

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

**FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: BJA FY 2024
CONNECT AND PROTECT LAW
ENFORCEMENT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
RESPONSE PROGRAM (CONNECT &
PROTECT)**

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024



BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice



Presenters

- **Brooke Mount, PhD** – Senior Policy Advisor, BJA
- **NiKisha Love** – State Policy Advisor for JMHCP, BJA
- **Tammy Lovill** – State Policy Advisor for JMHCP, BJA
- **Mark Slater** – State Policy Advisor for JMHCP, BJA
- **Ernest Stevens** – Deputy Division Director, Behavioral Health, CSG Justice Center
- **Allison Upton, PsyD** – Deputy Program Director, Behavioral Health, CSG Justice Center

Agenda

Welcome and Introduction to OJP and BJA

Program Overview

Eligibility and Application Requirements

Application Resources

Q&A

SECTION 1

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION



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What is the Office of Justice Programs?

- The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) provides grant funding, training, research, and statistics to the criminal justice community.
- OJP is one of three grant-making components of the Department of Justice along with the **Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)** and the **Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)**.

BJA – Bureau of Justice Assistance



BJS – Bureau of Justice Statistics



NIJ – National Institute of Justice



OVC – Office for Victims of Crime



OJJDP – Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention



SMART – Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking



U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance

Mission: BJA's mission is to provide leadership and services in grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support state, local, and tribal justice strategies to achieve safer communities. BJA works with communities, governments, and nonprofit organizations to reduce crime, recidivism, and unnecessary confinement, and promote a safe and fair criminal justice system.

Karhlton F. Moore, BJA Director



<https://bja.ojp.gov/>



How BJA Supports the Field



Investments

Provide diverse funding to accomplish goals.



Sharing Knowledge

Research, develop, and deliver what works to build capacity and improve outcomes.



Engagement

Consult, connect, and convene.

BJA Grant Management



About The CSG Justice Center

The CSG Justice Center is a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that combines the power of a membership association, serving state officials in all three branches of government, with policy and research expertise to develop strategies that increase public safety and strengthen communities.

How the CSG Justice Center Works

- Brings people together
- Drives the criminal justice field forward with original research
- Builds momentum for policy change
- Provides expert assistance



Poll Question

Has your organization been awarded federal grants in the past?

Yes, my organization has extensive experience with federal grants.

Yes, though my organization does not currently have any federal grants.

My organization has limited experience with federal grants.

My organization is new to federal grants and looking to learn more!

SECTION 2

CONNECT & PROTECT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

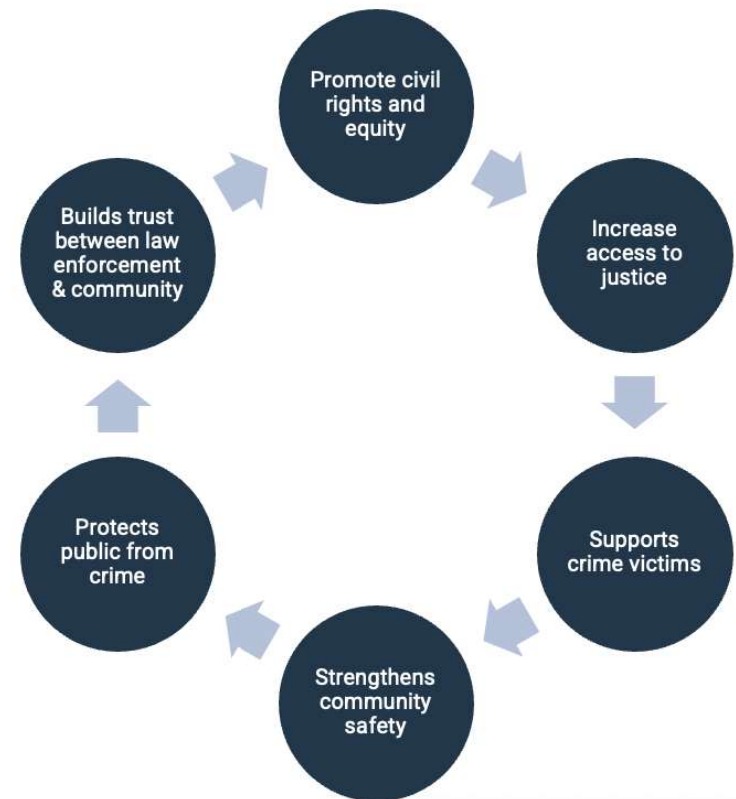


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Program Description Overview

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is seeking applications for funding.

