
November 2, 2021: The transcript and presentation from a webinar held on October 19, 2021, discussing this opportunity, are available. See https://nij.ojp.gov/webinar-transcript-web-du-bois-program-research-reducing-racial-and-ethnic-disparities-justice

The original funding opportunity document begins on the next page.

Overview
The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), National Institute of Justice (NIJ), seeks applications for funding of investigator-initiated research examining how observed racial and ethnic disparities in the justice system might be reduced through public policy interventions at any point during the administration of justice for juveniles and/or adults. This project furthers the Department’s mission by supporting the development of new knowledge and tools to address the challenges of crime and justice in the United States.

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

Other
For purposes of this solicitation, the term “State” means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virginia Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Foreign governments, foreign organizations, and foreign colleges and universities are not eligible to apply. Federal agencies are eligible to apply. (Any award made to a federal agency will be made as an inter-agency reimbursable agreement.)

To advance Executive Order 13929 Safe Policing for Safe Communities, as of October 28, 2020, the Attorney General determined that all state, local, and university or college law enforcement agencies must be certified by an approved independent credentialing body or have started the certification process to be allocated FY 2021 DOJ discretionary grant funding, as either a recipient or a subrecipient. For detailed information on this new certification requirement, please visit...
All recipients and subrecipients (including any for-profit organization) must forgo any profit or management fee.

NIJ 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.

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

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

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

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

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

The W.E.B. Du Bois Program supports quantitative and qualitative research that furthers the Department’s mission by advancing knowledge regarding the intersections of race, crime, violence, and the administration of justice within the United States. In FY 2021 under the W.E.B. Program, NIJ seeks applications for funding of investigator-initiated research examining how observed racial and ethnic disparities in the justice system might be reduced through public policy interventions at any point during the administration of justice. NIJ seeks applications for funding from two categories of researchers:

1. W.E.B. Du Bois Scholars – Researchers who are advanced in their careers (awarded a terminal degree at least seven years prior to December 31, 2021) may apply for grants for research, evaluation, and mentoring less-experienced researchers.
2. W.E.B. Du Bois Fellows – Researchers who are early in their careers (awarded a terminal degree within seven years of December 31, 2021) may apply for grants for research and evaluation.

Under this solicitation, NIJ will only consider applications for research on public policy interventions that may reduce racial and ethnic disparities in the justice system.

Prospective applicants from all racial and ethnic backgrounds are eligible to apply to the W.E.B. Du Bois Program. Researchers of color and women are strongly encouraged to apply. Applications must identify under which Category a proposal is submitted. NIJ will accept proposals to examine how observed racial and ethnic disparities in the justice system might be reduced through public policy in either the criminal and juvenile justice context or both.

Although not required, NIJ encourages applicants to consider researcher-practitioner partnerships in responding to this solicitation. Research can provide practical solutions to the obstacles faced by criminal justice practitioners as they work to reduce racial and ethnic disparities. Through these partnerships, criminal justice practitioners can independently assess their programs and measure outcomes. Likewise, criminal justice researchers can better understand the goals and purposes criminal justice practitioners seek to achieve, and therefore provide more practical solutions for practitioners. Ultimately, these partnerships provide criminal justice practitioners with practice- and policy-relevant information, while affording researchers the opportunity to contribute to the current body of knowledge.

Applications proposing research involving partnerships with criminal justice or other agencies should include a strong letter of support, signed (hard/wet, electronic, digital signature) by an appropriate decision-making authority from each proposed partnering agency. A letter of support should include the partnering agency’s acknowledgment that de-identified data derived from, provided to, or obtained through this project will be archived by the grant recipient with the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD) at the conclusion of the award. Applicants and their potential partners are encouraged to review the NACJD’s policies and protections. If selected for an award, grantees will be expected to have a formal agreement in place with partnering agencies by July 1, 2022. That formal agreement must include a provision to meet the data archiving requirements of the award.

