

Notices regarding the solicitation “Research and Evaluation on Promising Reentry Initiatives, Fiscal Year 2021”

February 1, 2021: NIJ has extended both deadlines for this solicitation to:

Grants.gov Deadline: March 25, 2021 11:59 PM

Application JustGrants Deadline: April 8, 2021 11:59 PM

January 15, 2021: A "Clarifications" section has been added on page 12.

January 13, 2021: On page 9, under "New Investigator/Early Career Opportunity," the timeframe requirement for completion of a terminal degree or post-graduate clinical training has been changed from "within the ten (10) years before September 30, 2021" to "within the four (4) years before September 30, 2021."

The original solicitation document begins on the next page.

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
National Institute of Justice



Research and Evaluation on Promising Reentry Initiatives, Fiscal Year 2021

CFDA #	16.560
Grants.gov Opportunity Number:	O-NIJ-2021-40002
Solicitation Release Date:	December 11, 2020 1:59 PM
Version:	5
Grants.gov Deadline:	March 25, 2021 11:59 PM
Application JustGrants Deadline:	April 8, 2021 11:59 PM

Overview

The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), National Institute of Justice ([NIJ](#)), seeking applications for funding for research and evaluations of promising reentry initiatives. 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 for the preparation and submission to OJP of applications for funding. **If this solicitation expressly modifies any provision in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation as to that provision.**

Solicitation Categories

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

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

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 833-872-5175 or JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov. 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>.

[gov/web/grants/register.html](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](#).

Contents

Program Description	6
Overview	6
Statutory Authority	6
Specific Information	6
Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline	10
OJP Priority Areas	11
Federal Award Information	11
Continuation Funding Intent	12
Availability of Funds	12
Type of Award	12
Financial Management and System of Internal Controls	12
Budget Information	12
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement	13
Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)	13
Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver	13
Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs	13
Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)	13
Period of performance duration	13
Eligibility Information	13
Application and Submission Information	14
Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)	14
Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)	14
Proposal Abstract	14
Proposal Narrative	14
Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline	17
Budget and Associated Documentation	17
Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)	17
Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)	18
Financial Management Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)	18
Additional Application Components	18
Curriculum Vitae or Resumes	18
Tribal Authorizing Resolution	18
Documentation of Anticipated Benefit to Qualified Opportunity Zones (if applicable)	18
Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement	18
Documentation of Rural Challenges (if applicable)	19
Documentation of High-Poverty Areas or Persistent-Poverty Counties (if applicable)	19
Disclosures and Assurances	19

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	19
Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items	19
DOJ Certified Standard Assurances	19
DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements . . .	19
Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable)	20
How to Apply	20
Submission Dates and Time	20
Application Review Information	20
Review Criteria	20
Review Process	22
Federal Award Administration Information	22
Federal Award Notices	22
Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements	22
Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses	23
General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements .	23
Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)	23
Other Information	23
Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a)	23
Provide Feedback to OJP	23
Performance Measures	23
Application Checklist	24
Endnotes	27

Program Description

Overview

With this solicitation, NIJ requests proposals for rigorous research and evaluation projects to examine reentry initiatives that incorporate promising practices, strategies, or programs. NIJ is interested in supporting multi-site, randomized controlled trial (RCT) evaluations of innovative reentry initiatives that:

- Are specifically designed to address violent, habitual recidivism.
- Are initiated during an individual's incarceration and continue in the community.
- Address multiple criminogenic needs that can be assessed incrementally.

The primary goal of this solicitation is to support the rigorous examination of innovative reentry initiatives, particularly reentry services, programs, or plans that begin in institutional settings and continue in the community after release. NIJ will give preference in award decisions to proposals for evaluations of an innovative reentry initiative, addressing the areas of interest previously cited, across multiple sites, using randomized controlled trials (RCTs).

Applications proposing research involving partnerships with criminal justice or other agencies, should include a strong letter of support, signed by an appropriate decision-making authority from each proposed, partnering agency. A letter of support should include the partnering agency's acknowledgement 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 at ([NACJD](#)). If selected for award, grantees will be expected to have a formal agreement in place with partnering agencies by January 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 by 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 subrecipients.

Statutory Authority

Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (sections 201 and 202).

Specific Information

Offender reentry initiatives provide services, skills training, or therapeutic interventions designed to promote prosocial behavior, reductions in recidivism, and the offenders' successful reintegration into the community from jail or prison. Given the potential public safety and fiscal implications of an offender's successful reentry into society, it is critical for correctional stakeholders to know which reentry initiatives are the most efficacious. This solicitation is intended to support research and advance knowledge on [offender reentry](#), and to build on prior research funded in part by NIJ.

NIJ has facilitated a large body of knowledge around effective reentry programs. In the fourth iteration of this solicitation, NIJ is particularly interested in supporting the evaluation of effective strategies that address individuals at high-risk for violent recidivism. The vast majority of offenders eventually return to the community. It's critical for jurisdictions to focus their limited resources on implementing programs that address the criminogenic needs of offenders that pose the most risk to their community to promote overall public safety. Lowering the rates of recidivism for high-risk and/or violent offenders proffers the greatest public safety benefit and overall return on investment.