OJP is committed to advancing work that:



Program Description Overview (cont.)



With this solicitation, BJA seeks applications for the Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program (Connect & Protect).



This program supports law enforcement–behavioral health cross-system collaboration to improve public health and public safety by improving responses to and outcomes for individuals with mental health disorders (MHDs) or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders (MHSUDs).



BJA provides grant funding to help entities prepare, create, or expand comprehensive plans and then implement these collaborative projects to target people who qualify.



This program furthers the DOJ’s mission to uphold the rule of law, to keep our country safe, and to protect civil rights.

Connect & Protect Federal Award Information



Anticipated Number of Awards: 19



Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount per Award: \$550,000



Period of Performance Start Date: October 1, 2024



Period of Performance Duration (Months): 36



Anticipated Total Amount to Be Awarded Under This Solicitation: \$10,450,000



Additional Information: Applicants that are planning a program for shorter than 36 months must indicate the period of performance in the abstract with a corresponding budget.

Specific Information



The program is designed to support law enforcement and behavioral health collaboration to improve public health and public safety responses to and outcomes for individuals with mental health disorders (MHDs) or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders (MHSUDs) who come into contact with the criminal justice system.



BJA is seeking applicants to develop new or enhance an existing law enforcement-behavioral health response.



For the purposes of this solicitation, the definition of someone with MHD includes individuals with traumatic brain injury (TBI) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Specific Information (cont.)

The Connect and Protect Program is under the umbrella of the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCPC).

Per the authorizing statute, JMHCPC requires a two-phase process consisting of planning and then implementation activities.

Applicants must submit one application that proposes detailed activities for both a planning phase and an implementation phase.

To learn more about building comprehensive response systems, see: [Police–Mental Health Collaborations: A Framework for Implementing Effective Law Enforcement Responses for People Who Have Mental Health Needs](#)

Goal

The goal of the Connect and Protect Program is to improve law enforcement and mental health collaboration in order to improve responses to and outcomes for individuals with MHDs, co-occurring MHSUDs, and intellectual and developmental disabilities who come into contact with law enforcement.

Objectives

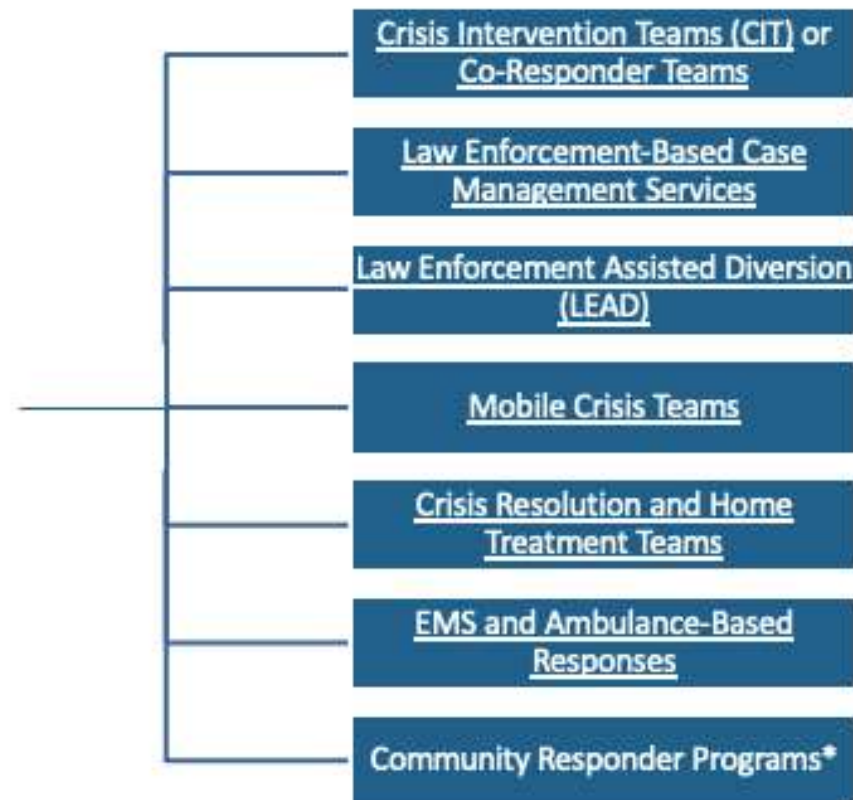
The Connect and Protect Program offers grants to eligible entities to plan, implement, or expand comprehensive collaborative response initiatives that target preliminarily qualified individuals with MHDs or MHSUDs and promote improved public health and public safety.