In the case of partnerships that will involve the use of federal award funds from multiple partnering agencies to carry out the proposed project, only one entity/partnering agency may be the applicant (as is the case with any application submitted in response to this solicitation); any others must be proposed as subrecipient.

Statutory Authority

Specific Information
W.E.B. Du Bois (1868-1963) was an American sociologist, historian, writer, and editor. As a social scientist, Du Bois used objective scientific methods to promote social change. The Philadelphia Negro: A Social Study [1] published by Du Bois in 1899, was a groundbreaking sociological study of the city’s African American community. It was one of the first research projects to combine urban ethnography, social history, and descriptive statistics.

From FY 2000 to 2018, NIJ supported the W.E.B. Du Bois Program to advance the field of research on race and crime in the United States, with funding for fellows who are early in their careers. In FY 2016, NIJ expanded the program to include a funding category with support for more extensive research projects led by experienced principal investigators (PIs) who could mentor early career researchers. NIJ is reinstituting the W.E.B. Du Bois Program in FY 2021, with a specific focus this FY on research of public policy interventions that can reduce racial and ethnic disparities in the justice system.
Racial and ethnic disparities in the justice system have been well-documented in the research literature. For example, Black Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans are disproportionately represented in arrest, prosecution, conviction, and incarceration rates. In addition, communities of color often experience high levels of crime and victimization.

Since President Johnson’s Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice almost 55 years ago, substantial empirical attention has been devoted to uncovering factors that contribute to racial and ethnic disparities in the justice system, and to a lesser extent, programs, policies, and practices that might mitigate them. Studies have examined disparity at all stages of the justice process, from police discretion to arrest, to incarceration and application of the death penalty. Recently, special issues of journals have focused on strategies aimed at reducing this disparity.

While the call for reform to address racial and ethnic disparities within the justice system is not new, it became more salient in 2020 with the deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, which led to massive protests and civil unrest within the U.S. and abroad.

NIJ has a long history of funding research on race, culture, gender, and crime and their intersections with the administration of justice, particularly, but not exclusively, through the W.E.B. Du Bois Program. Potential applicants should consult the NIJ website and familiarize themselves with projects that NIJ has previously funded.

With this solicitation, NIJ seeks proposals for rigorous research projects examining the existing body of evidence to identify policy interventions that have the potential to reduce observed racial and ethnic disparities in the justice system (which may involve primary and/or secondary data collection). NIJ expects the findings and recommendations derived from this research to guide future research and testing of promising interventions.

NIJ is interested in policy interventions that have the potential to reduce disparities at any point during the administration of justice for juveniles and/or adults. These interventions could include policing practices, access to defense resources, pre-trial release practices, charging decisions, sanctions imposed, access to treatment services, post-release programming, or any other point at which disparity is evident. NIJ is particularly interested in identifying those interventions that have the greatest potential to positively intervene in an individual’s progress out of the justice system.

NIJ seeks applications for funding from two categories of researchers:

**W.E.B. Du Bois Scholars**

A primary goal of the W.E.B. Du Bois Scholars Program is to grow the field of well-trained researchers examining the intersections of race, crime, violence, and the administration of justice within the United States. Therefore, Scholars must propose a mentorship component to the study that goes beyond hiring graduate and undergraduate students as project staff.

Applications must include a general mentorship plan, with details on how the proposed research will contribute to the mentoring and training of junior researchers, graduate students, and/or undergraduate students by the Scholar and research partners. This general mentorship plan must be provided as an appendix to the application.

For mentorship plan approval as part of the grant award process, NIJ will require:

- The curriculum vitae/resume of the individual(s) to be mentored;
- A career development plan for the mentee(s);
- A description of the use of resources for the mentoring enterprise, such as research workspace and equipment, statistical software, and other research support;
- A description of the availability of activities (including classes, seminars, and informal opportunities) for interaction with other scientists or researchers;
- Training in career skills, such as grant-writing and effective presentations; and
- A statement that at least one peer-reviewed journal article from the project will be first-authored by the mentee(s).

