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



## BJA FY 21 Safeguarding Correctional Facilities and Public Safety by Addressing Contraband Cellphones Program

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#### Overview

The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>Bureau of Justice Assistance</u> (BJA) is seeking applications to enhance, test, implement, and evaluate policies, practices, and technology to address and reduce the use of contraband cellphones in correctional facilities. This program furthers the Department's mission by reducing violence within correctional facilities and enhancing public safety.

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**

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

### **Eligible Applicants:**

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

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.

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 no later than January 31, 2021, 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 <a href="https://cops.usdoj.gov/SafePolicingEO">https://cops.usdoj.gov/SafePolicingEO</a> to access the Standards for Certification on Safe Policing for Safe Communities, Implementation Fact Sheet, and List of Designated Independent Credentialing Bodies.

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 <u>Grants.gov customer support webpage</u>, or email at <u>support@grants.gov</u>. 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 <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u> or at 833-872-5175. The JustGrants Service Desk operates 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST Monday - Friday and 9a.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 <a href="mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov">grants@ncjrs.gov</a> 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 <a href="mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov">grants@ncjrs.gov</a>. 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.

<u>Step 1:</u> Applicants will submit an **SF-424 and an SF-LLL** in Grants.gov at <a href="https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html">https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html</a>. 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 U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is seeking applications to enhance, test, implement, and evaluate policies, practices, and technology to address and reduce the use of contraband cellphones in correctional facilities. This program furthers the Department's mission by reducing violence within correctional facilities and enhancing public 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.

### **Statutory Authority**

Any awards under this solicitation will be made under the statutory authority provided by Pub. L. No. 116-260, 134 Stat 1182, 1258.

### **Specific Information**

These site-based awards are for state and local governments, including federally recognized Indian tribes that have detention capacity, to operationalize effective and secure managed access systems in correctional settings to prevent, detect, seize, and stop the presence and use of contraband cellphones by detainees and inmates. Jurisdictions will be expected to test, implement, and document changes to policy, practice, and tactics as they relate to preventing, detecting, seizing, and stopping the presence and use of contraband cellphones by detainees and inmates.

Applicants may propose to enhance or implement new physical, technical, and/or tactical managed access systems to prevent, detect, and respond to cellphone contraband use in correctional facilities. Applicants are encouraged to identify strategies that will educate relevant staff members and other key stakeholders about steps they can take to address contraband cellphones, and to define a process to gather, use, and share intelligence as a result of seizing contraband

### Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

The goal of this program is to assist state and local correctional agencies, as well as federally recognized Indian tribes that have detention capacity, to develop and implement managed access systems to end the use of cellphone contraband.

Applicants may propose to:

- Operationalize effective and secure managed access systems.
- Provide technological solutions to detect drones.

#### Objectives

Awardees will test, implement, document, and share changes to policy, practice, and tactics as they relate to preventing, detecting, seizing, and stopping the presence and use of contraband cellphones by detainees and inmates.

### **Deliverables**

Project deliverables include:

- A comprehensive, individualized implementation plan to guide grant-related activities
  A sustainability plan to ensure that BJA-funded activities and inhovations continue after grant funding ends
  A final report that outlines the use of federal funds, the implementation process, costs, outcomes (e.g., number of
  contraband cellphones confiscated, impacts on correctional staff such as less disruptions, and any other outcomes
  believed to have resulted from the program)
  Documentation 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

In FY 2019, BJA launched a competitive program entitled "Comprehensive Corrections Training and Technical Assistance," and, under Category 8, selected a national organization to provide training and technical assistance (TTA) to state, local, and tribal jurisdictions to support their efforts to develop and implement managed access systems to end the use of cellphone contraband. Under the direction of BJA, this TTA provider will deliver strategic support and assistance to the applicants funded under this grant announcement.

### **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."

### **Priority Areas**

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. In FY 2021, OJP will give priority consideration in award decisions to applications that demonstrate ways in which their projects will advance one or more of these areas.