- The definition of “preliminarily qualified offender” is outlined in the 21st Century Cures Act and codified at 34 U.S.C. 10651(9)(A). See text at: [Text – H.R.34 – 114th Congress \(2015-2016\): 21st Century Cures Act | Congress.gov | Library of Congress](#)

Program Objectives and Timeline (cont.)

BJA will make site-based awards for grantees to pursue the following objectives:

Design and implement a crisis response program based on current best practice to assist law enforcement officers to improve encounters with individuals who have Mental Health Disorders (MHDs) or Co-occurring Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders (MHSUDs).



Program Objectives and Timeline (cont.)

BJA will make site-based awards for grantees to pursue the following objectives:

Plan and deliver a crisis response program.

Enhance officer knowledge and skills in responding to community members with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs.

Staff and train qualified staff to design and implement a police-mental health collaboration program (PMHC).

Engage residents through outreach and education to improve public health and public safety.

Connect with BJA's 14 law enforcement-mental health learning sites.

Program Objectives and Timeline (cont.)

BJA will make site-based awards for grantees to pursue the following objectives:

Enhance knowledge and capacity to identify and provide veteran-specific services. For additional information, see: [Veterans Response Team | VA Wilmington Health Care | Veterans Affairs.](#)

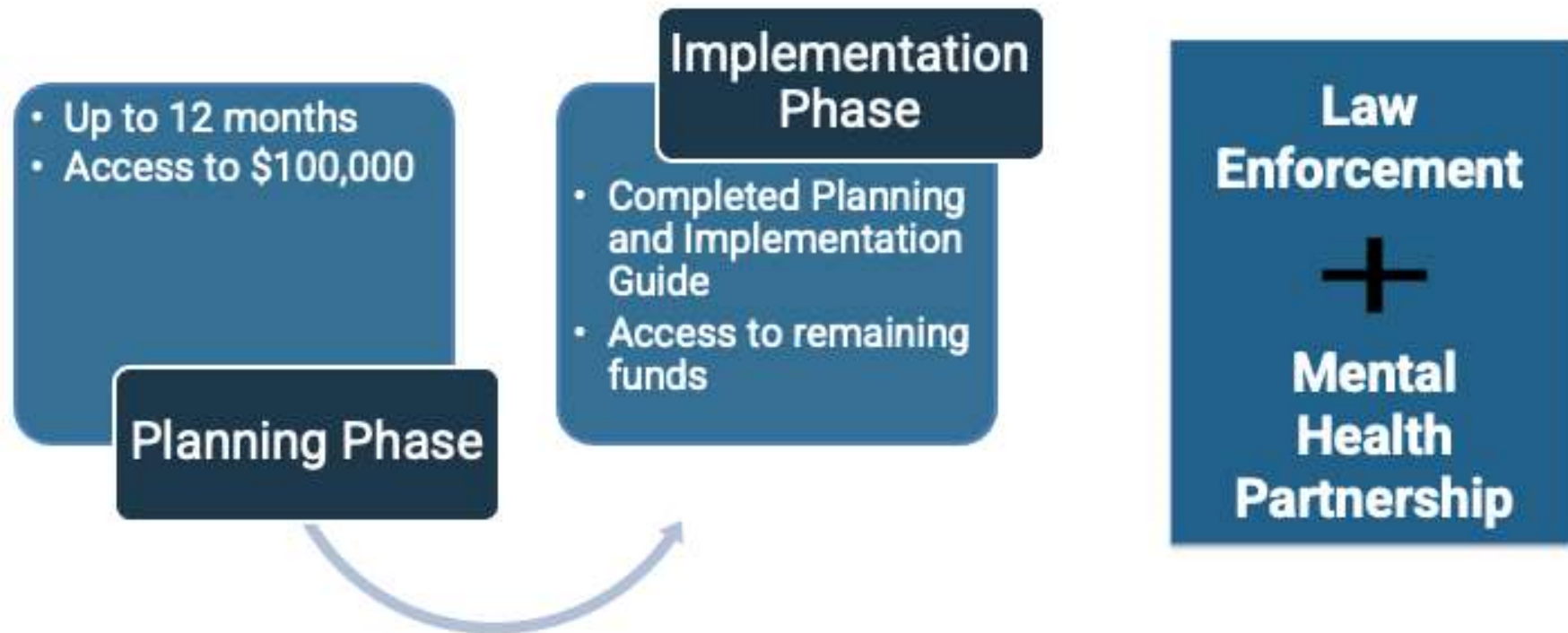
Plan for multidisciplinary stakeholder teams to support police officers and mental health co-response.

