, a letter of request signed by the Authorized Representative must be submitted with the application that describes the fiscal hardship. “Fiscal hardship” may be defined as a reduction in the overall correctional budget, furloughing or reduction in number of correctional staff, or other similar documented actions which have resulted in severe budget reductions. A match waiver request must be submitted as a separate attachment to the application and submitted through JustGrants.

Award Special Condition – Withholding of Funds Pending PREA Implementation Plan:

Once awarded, each grant award will have in place a special condition withholding all but \$25,000 and designating that the grantee finalize a PREA implementation plan within 180 days of receiving final approval of the project’s budget from OJP’s Office of the Chief Financial Officer. The recipient will not be authorized to obligate, expend, or draw down funds in excess of \$25,000 until BJA has reviewed and approved the implementation plan and a Grant Adjustment Modification has been issued and approved to remove the special condition.

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

- State governments
- City or township governments
- County governments
- Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)

For purposes of this solicitation, “state” means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

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,
- Program Narrative,
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form), and
- Executive-level letter(s) of commitment from the agency or agencies that are proposed to receive funding

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.

Intergovernmental Review: This solicitation (“funding opportunity”) **is not** subject to [Executi](#)

[ve 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 program 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 program 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 program narrative:

- a. Description of the Issue
 - Describe and demonstrate understanding of the nature and scope of the problem to be addressed, using data and research as support.
 - Describe any efforts to date that address the problem.
 - Describe the need for assistance and resources to address the problem.
 - Briefly introduce how the applicant proposes to address the problem.

- b. Project Design and Implementation
 - Address in detail how the project proposes to accomplish the problem identified in the Description of the Issue.
 - List the proposed project activities and describe how they relate to the stated objectives.
 - Provide a detailed description of the method(s) to be used to carry out each activity.
 - Identify the priority considerations to be addressed through the grant (if applicable).
 - Include a timeline/project plan that identifies the major objectives and deliverables of the project and who is responsible for each activity.

- c. Capabilities and Competencies
 - Provide a detailed description of the capacity of the agency and key personnel to achieve the project goals and complete the project deliverables.

- Describe how the proposed management structure and staffing of the project will facilitate achievement of the project objectives and completion of project deliverables. These should match the staffing needs necessary to accomplish the tasks outlined in the timeline/project plan.
- Provide position descriptions that relate to the roles on the proposed project, not within the applicant organization, and describe critical competencies and expectations regarding project responsibilities. Provide information about the personnel assigned to the position descriptions.
- Provide a letter(s) of commitment from the leader(s) of the agency or agencies that is to receive funding that demonstrates commitment to this project plan and PREA implementation.

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

- Describe how data required for performance measures will be collected, including the system(s) used and the person(s) responsible.
- Describe whether and how relevant performance metrics will be documented, monitored, and evaluated

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 [insert PMT Tool name], and separately submit a [enter frequency (e.g., semi-annual, annual) performance report in JustGrants. Further guidance on the post-award submission process will be provided, if selected for award. Examples of the performance measures questionnaire can be found at <https://bjapmt.ojp.gov/help/PREAMEasures.pdf>.

Award recipients will be required to submit performance measure data and performance reports in JustGrants. 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 PREA Grant Program's 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

If applicable, applicants must submit a letter of request signed by the Authorized Representative describing the fiscal hardship by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)

Applicants will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Grantees should include funding in their budget for a small team of representatives to attend a strategic workshop in Washington, D.C. The purposes of this workshop are to provide substantive information to the grantees related to the PREA standards and to promote meaningful cross-jurisdictional sharing of information and lessons learned about PREA implementation.

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

OJP will give priority consideration in award decisions to applications that address specific challenges that rural communities face. Each applicant proposing to receive priority consideration under the rural priority must provide a sufficient narrative to include what makes the geographic service area rural (using U.S. Census or other appropriate government data), how isolated the area is from needed services, and how it will address specific challenges in rural communities. Applicants will submit the narrative by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

OJP will give priority consideration in award decisions to applications that demonstrate that the individuals who will benefit from the requested grant reside in high-poverty areas or persistent-poverty counties as defined above. Each applicant proposing to receive consideration under the High-Poverty Areas or Persistent Poverty Counties priority must provide a sufficient narrative explanation to identify each specific High-Poverty Area (by census tract number(s)) and/or each specific Persistent-Poverty County where individuals are intended to benefit from the requested grant and how the requested grant will address specific challenges in each such identified area and/or county. Applicants will submit the narrative by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

Curriculum Vitae or Resumes

Include position descriptions for the key roles and résumés for the personnel in those roles. Position descriptions should relate to the role on the proposed project, not the person's role

within the applicant organization, and describe critical competencies and expectations regarding project responsibilities. Applicants will submit the letters by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

Tribal Authorizing Resolution

If applicable, applicants will submit the Tribal Authorizing Resolution by uploading the resolution as an attachment in JustGrants. An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of information related to a tribal authorizing resolution as an attachment. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on tribal authorizing resolutions.