Approximately a third of all offenders released were convicted of violent offenses. These offenders¹ tend to be more at risk for recidivating for more serious crimes, including violent crimes.¹ In a recent Bureau of Justice Statistics study of prison releases from 30 states in 2005, roughly two in five violent offenders were rearrested for a violent crime within the decade, more than ten percent in the first year alone.² Violent crime is particularly damaging not only to the victims, but also to the communities in which the crime is committed.

Preventing violent crime is a priority of corrections agencies. Predicting violence is a major impetus driving the continual refinement of risk assessments, particularly the incorporation of dynamic risk factors into standard risk assessments.³ Given the potential threat to public safety and community wellbeing, and the priority placed on violent recidivism by corrections agencies, NIJ encourages prospective applicants to propose evaluations of reentry programs tailored to those at most risk for violent recidivism. Given the critical need to reduce violent recidivism and the scarce resources to engage in RNR programming, criminal justice agencies need to have the highest level of confidence in the reentry programs to meet the criminogenic needs of violent offenders.

NIJ is also interested in reentry initiatives that began in institutional settings — jails or prisons — and continue in the community after an offender's release. Of particular interest to NIJ are proposals that assess the effectiveness of innovative interventions that combine or blend traditional approaches, such as educational, vocational, and substance abuse services, with cognitive behavioral therapy and/or mental health services. Further, NIJ seeks evidence of how best to provide a continuity of programming, both in the institution and community that addresses offenders' criminogenic risks and needs.

Finally, in an effort to produce the most generalizable knowledge, NIJ asks applicants to propose multi-site randomized controlled trials (RCTs). RCTs are less likely than quasi-experimental designs to overestimate the effect of a reentry program.⁴ Evaluations testing a reentry program in multiple states or regions are more likely to capture local effects that can impact the effectiveness of a program. They are also better positioned to generate an understanding of the barriers to implementation fidelity, as the program will be implemented in more than one institutional setting.

Applicants may propose an evaluation of:

- A specific reentry program delivered to incarcerated offenders at high risk of violent recidivism that continue upon release, or
- An integrated reentry plan for offenders at high risk of violent recidivism involving multiple programs delivered in a correctional facility and in the community post-release to the same offenders.

Proposals should include process, outcome/impact, and cost studies. Successful applicants should examine outcomes related to reductions in recidivism and delinquency or criminal behavior, and related reentry outcomes (e.g., housing stability, employment, demonstrating academic engagement, participation in structured activities, food security). For an initiative to be considered for evaluation under this solicitation, one of its overall goals must be recidivism reduction for offenders a high risk of violent recidivism.

For the purposes of this solicitation, NIJ encourages applicants to define recidivism as rearrest, reconviction, and reincarceration. Specific to rearrest, NIJ encourages the collection of technical violation and new crime data. Additionally, successful applicants will be expected to produce a report detailing interim study results that would include, but not be limited to, 1-year post-release rearrest rates.

Preference in award decisions will be given to research proposals that seek to evaluate a reentry initiative in multiple sites using an RCT design. The RCT should incorporate random assignment into control and treatment groups, with the control group receiving no services or the common business practices for the site participating in the evaluation.

Applicants should provide a compelling justification to support the reentry initiatives suitability for evaluation and that the practices, strategies, or programs associated with it are promising. Evidence supporting the selected reentry strategy, practice, or program should meet at least one of the following criteria:

- Referenced in NIJ's web-based clearinghouse of programs and practices, [Crimesolutions.gov](https://crimesolutions.gov), as promising or effective.

- Cited in the empirical literature on offender reentry.
- Funded by a federal agency, including but not limited to, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.
- Implemented abroad and logically applied to U.S. offender populations.

NIJ will consider single- and multi-site evaluations of reentry interventions, with a preference for the latter. In both instances, a large enough sample that provides sufficient statistical power to detect true differences between the treatment and control groups, and the generation of generalizable knowledge about offender reentry are imperative. If a multi-site evaluation is proposed, applicants should submit research designs that include both site-specific and pooled outcome analyses. Applicants should also account for any program deviations in the outcome analysis. All applicants should document, via letters of support or Memoranda of Understanding, that they have established a collaborative relationship with the participating site(s) and all relevant agencies to facilitate the acquisition of data required to support the proposed research or evaluation effort.

Successful applicants should expect to meet regularly with NIJ staff — either in-person or remotely — and provide periodic updates of evaluation progress, in addition to standard reporting requirements. These updates (frequency to be determined by NIJ staff in consultation with the successful applicant) may include information on programmatic services delivered, fidelity measures, current sample enrollment, and evaluation activities.

In their proposals, applicants are encouraged to envision how these initiatives can be expanded or implemented in different jurisdictions or programmatic settings in order to build on the knowledge base of what works in reentry. Applicants may also consider how the core logic model of a reentry intervention could be adapted to varied programmatic conditions and objectives to meet different needs.