Increase multi-layered approaches to meet the needs of people in crisis.

Upgrade use of technology to support the ability to count calls for service.

Increase public safety and public health agencies' capacity to develop and sustain the program.

Deliverables Expected by Successful Applicants



Deliverables Expected by Successful Applicants, cont.



Document the approach for implementing or enhancing law enforcement–behavioral health responses to individuals with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs who contact law enforcement.



Collect data on the program's outcomes, effectiveness, and challenges.



Conduct an evaluation of the police-mental health collaboration (PMHC) and community satisfaction.



Develop common metrics and processes for tracking calls.



Include training and technical assistance and best practice guidance into the "Planning and Implementation Guide."



Outline and submit a plan at close out to sustain and continue the proposed collaboration program following the conclusion of federal support.

Priority Areas

Priority 1A

- Meaningfully advance equity and remove barriers to accessing services and opportunities for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization.
- Examples include improving:

**Victim
services**

**Justice
responses**

**Prevention
Initiatives**

**Reentry
services**

Priority Areas (cont.)

Priority 1 B

- Applicants that demonstrate their capabilities or competencies for implementing are enhanced because they are a population specific organization that serves communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized or adversely affected by inequality.
- Population specific organizations include:

Nonprofit

Nongovernmental

Tribal
organizations

Programmatic Priority Areas

- Promote effective strategies by law enforcement to identify and reduce the risk of harm and improve public safety
- Promote effective strategies for identification and treatment of women with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs who have been incarcerated.
- Propose interventions that have been shown to reduce recidivism. Use validated assessment tools



Priority Area Consideration

To receive priority consideration under any of these areas, applicants must identify, in the proposal abstract, each area for which priority consideration is being sought and then describe, in the proposal narrative, how they will address each priority.

Note: Addressing these priority areas is one of many factors that OJP considers in making funding decisions. Receiving priority consideration for one or more priority areas does not guarantee an award.

Budget and Associated Documentation

Budget \$100,000 to utilize during planning phase within 12 months of final approval.

Applicants are required to submit a budget for the entire 36-month program but may revise based on outcomes from the planning phase.

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



Data Collection

- 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 project's impact.
- Describe the process to accurately report data.

Note on Data Collection

Applicants are not required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included to provide notice that award recipients will be required to submit performance data as part of each award's reporting requirements

Award Conditions: Match Requirement

Total Federal Award Amount = \$550,000. Total years 1 & 2 federal expenditures = \$200,000. Year 3 federal expenditures = \$350,000

I was awarded \$550,000 from BJA. How much is the match?



Step 1: Divide Federal Expenditures by Federal Share % to find total project cost

- Years 1&2: \$200,000 / 80% = \$250,000
- Year 3: \$350,000 / 60% = \$583,334 (rounded up)

Step 2: Subtract Federal Amount from Total Project Cost = Non-Federal Amount (Match)

- Years 1&2: \$250,000 - \$200,000 = \$50,000
- Year 3: \$583,334 - \$350,000 = \$233,334

Federal Award Amount = \$550,000

Non-Federal Amount (Match) \$50,000 (years 1&2) + \$233,334 (year 3) = \$283,334

Total Project Cost (Federal + Match) = \$833,334

Match Waiver

The grant-making component will waive any requirement for matching funds (including in-kind) under \$200,000 for all awards made to American Samoa, Guam, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Northern Mariana Islands unless otherwise required by law to be provided; and may waive any requirement for matching funds equal to or over \$200,000 for all awards made to those territories, or to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

The \$200,000 amount is determined on a grant-by-grant basis, not by the aggregate total of all matching requirements applicable to an insular area ([48 U.S.C. § 1469a \[PDF - 116 Kb\]](#)).