To receive priority consideration for advancing one or more of the Department's priorities, the applicant must provide a sufficient narrative explanation as an attachment, that specifies how the project will advance the promotion of civil rights, access to justice, support to crime victims, protecting the public from crime and evolving threats, or building trust between law enforcement and the community.

In addition, OJP will give priority consideration, if applicable, to applicants that demonstrate that the individuals who are intended to benefit from the requested grant reside in high-poverty areas or persistent-poverty counties.

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 <a href="https://www.census.gov/acs/www/data/data-tables-and-tools/narrative-profiles/2017/">https://www.census.gov/acs/www/data/data-tables-and-tools/narrative-profiles/2017/</a>) 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 <a href="https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/dec/census-poverty.html">https://www.census.gov/data/tables/time-series/dec/census-poverty.html</a> and at <a href="https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe.html">https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe.html</a>).

Priority consideration is one of many factors that OJP considers in making funding decisions and is not a guarantee of an award.

### **Federal Award Information**

Awards, Amounts and Durations Anticipated Number of Awards

Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount of Awards \$425,000.00

Period of Performance Start Date 10/1/21 12:00 AM

Period of Performance Duration (Months)

Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation \$1,700,000.00

### **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 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.

### **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/Project Plan,
- Letter of Support from the Lead Agency Executive.

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 <u>Executive Order 12372</u>. (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 Webbased 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 20 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
  - Provide an overview of, including data to support, what is currently known about the extent of the
    jurisdiction's/facility's problems with contraband cellphones.
  - Describe the current security method, policy, and training to prevent and detect contraband cellphone use.
  - Discuss any history of cellphone contraband use by detainees or inmates, as well as any perceived challenges with staff.
- b. Project Design and Implementation
  - Address in detail how the applicant proposes to undertake and accomplish the goal, objectives, and deliverables.
    Address the permissions/agreements that need to be in place to test or fully implement the proposed
  - activities
  - Address how staff will be educated and informed about the proposed activities.
  - Address how the proposal supports intelligence gathering from detected and seized cellphones and how that information will be used and shared appropriately within the facility and agency.
  - Include a timeline/project plan that reflects a 6-month action planning period, 12-month implementation
    period, and a 6-month post-implementation period; the major tasks and deliverables of the proposed project;
    and who is responsible for each activity, including the procurement functions. Successful applicants will be
    expected to have the staffing and other needed supports in place by the end of the planning period so they
    can begin addressing the primary project activities at the start of the implementation period.
- c. Capabilities and Competencies
  - Provide a detailed description of the capacity of the organization and the key personnel to conduct the deliverables and perform the key tasks.
  - Describe how the proposed management structure and staffing of the project will facilitate the deliverables. The management and organizational structure described should match the staffing needs necessary to accomplish the tasks outlined in the timeline/project plan.
  - Applicants must research and address whether any external permissions are required for the proposed
    activities to occur, including permissions from the Federal Communications Commission, cellphone carriers,
    and/or other state or local government entities.
- d. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures
  - Describe the manner in which the data required for this solicitation's performance measures will be collected, including the system(s) used and the person(s) responsible.

    Describe whether and how other relevant performance measures will be documented and incidents recorded

by agency leadership

- e. Impact/Outcomes, Sustainability
  - · Discuss the ability of the jurisdiction to operationalize and sustain the project.
  - Describe how the project will be financially sustained after the federal funding ends.

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 <a href="www.ojp.gov/performance">www.ojp.gov/performance</a> for an overview of performance measurement activities at OJP.

Award recipients will be required to submit performance measure data and performance reports in JustGrants. Examples of the performance measures questionnaire can be found at <a href="https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/Cell-Contraband-">https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/Cell-Contraband-</a> Measures.pdf. Further guidance on the post-award submission process will be provided, if selected for award.

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 Safeguarding Correctional Facilities and Public Safety by Addressing Contraband Cellphones Program's goals, objectives, deliverables, and timelines in the JustGrants web-based form.