Nominally, a W.E.B. Du Bois Scholars grant project is expected to take 36 months or more to complete and have a minimum value of $500,000. The actual period of performance proposed and funding request will be determined by the requirements of the research, up to the full 5-years allowed and the full funding amount anticipated to be available to support this solicitation.

**W.E.B. Du Bois Fellows**

Prospective Fellows from all social and behavioral sciences and technology, engineering, and mathematics are welcome to apply. Applicants must:
• Possess a terminal degree in their respective field;

• Not have been awarded tenure by December 31, 2021.

NIJ is soliciting proposals for Fellowships from researchers early in their careers to conduct qualitative and/or quantitative research, including secondary data analysis. This category offers talented researchers an opportunity to elevate independently generated research and ideas to the level of national discussion. In this funding category, first-time grant recipients are encouraged to apply. Fellowship applicants have the option of proposing a short-term residency at NIJ; however, residency is not a Fellowship requirement and security clearance must be completed before residency may begin. Fellowship applicants should indicate on the cover page of the program narrative that they are applying to the Fellows’ category of this solicitation.

Nominally, a W.E.B. Du Bois Fellows grant project is expected to take 24 months or more to complete, and have a minimum value of $250,000. The actual period of performance proposed and funding request will be determined by the requirements of the research, up to the full 5-years allowed and the full funding amount anticipated to be available to support this solicitation.

Applicants under both categories must provide as applicable:

• A complete description of the data to be used in the study. This narrative should include the number of cases, complete variable descriptions, data collection method, data format, data source, and the cost of accessing data (if applicable.)

• A description of the justice phenomena that currently results in unwarranted disparity in the treatment of, or outcomes for, racial or ethnic categories.

• A disparity analysis (using existing data) showing evidence of racial or ethnic disparity surrounding the justice phenomena or event to be studied. NIJ is interested in proposals that can document evidence of disparity in the population to be studied, and surrounding the specific activity under study.

• A detailed description of the modification or intervention expected to resolve unwarranted disparity, and a summary of the literature that suggests that the proposed intervention will effectively reduce unwarranted disparity.

• A description of the analytic techniques to be employed and methods of determining success/failure must be provided if the method relies on statistical modeling of the intervention/modification.

• An explicit statement discussing how the proposed research follows the W.E.B. Du Bois Program’s tradition of multidisciplinary scientific inquiry, and how it will propel the justice research field forward.

Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

Goals
The primary goal of this solicitation is to promote the fair administration of justice. Findings from this research program will assist state, local, and tribal jurisdictions to promote fairer justice systems, and increase the legitimacy of those systems, thus enhancing racial and ethnic communities’ trust in public safety. Secondary goals include advancing research methods and growing the field of well-trained researchers.

Objectives
This solicitation aims to: 1) Identify policy interventions that have potential to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in the justice system and guide future research and testing of promising interventions; 2) Translate and disseminate research findings to diverse stakeholder audiences in order to improve practice and policy through science; and 3) Build an enhanced capability to conduct rigorous justice research and evaluation projects through the mentoring of junior researchers by scholars advanced in their careers.

Deliverables
Final Research Report. Any recipient of an award under this solicitation will be expected to submit a final research report. Additional information on the final research report requirement for the solicitation is posted on NIJ’s webpage.

Required Data Sets and Associated Files and Documentation. Any recipient of an award under this solicitation will be expected to submit to the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD) all data sets that result in whole or in part from work funded by the award, along with associated files and any documentation necessary for future efforts by others to reproduce the project’s findings and/or to extend the scientific value of the data set through secondary analysis.

In addition to these deliverables (and the required reports and data on performance measures), NIJ expects scholarly
products to result from each award under this solicitation, taking the form of one or more published, peer-reviewed, scientific journal articles, and/or (if appropriate) law review journal articles, book chapter(s) or book(s) in the academic press, technological prototypes, patented inventions, or similar scientific products. NIJ expects that there will be an equal effort to make the research findings accessible to practitioner and policymaker audiences.