SECTION 3

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS



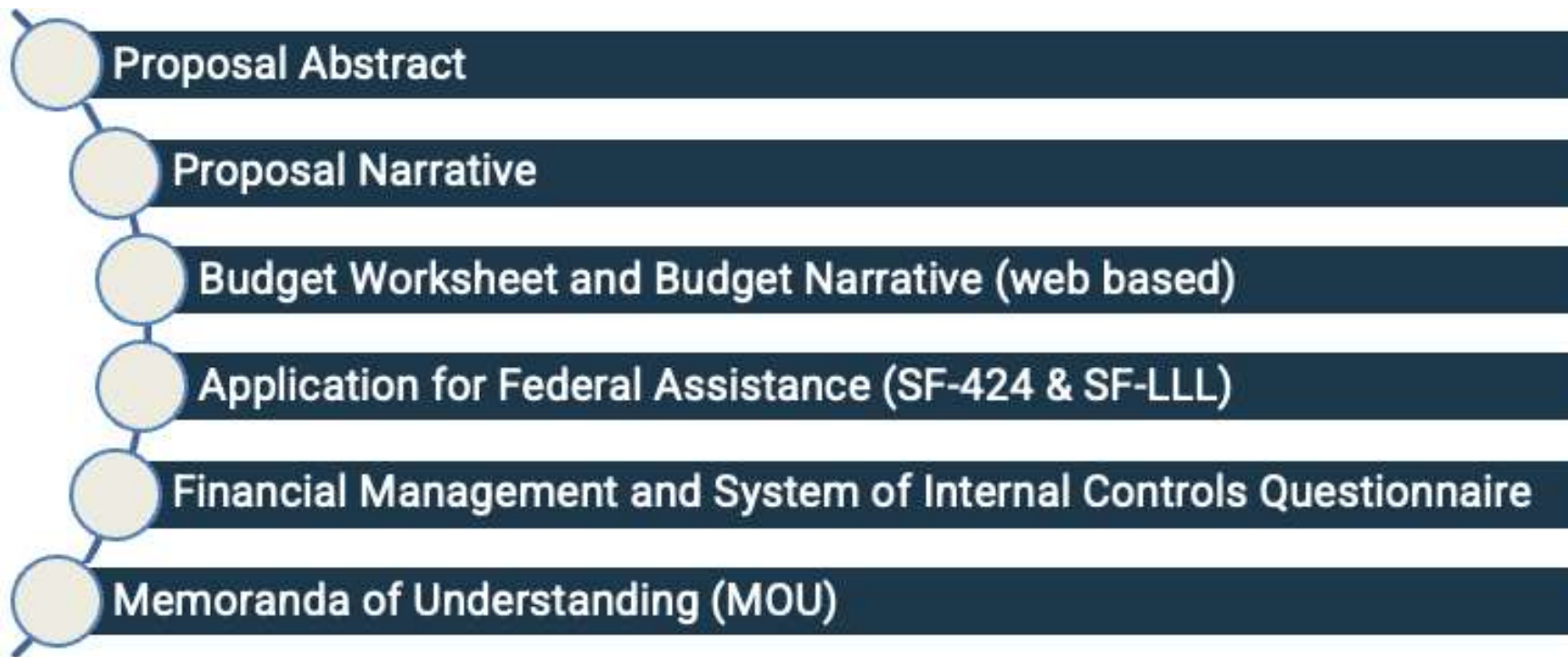
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Eligibility

State governments, special district governments, city or township governments, public and state controlled institutions of higher education, county governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)

Agencies with a different legal status (e.g., nonprofit or for-profit mental health agencies) must be designated by state mental health authority to provide services as a unit of state/local government

Application Information



Please refer to the [Application Submission Job Aid](#) for step-by-step directions.

Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) and Other Supportive Documents (if applicable)

For applications submitted from two or more entities, applicants are encouraged to develop and submit signed MOUs or signed letters of intent that provide a detailed description of how the agencies will work together to meet project requirements.

Each MOU or letter of intent should include the following:

1

Names of the organizations involved in the agreement.