### **Budget and Associated Documentation**

### **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.

### **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.

### **Curriculum Vitae or Resumes**

Applicants will submit a document outlining the position descriptions for the proposed project, not the person's role within the applicant organization. It will describe their critical competencies and expectations for the project. Applicants will submit résumés or CVs for key personnel. Applicants should combine position descriptions and résumés or CVs into a single document. Applicants will submit this document 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**

Applicants will submit a timeline/project plan that outlines key tasks and benchmarks, and persons or entities responsible for each. Applicants will submit this timeline/project plan by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants

### **Letters of Support**

Applicants will submit letters from all other key partners detailing their commitment to work with the applicant to promote the mission of the project. Applicants will submit the letters by uploading the documents 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.

### **Documentation of Advancing DOJ Priorities (if applicable)**

As is mentioned above, OJP will give priority consideration in award decisions to applications that specify how the project will advance one or more of the following DOJ priorities: the promotion of civil rights, access to justice, support to crime victims, protecting the public from crime and evolving threats, or building trust between law enforcement and the community. Applicants will submit the narrative by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

### **Documentation of High-Poverty Areas or Persistent-Poverty Counties (if applicable)**

As mentioned above, 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.

### **Letter From Lead Agency Executive**

Applicants will submit a letter from the lead agency executive that demonstrates agency commitment to the project. Applicants will submit the letter by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

### Letter of Support From All Other Key Partners (if applicable)

Applicants will submit letters from all other key partners detailing their commitment to work with the applicant to promote the mission of the project. Applicants will submit the letters by uploading the documents as an attachment in JustGrants.

### Applicant Disclosure of Proposed Subrecipients.

Applicants will attach a list of proposed subrecipients of grant funding, if applicable, that includes the name, organizational affiliation, and location of the proposed subrecipient entity. Applicants will submit this disclosure 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 <a href="https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html">https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html</a>.

Applicants will submit the full application including attachments in JustGrants at 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 June 14, 2021 at 11:59 PM EST. O JP 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 June 28, 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**

### 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:

- Statement of the Problem/Description of the Issue (20%) evaluate the applicant'sunderstanding 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 (20%) evaluate administrative and technical capacity of theapplicant 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).
- 6. Impact/Outcomes Sustainability (15%)-evaluate the ability of the applicant tooperationalize and sustain the project.

### b. Other Review Criteria/Factors

Other important considerations for BJA include geographic diversity, strategic priorities (specifically including, but not limited to, those mentioned above relating to priority areas), 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 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 solicitation cover page

For contact information for Grants.gov, 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**

Safeguarding Correctional Facilities and Public Safety by Addressing Contraband Cellphones Program

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. The <u>DOJ Application Submission</u> 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
- Access Funding Opportunity and Application Package (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Sign up for Grants.gov email <u>notifications</u> (optional) (see <u>OJP Grant</u> 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 (s ee OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

### 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.

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 Resource Guide) (see OJP Grant Application

If No Grants.gov Receipt, and Validation or Error Notifications are Received:

• Contact the Response Center by telephone at 800–851–3420 or TTY: 301–240–6310 (hearing impaired only) or by email at <a href="mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov">grants@ncjrs.gov</a>. 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.

Complete Application Sections Listed Below in JustGrants:

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

Scope Requirement:

• The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit of \$425,000.

### 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 BMR will neither proceed to peer review nor receive further consideration.

- Program Abstract
- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form)
- · Timeline/Project Plan
- · Letter from Lead Agency Executive
- 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

- 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 Advancing DOJ Priorities (if applicable)
- Documentation of high poverty areas or persistent poverty counties (if applicable)
- · Letter From Lead Agency Executive
- · Letter(s) of Support from All Other Key Partners
- · Applicant Disclosure of Proposed Subrecipients
- · Timeline/Project Plan
- Position Description for Key Roles and Résumés or CVs

### **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)

### **Application Resource Guide)**

Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (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 <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u> or 833–872–5175 regarding technical difficulties