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.

Federal Award Information
Awards, Amounts and Durations
Period of Performance Start Date
7/1/22 12:00 AM

Period of Performance Duration (Months)
60

Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation
$3,000,000.00

Additional Information
Please see Anticipated Number of Awards, Maximum Dollar Amount for each Award, and Period of Performance Duration sections below.

Continuation Funding Intent
NIJ 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
NIJ 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
If the applicant is proposing a project that reasonably could be conducted in discrete phases, with each phase resulting in completion of one or more significant, defined milestones, then NIJ strongly recommends that the applicant structure the application — specifically including the narrative, expected scholarly products, timelines/milestones, and budget detail worksheet and budget narrative — to clearly define each phase. (This is particularly the case if the applicant proposes a project that will exceed — in cost or the length of the period of performance — the amount or length of time anticipated for an individual award [or awards] under this solicitation.) In addition, given limitations on the availability of NIJ funds for awards for research, development, and evaluation, this information will assist NIJ in considering whether partial funding of applications would be productive. (If in FY 2022, NIJ elects to fund only certain phases of a proposed project, the expected scholarly products from the partial-funding award may, in some cases, vary from those described above.)

NIJ 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.

What will not be funded:
Applications primarily to purchase equipment, materials, or supplies. (A budget may include these items necessary to conduct research, development, demonstration, evaluation, or analysis.)

Applications that are not responsive to the purposes of this specific solicitation.

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement
See “Cofunding” paragraph under item 5 (“Budget and Associated Documentation”) under “Content of Application Submission” in Application and Submission Information.

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.

Anticipated Number of Awards

To be determined by the number of applications received and their merit.

Maximum Dollar Amount for each Award

To be determined by the requirements of the research proposed in grants selected for award. Applicants are encouraged to propose budgets that match the research activities proposed, up to the full dollar amount anticipated to be awarded under this solicitation.

Period of Performance Duration

To be determined by the period of performance of awarded applications. Successful applicants will be expected to complete the work proposed within a five-year period of performance.

Eligibility Information

For eligibility information, see the title page.

For information on cost sharing or match requirements, see Federal Award Information.

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 Narrative,
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form), and
- Curriculum Vitae/Resumes for Key Personnel. (Curriculum Vitae for key personnel (For purposes of this solicitation, “key personnel” means the principal investigator, and any and all co-principal investigators.)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Proposal Narrative
The proposal narrative should be submitted as an attachment in JustGrants. The attached document should be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point Times New Roman font; have no less than 1-inch margins; and should not exceed 30 pages. Pages should be numbered and submitted as an attachment. If the proposal narrative fails to comply with these length-related restrictions, NIJ 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. Title Page (not counted against the proposal narrative page limit)
The title page should include:
- Project title.
- Submission date.
- Funding opportunity number.
- Principal Investigator (and any co-principal investigators).
- Unique author identifier (e.g., ORCID, ResearcherID, Scopus Author ID), if available.
- Requests for consideration under “new investigator” and/or “priority areas of research” areas.
- Key words, including science focus areas.
- Contact information (that is, name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address) for both the applicant and the principal investigator.

b. Resubmit Response (if applicable) (not counted against the proposal narrative page limit.)
If an applicant is resubmitting an application presented previously to NIJ, but not funded, the applicant should indicate this. A statement should be provided, no more than two pages, addressing: (1) the title, submission date, and NIJ-assigned application number of the previous application, and (2) a brief summary of revisions to the application, including responses to previous feedback received from NIJ.

c. Table of Contents and Figures (not counted against the proposal narrative page limit)
d. Main Body

1. Statement of the Problem.
The statement of the problem should address the need for research in this area. Applicants should discuss current gaps in data, research, and knowledge, including those for particular justice sectors, for certain populations, and to answer questions relevant to current policy and practice needs and public interests. It is not uncommon for multiple problems to exist simultaneously (for example, there may be a criminal justice problem affecting public safety, a current technical challenge/need identified by forensic practitioners, as well as a scientific/technology gap between the current state of the art and a desired solution) and applicants should discuss each of these clearly and justify the importance of the separate issues. As part of this discussion, applicants should present a review of previous literature and discuss previous research related to these problems.