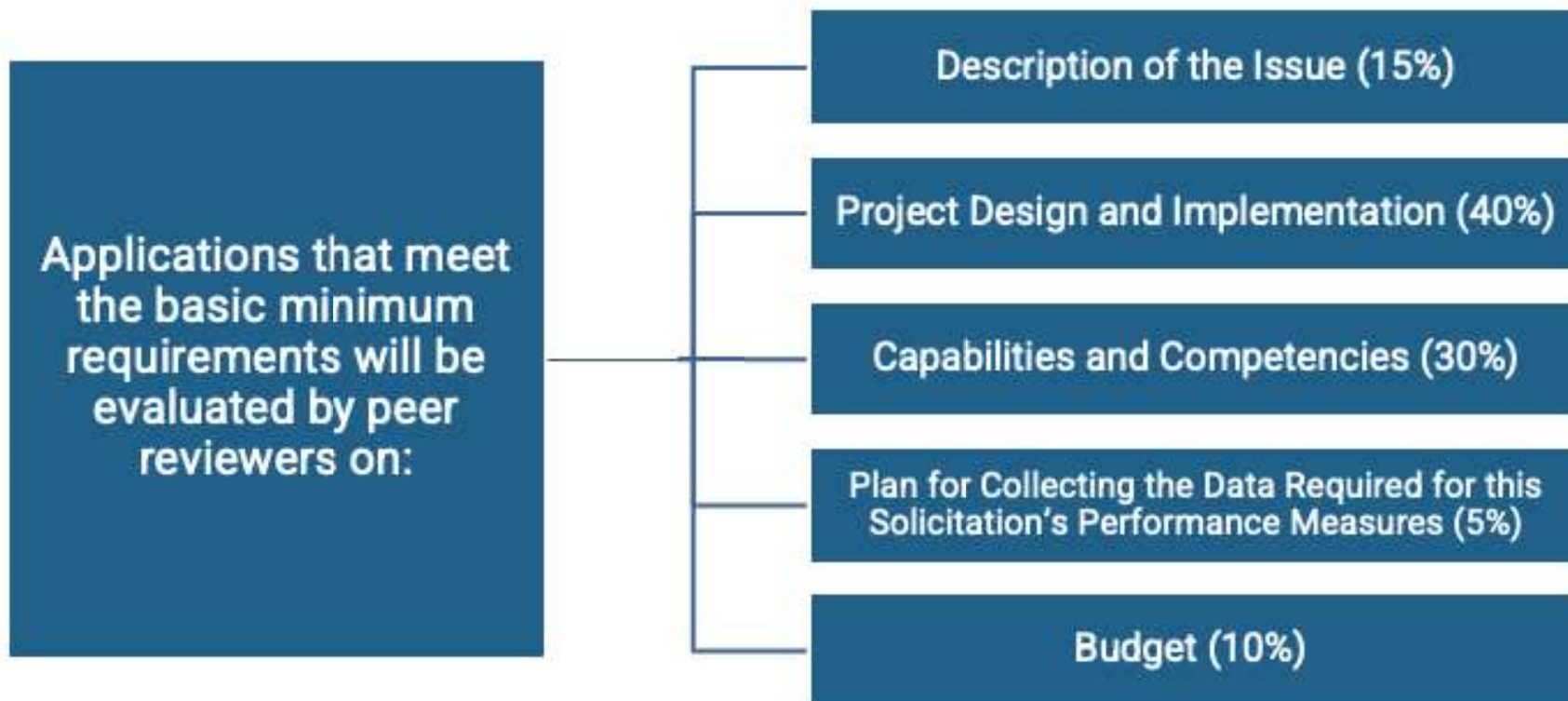
2

What service(s) and other work will be performed under the agreement by what organization.

3

Duration of the agreement.

Review Criteria



How to Apply

Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process that begins in Grants.gov and is completed in JustGrants.



*An applicant will receive emails when successfully submitting in Grants.gov and JustGrants and should maintain all emails and other confirmations received from SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants systems.

Application Submission



OJP recommends that applicants submit the complete application package in JustGrants at least 48 hours prior to the JustGrants deadline.



An applicant will receive emails when successfully submitting in Grants.gov and JustGrants and should maintain all emails and other confirmations received from SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants systems.

Submission Dates and Time

To be considered timely, the **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline. Failure to begin the SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants registration and application process in sufficient time (i.e., waiting until the due dates identified in this solicitation for those systems to begin the application steps) is not an acceptable reason to request a technical waiver.



SECTION 4

APPLICATION RESOURCES



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OJP Grant Application Resource Guide

SAM.gov Entity Validation Update

GSA implemented a new process to validate an entity's legal business name and physical address when requesting a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and for completing a SAM.gov entity registration. Due to a high volume of requests, entity validations are taking longer than expected to process. This validation process is now taking 7-10 business days, and in some cases longer.

OJP strongly recommends starting your SAM.gov registration process as soon as possible to allow the time necessary to process entity validations well in advance of the Grants.gov due date posted in the solicitation. Read [this FAQ](#) for more information.