Timeline Form

Include a Timeline/Project Plan that outlines key tasks, benchmarks, and persons or entities responsible.

Letter of Assurance Regarding Meaningful Involvement

Include a letter(s) of commitment from the leader(s) of the agency or agencies proposed to receive funding that demonstrates commitment to this project plan and PREA implementation. Applicants will submit the letters by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

Documentation of Anticipated Benefit to Qualified Opportunity Zones (if applicable)

OJP will give priority consideration in award decisions to designated Qualified Opportunity Zones (QOZs). Each applicant proposing to receive priority consideration under the under the Qualified Opportunity Zones priority must provide a sufficient narrative explanation in order for OJP to identify clearly the public safety benefit the applicant anticipates that its project will have on a specified QOZ(s). The narrative and the list of affected QOZs (by census tract number) must be included as an attachment that is clearly labeled as addressing QOZs. The applicant may also include tables, charts, graphs, or other relevant illustrations that may be useful in comprehending the manner in which the proposed project is anticipated to benefit a QOZ(s). Applicants will submit the narrative by uploading the document as an attachment 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](#).

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](#).

DOJ High Risk Grantee. 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](#).

Submission Dates and Time

The **SF-424** and the **SF-LLL** will be submitted in Grants.gov by April 20, 2021 at 11:59 PM EST. 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 by May 4, 2021 at 11:59 PM EST.

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

Application Review Information

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 (30%) - evaluate the applicant's understanding of the program/issue to be addressed.
2. Project Design and Implementation (30%) - evaluate the adequacy of the proposal, including the goals, objectives, timelines, milestones, and deliverables.
3. Capabilities and Competencies (25%) - 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. Additional Review Criteria

Other important considerations for BJA include geographic diversity, strategic priorities (specifically including, but not limited to, those mentioned above relating to addressing specific challenges that rural communities face, high-poverty areas or persistent-poverty counties, demonstrable potential enhancement to public safety in one or more federally designated Qualified Opportunity Zones), 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.
- The application, if submitted by an applicant that is a DOJ High Risk Grantee, or is designated "high risk" by a federal grant-making agency outside of DOJ, must not have been determined by the BJA to pose a substantial risk of program implementation failure, based on 1) the applicant's lack of sufficient progress in addressing required corrective actions necessary for removal of the DOJ High Risk Grantee (or non-DOJ high risk) designation, 2) the nature and severity of the issues leading to or accompanying the DOJ High Risk Grantee (or non-DOJ high risk) designation, and/or 3) the applicant's expected ability to manage grant funds and achieve grant goals and objectives.

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. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent. (In appropriate cases, OJP may require additional reports.)

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 page 2.

For contact information for Grants.gov, see page 2.

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

Appendix A: Application Checklist

Implementing the PREA Standards, Protecting Inmates, and Safeguarding Communities

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application.-

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](#))

After Grants.gov Application Submission, Receive Grants.gov Email Notifications That:

- Application has been received in Grants.gov
- Application 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 NCJRS regarding technical difficulties toll-free at 800-851-3420; via TTY at 301-240-6310 (hearing impaired only); email grants@ncjrs.gov; fax to 301-240-5830; or web chat at <https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncichat/chat.jsp>. The NCJRS Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday-Friday, and 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. eastern time on the solicitation close date.

Complete Application Sections Listed Below in JustGrants:

- Receive email notification to complete application in JustGrants.
- Assign an Authorized Representative to the Entity.

Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements:

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

Scope Requirement:

- The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit of \$250,000.

Eligibility Requirement:

- State governments
- City or township governments
- County governments
- Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)

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)
- Executive-level letter(s) of commitment from the agency or agencies that are proposed to receive funding

Content of Application Submission

- Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)
- 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](#))
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Additional Application Components

- Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Documentation of rural challenges (if applicable)
- Documentation of high poverty areas or persistent poverty counties (if applicable)
- Documentation of enhanced public safety in federally designated Qualified Opportunity Zones (if applicable)
- Letter(s) of Commitment
- Position Descriptions
- Timeline/Project Plan
- 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 JustGrants Application Submission, Validation, or Error Notifications are Received:

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