2. Project Design and Implementation.
Applicants should provide a detailed description of the strategies to implement this research project and address the research questions. Design elements should follow directly from the research project’s goals and objectives and address the program-specific information noted in the solicitation. Applicants should describe the research methodology and analysis plan in detail and demonstrate the validity and usefulness of the data they will collect. Applicants should consider the rigor and soundness of the methodology and analytical and technical approaches for the proposed research and address the feasibility of the proposed project and potential challenges or problems in carrying out the activities.


Applicants should describe the potential impact of the research and how it may inform or improve criminal or juvenile justice-related policy, practice, or theory in the United States. The applicant should include a discussion of the proposed dissemination plan to produce scholarly products and to make information available to broader interested audiences, such as criminal justice practitioners or policymakers.

4. Capabilities and Competencies.

This section should describe the experience and capability of the applicant organization, key staff, and any proposed subgrantees (including consultants) that the applicant will use to implement and manage this effort and the federal funds under this award, highlighting any previous experience implementing projects of similar scope, design, and magnitude. Applicants should address:

- Experience and capacity to work with the proposed data sources in the conduct of similar research efforts.
- Experience and capacity to design and implement rigorous research and data analysis projects.
- Experience producing and disseminating meaningful deliverables.

Applicants should also outline the management plan and organization that connects to the goals and objectives of the project.

5. Appendices (not counted against the proposal narrative page limit) include:

- The project management plan.
- If the application (including the budget) identifies any proposed non-competitive agreements that are or may be considered procurement “contracts” (rather than subawards), for purposes of federal grants administrative requirements, the applicant also must list the entities with which the applicant proposes to contract.
- List of other agencies, organizations, or funding sources to which this application has been submitted (if applicable).

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 on page 7.

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found on page 17.

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 quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports, and the Final Research Report. Further guidance on the post-award submission process will be provided, if selected for award.

**Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline**

Applicants will submit the project’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**

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.

The following paragraph (on “Cofunding”) expressly modifies the “Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement” provisions in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide. The applicant is to follow the guidance in the following paragraph instead of the guidance stated under the “Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement” heading in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

**Cofunding:** An award made by NIJ under this solicitation may account for up to 100 percent of the total cost of the project. The application should indicate whether it is feasible for the applicant to contribute cash, facilities, or services as non-federal support for the project. The application should identify generally any such contributions that the applicant expects to make and the proposed budget should indicate in detail which items, if any, will be supported with non-federal contributions.

For additional match information, see the “Cost Sharing or Match Requirement” section under Federal Award Information.

If a successful application proposes a voluntary match amount, and OJP approves the budget, the total match amount incorporated into the approved budget becomes mandatory and subject to audit.

**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**
Curriculum vitae or resume of the principal investigator and any and all co-principal investigators. In addition, curriculum vitae, resume, or biographical sketches of all other individuals (regardless of “investigator” status) who will be significantly involved in substantive aspects of the proposed project (including, for example, individuals such as statisticians used to conduct proposed data analysis).

**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**
Proposed project timeline and expected milestones.

**Letters of Support**
Letters of cooperation/support or administrative agreements from organizations collaborating in the project, such as law enforcement and correctional agencies (if applicable).

**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.

**Bibliography/reference**
Bibliography/references. Provide a bibliography of any references cited in the Project Narrative.

**Any tools/instruments, questionnaires, tables/chart/graphs, or maps**
Any tools/instruments, questionnaires, tables/charts/graphs, or maps pertaining to the proposed project that are supplemental to such items included in the main body of the narrative.