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Grant Application Resource Guide ("Guide") provides guidance to assist OJP grant applicants in preparing and submitting applications for OJP funding. It addresses a variety of policies, statutes, and regulations that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP program applicants, or to grants and cooperative agreements awarded in fiscal year (FY) 2023. Some OJP programs may have program solicitations that expressly modify a provision of this Guide; in such cases, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in the solicitation as to any such expressly modified provision.

Contents

- [How To Apply](#)
- [Application Elements and Formatting Instructions](#)
 - [Complete the Application for Federal Assistance\(Standard Form \(SF\)-424\)](#)
 - [Disclosure of Lobbying Activities](#)
 - [Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#)
 - [Proposal Abstract](#)
 - [Budget Preparation and Submission Information](#)
 - [Detailed Computations and Allowable Costs](#)
 - [Narrative Justification for Every Cost](#)
 - [Consolidated Budget Summary](#)
 - [Information on Proposed Subawards \(if any\) and Proposed Procurement Contracts \(if any\)](#)
 - [Indirect Cost Rate Agreement \(if applicable\)](#)
 - [Tribal Authorizing Resolution \(if applicable\)](#)
- [Application Attachments](#)
 - [Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications \(Duplication in Cost Items\)](#)
 - [Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High Risk Grantees](#)
 - [Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity](#)
 - [Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation](#)
- [Financial Information](#)
 - [Financial Management and System of Internal Controls](#)
 - [Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire \(including Applicant Disclosure of High-Risk Status\)](#)
 - [Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement](#)
 - [Pre-agreement Costs \(also known as Pre-award Costs\)](#)
 - [Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation, Waiver](#)
 - [Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs](#)
 - [Costs Associated with Language Assistance \(if applicable\)](#)
- [Application Review Information](#)
- [Federal Award Administration Information](#)
 - [Federal Award Notices](#)
 - [Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements](#)
 - [Information Technology \(IT\) Security Clauses](#)
 - [General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements](#)
- [Programmatic Information](#)
 - [Evidence-Based Programs or Practices](#)
 - [Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities](#)
 - [Note on Project Evaluations](#)
- [Other Information](#)
 - [Freedom of Information and Privacy Act \(5 U.S.C. § 552 and 5 U.S.C. § 552a\)](#)
 - [Provide Feedback to OJP](#)
 - [To Become an OJP Peer Reviewer](#)

<https://www.ojp.gov/funding/apply/ojp-grant-application-resource-guide>

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the JustGrants website. On the left is the JustGrants logo with the text 'JUSTgrants JUSTICE GRANTS SYSTEM'. To the right are links for 'JustGrants Login', 'FAQs', 'COPS Office', 'OJP', and 'OVW'. Below the logo is a search bar. A secondary navigation bar contains links for 'About', 'Training', 'Resources', 'User Support', 'Library', and 'News & Updates'. The main content area features a large blue banner with the text 'Learn About the Department of Justice's Grants and Payment Management Systems' and a 'JustGrants Login' button.

The Justice Grants System (JustGrants) is the Department of Justice's grants management system for the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office), the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW).

The JustGrants Resources website is an entryway into information about JustGrants and the system itself. Through this portal both award recipients and applicants can access [training resources](#) and [user support options](#), find answers to [frequently asked questions](#) and [sign up for the JusticeGrants Update e-newsletter](#).

Users can also [log in to JustGrants](#) through the site.

News Flash

Feb 21: [Register Now! March Dates Added for Virtual Q&A Sessions](#)

Aug 10: [Review New and Updated JustGrants FAQs](#)

The grid contains six navigation cards, each with a blue header and a white body:

- LOGIN**: Features a padlock icon. Text: 'JustGrants Login. Select the access graphic above to log in to the Justice Grants System (JustGrants).'
- TRAINING**: Features an icon of a person at a computer. Text: 'Training. Learn to navigate JustGrants effectively and complete various essential grants management tasks.'
- FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**: Features a question mark icon. Text: 'FAQs. Find answers to frequently asked questions regarding the Justice Grants System (JustGrants) and the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP).'
- USER SUPPORT**: Features a person with a headset icon. Text: 'User Support. Access self-service, topic-specific, and technical support options for assistance in using the JustGrants System.'
- RESOURCES**: Features a globe icon. Text: 'Resources. Links to resource guides, financial and administrative resources for grant management, funding opportunities, and ASAP training and resources.'
- NEWS & UPDATES**: Features a laptop icon. Text: 'News & Updates. View the latest information and updates on DOJ's grants management and payment management systems and sign up for JusticeGrants Updates emails from the COPS Office, OJP, and OVW.'