**List of Individuals in the Application**
To assist OJP in assessing actual or apparent conflicts of interest (including such conflicts on the part of prospective reviewers of the application), provide a complete list of the individuals named or otherwise identified anywhere in the application (including in the budget or in any other attachment) who will or may work (or advise or consult) on the proposed research, development, or evaluation project. Applicants should use the "Proposed Project Staff, Affiliation, and Roles" form available on the NIJ webpage to prepare this list.

**Human Subjects Protection**

**Privacy Certificate**
Privacy Certificate (for further guidance go to [https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/confidentiality-and-privacy-protections](https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/confidentiality-and-privacy-protections) and [https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/model-privacy-certificate](https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/model-privacy-certificate)).

**Request to Use Incentives or Stipends**
Applicants proposing to use incentives or stipends payments as part of their research project design, must submit an incentive or stipend approval request, as a separate document, according to the requirements set forth at [https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/participant-support-costs-and-incentives-social-scienceresearch](https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/participant-support-costs-and-incentives-social-scienceresearch).

**Documentation of “new investigator” Status**
Documentation of “new investigator” status, if applicable.

**Consortium/Contractual Arrangements**
Consortium/contractual arrangements. Explain the programmatic, fiscal, and administrative arrangements to be made between the applicant organization and the consortium organization(s).

**Data Archiving Plan**
Applicants should anticipate that NIJ will require, through special award conditions, that data sets resulting in whole or in part from projects funded under this solicitation be submitted for archiving with the NACJD. See [https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/data-archiving-plans-nij-funding-applicants](https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/data-archiving-plans-nij-funding-applicants).

Applications should include as an appendix a brief plan — labeled “Data Archiving Plan” — to comply with data archiving requirements. The plan should provide brief details about proposed data management and archiving, including submission to NIJ (through NACJD) of all files and documentation necessary to allow for future efforts by others to reproduce the project’s findings and/or to extend the scientific value of the data set through secondary analysis. Pertinent files and documentation include, among other things, qualitative and quantitative data produced, instrumentation and data collection forms, codebook(s), any specialized programming code necessary to reproduce all constructed measures and the original data analysis, description of necessary de-identification procedures, and (when required) a copy of the privacy certificate and informed consent protocols.

The plan should be one or two pages in length and include the level of effort associated with meeting archiving requirements.

**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.

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 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 and the DOJ Application Submission Checklist.

Submission Dates and Time

The SF-424 and the SF-LLL will be submitted in Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on December 30, 2021. OJP urges applicants to submit applications at least 72 hours prior to the application due date to allow time for the applicant to receive validation messages or rejection notifications from Grants.gov and to correct in a timely fashion any problems that may have caused a rejection notification.

The full application will be submitted in JustGrants by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on January 13, 2022.

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

Application Review Information

Review Criteria
a. Merit Review Criteria

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

1. Statement of the Problem (understanding of the problem, (15%)
- Demonstrated understanding of the problem.
- Demonstrated importance of research questions, goals and objectives, including alignment with the aims of the solicitation.
- Demonstrated awareness of the state of current research.

2. Project Design and Implementation (quality and technical merit) (50%).

- Feasibility of proposed project.
- Soundness of methods and analytic and technical approach to addressing the stated aim(s) of the proposed project.
- Awareness of potential pitfalls of proposed project design and feasibility of proposed actions to minimize and/or mitigate them.
- Feasibility of completing the deliverables noted in the solicitation.

3. Capabilities and Competencies (capabilities, demonstrated productivity, and experience of the applicant organization and proposed project staff) (20%)

- Qualifications and experience of proposed project staff (that is, the principal investigator, any and all co-principal investigators, and all other individuals (and organizations) identified in the application (regardless of “investigator” status) who will be significantly involved in substantive aspects of the proposed project).
- Demonstrated ability of the applicant organization to implement the proposed strategies and manage the effort.
- Relationship between the capabilities/competencies of the proposed project staff (including the applicant organization) and the scope and strategies of the proposed project.