<https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/>

Application Assistance

Grants.gov

- Provides technical assistance with submitting the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL**.
 - **Customer Support Hotline**
 - 800-518-4726 or 606-545-5035
 - Operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.
 - **Web and Email**
 - <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html>
 - support@grants.gov
- Provides information on available federal funding opportunities for various federal agencies.

JustGrants Technical Assistance

Provides technical assistance with submitting the full application in DOJ's Justice Grants System (JustGrants).

- **Customer Support Hotline:**
 - 833-872-5175
 - Monday–Friday between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. ET
 - Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET
- **Web and Email**
 - <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/user-support>
 - JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov

Email Updates
Text OJP [your
email address] to
468-311 to
subscribe.
(Message and data
rates may apply.)



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs website. On the left is the official seal of the Office of Justice Programs. To its right, the text reads "U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE" and "OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS". On the far right, there are links for "Contact Us", "Careers", and "Subscribe", along with a search bar containing the word "Search" and a magnifying glass icon. Below the navigation bar is a horizontal menu with the following items: "About Us", "News Center", "Grants/Funding", "For Congress", "NCJRS Library", "Topics", "Training", and "Data".

[Home](#)



Shutterstock (see reuse policy).

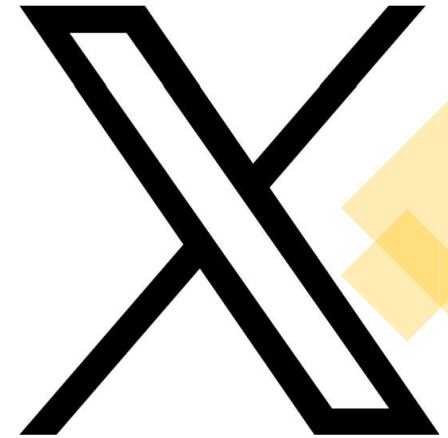
Stay Connected [↗](#)

- Subscribe to:
 - [OJP News Releases](#) for the latest OJP press releases and publication advisories
 - [JUSTINFO](#), a twice-monthly email newsletter
 - [Funding News](#), a weekly notice of new grant opportunities and application tips
 - [JusticeGrants Update e-newsletter](#) for the latest information and updates on JustGrants, DOJ's grants management system
 - [OJP email newsletters](#) and topical messages available from OJP program offices (BJA, BJS, NIJ, OJJDP, OVC, and SMART)
- Sign up for [U.S. Department of Justice Email Updates](#)

<https://www.ojp.gov/subscribe>

Stay Connected!

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA>
- X: <https://x.com/DOJBJA>
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/dojbjja>
- Use the QR code to subscribe to “Justice Matters” and “News From BJA” to receive the latest information from BJA and the field.
- For information on funding opportunities, publications, and initiatives, visit **BJA’s website**: www.bja.ojp.gov.



Additional Questions?

Contact the **OJP Response Center**:

- Email: grants@ncjrs.gov
- Toll free: 800-851-3420
- TTY: 301-240-6310 (hearing impaired only)

The Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday.

Reminder: Dual Deadlines

Applications must be submitted in a two-step process, each with its own deadline:

- **Step 1:** Submit an SF-424 and an SF-LLL at [Grants.gov](https://www.Grants.gov).
- **Step 2:** Submit the full application, with attachments, at [JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov](https://www.JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov).

NOTE: Submission deadline times for both Grants.gov and JustGrants are now 8:59 p.m. ET, not 11:59 p.m. ET as in past years.

Read the solicitation carefully for further guidance.

Quick Reference: Important Contacts



For technical assistance submitting the SF-424 and SF-LLL into Grants.gov, **call:** 800-518-4726 or 606-545-5035, 24 hours a day, or **email:** support@grants.gov.



For technical assistance submitting the **full application** into JustGrants, **call:** 833-872-5175, 7:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m. ET, M–F, and 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. ET, weekends and holidays, or **email:** JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov.



For technical assistance with the programmatic requirements, **call the OJP Response Center:** 800-851-3420, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. ET, M–F, or **email:** grants@ncjrs.gov.

SECTION 5

Q&A



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Questions?

Enter in the **Q&A** box
and send to **All
Panelists.**