4. Potential Impact (15%)

- Potential for a significant scientific or technical advance(s) that will improve criminal/juvenile justice in the United States.
- Potential for significantly improved understanding of the stated criminal/juvenile justice problem.
- Potential for innovative solution to address (all or a significant part of) the stated criminal/juvenile justice problem.
- Strength and feasibility of the proposed dissemination plan to produce scholarly products (such as published, peer-reviewed, scientific journal articles, book chapter(s) or book(s) in the academic press, technological prototypes, patented inventions, databases, standards or similar scientific products) as well as make summary information available to broader interested audiences, such as criminal justice practitioners or policymakers.

5. Budget

In addition, peer reviewers will consider and may comment on the following additional items in the context of scientific and technical merit.

- Alignment of the proposed budget with proposed project activities.
- Total cost of the project relative to the perceived benefit (cost effectiveness).
- Appropriateness of the budget relative to the level of effort.
- Use of existing resources to conserve costs.

b. Other Review Criteria/Factors

Other important considerations for NIJ 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.
- 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 NIJ Director 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.

All final award decisions will be made by Director of the National Institute of Justice, who may consider not only peer review ratings and NIJ 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, final research 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 questions directed to the Federal Awarding Agency, see NCJRS contact information on page 2.
Other Information


Provide Feedback to OJP
See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on how to provide feedback to OJP.

Performance Measures

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<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Performance Measure(s)</th>
<th>Data Recipient Provides</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conduct research in social and behavioral sciences having clear implications for criminal justice policy and practice in the United States.</td>
<td>1. Relevance to the needs of the field as measured by whether the project’s substantive scope did not deviate from the funded project or any subsequent agency-approved modifications to the scope.</td>
<td>1. Quarterly financial reports, semi-annual and final progress reports, and products of the work performed under the NIJ award (including, at minimum, a final research report). If applicable, an annual audit report.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduct research in science, technology, engineering, and/or mathematics having clear implications for criminal or juvenile justice policy and practice in the United States.</td>
<td>2. Quality of the research as demonstrated by the scholarly products that result in whole or in part from work funded under the NIJ award, such as published, peer-reviewed, scientific journal articles, and/or (as appropriate for the funded project) law review journal articles, book chapter(s) or book(s) in the academic press, technological prototypes, patented inventions, or similar scientific products.</td>
<td>2. List of citation(s) to all scholarly products that resulted in whole or in part from work funded under the NIJ award.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Quality of management as measured by such factors as whether significant project milestones were achieved, reporting and other deadlines were met, and costs remained within approved limits.</td>
<td>3. If applicable, each data set that resulted in whole or in part from work funded under the NIJ award.</td>
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Application Checklist


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

What an Applicant Must Do:

Prior to Registering in Grants.gov:

- Acquire a DUNS Number (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Acquire or renew registration with SAM (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
To Register with Grants.gov:

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

To Find Funding Opportunity:

- Search for the Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov
- 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, reporting available at ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/PostawardRequirements/chapter3.10a.htm (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements:

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

Scope Requirement:

- The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of $3 million.

Eligibility Requirement: See cover page.

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

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

- Submission has been received in Grants.gov
- Submission has either been successfully validated or rejected with errors (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

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

- Contact NCJRS Response Center regarding technical difficulties (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

Receive email notification to complete application in JustGrants:

- Complete Application in JustGrants

Content of Application Submission:

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

- Proposal narrative, (see page 10)
- Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative, and (see page 12)
- Curriculum Vitae/Resumes for Key Personnel. (see page 12)
- ~~~

Content of Application Submission

- Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) in Grants.gov
• Standard Applicant Information (SF-424 info from Grants.gov)
• Proposal Abstract
• Proposal Narrative

Budget and Associated Documentation
• Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based form)
• 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)

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

Submit Application in JustGrants:
• Application has been successfully submitted in JustGrants

If No JustGrants Application Submission, Validation, or Error Notifications are Received:
• Contact JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or 833–872–5175 regarding technical difficulties

Endnotes