RCT Evaluation Considerations

Applicants are strongly encouraged to include the following information in the Program Narrative of their application:

1. A description of the reentry intervention-program model with fidelity benchmarks of implementation activities. Applicants should describe likely model adaptations that may be needed at proposed evaluation sites. A discussion of how these adaptations may impact model fidelity should be included. If a multi-site evaluation is proposed, applicants should indicate how consistent implementation fidelity will be achieved.
2. An explanation of the theory of change behind the model activities. Applicants should clearly describe how proposed project activities contribute to the expected outcomes, such as reducing recidivism. The narrative should clearly identify the data to be collected or that is available to measure both activities and outcomes.
3. The logic model of the evaluation. The logic model should include the randomization plan that will outline how the participants will be identified and randomized into either the treatment group(s) or control group(s). The randomization plan should also give an estimate of the rate of enrollment, if the evaluation will rely on stock or flow enrollment (or a combination of both), and when the applicant anticipates that the target sample size(s) will be reached. The study should use an intent-to-treat design when analyzing differences between the treatment and control groups. Finally, the applicant should identify what reentry services, if any, the control group(s) participants will receive.
4. A power analysis. Applicants should connect the power analysis to anticipated effect sizes necessary to detect a difference in the treatment and control groups based on the services the control group will receive. If a multi-site evaluation is proposed, applicants should include pooled and site-specific calculations in their power analysis.
5. A discussion of likely sources of contamination in the evaluation design, and how the applicant proposes to mitigate contamination.
6. A robust site description. This should include, but not be limited to, a description of any training and technical assistance (TTA) the site(s) has/have received, or will receive during the course of the evaluation, and the vendor supplying the TTA.

7. Evidence that a validated risk assessment was used to measure and confirm the risk levels for the offenders involved with the reentry initiative under evaluation. Applications should also include detailed information about the risk assessment as well as the timing of the measurement of offender risk levels, data collection tools and data collection and processing procedures, including the steps for accessing data, linking records from multiple data sets (e.g., across the reentry continuum), and transforming administrative records into analytic files.

8. A discussion of outcome measures specific to recidivism and other, reentry-specific outcomes.

Preference will be given to those proposals that include plans to measure the outcomes of interest, specifically recidivism, for at least 36-months. Applicants should plan their project timelines accordingly and this should be reflected in the project timeline submitted as part of the application.

Supplements may be made available later to successful research projects that are able to implement a longer-term follow-up (i.e., longer than 3 years).

New Investigator/Early Career Opportunity

NIJ is interested in supporting researchers who are early in their careers and new to NIJ's research grant portfolios, specifically non-tenured assistant professors, or equivalent full-time staff scientist positions in a research institution, who propose research on topics relevant to NIJ's Office of Research, Evaluation, and Technology (ORET). To that end, NIJ may, in appropriate circumstances, give special consideration in award decisions to applications proposing such researchers as principal investigators (PIs). To qualify, the proposed PI must at the time of application submission:

- Hold a non-tenured assistant professor appointment at an accredited institution of higher education in the United States or an equivalent full-time staff scientist position at a research institution in the United States.
- Have completed a terminal degree or post-graduate clinical training within the four (4) years prior to September 30, 2021.
- Have never previously received NIJ funding as a PI on a research project with the exception of Graduate Research Fellows or Data Resources Program grantees.

If seeking to be considered for the New Investigator/Early Career Opportunity, the applicant should identify that they are submitting a New Investigator/Early Career proposal on the title page of the application.

Replication Studies

In addition to welcoming original research, NIJ welcomes proposals to replicate seminal studies in the field. NIJ has a particular interest in supporting replication studies. Replication studies are vital for building scientific evidence about what works. They test the validity of previous research findings and enable questions concerning generalization across populations or contexts. When studies are replicated and achieve the same or similar results as the original study, it gives greater validity to the findings. Conversely, when they achieve dissimilar results they call into question the validity of the findings of the original study. Strong replication studies are highly relevant, enhance the generalizability of the original study, and produce data of a comparable or higher quality than the data from the original study. They also offer the opportunity to build a more robust body of knowledge. For instance, there are numerous programs in NIJ's CrimeSolutions repository of scientific evaluations rated as "promising" or "effective" based on less-rigorous quasi-experimental research designs. An important contribution to the field would be to subject those programs to a more rigorous randomized-controlled trial (RCT) to see if the program still produces the intended effects.

Evaluation Research

If an application includes an evaluation research component (or consists entirely of evaluation research), the application is expected to propose the most rigorous evaluation design appropriate for the research questions to be addressed. If the primary purpose of the evaluation is to determine the effectiveness or impact of an intervention (e.g., program, practice, or policy), the most rigorous evaluation designs may include random selection and assignment of participants (or other appropriate units of analysis) to experimental and control conditions. In cases where randomization is not feasible, applicants should propose a strong quasi-experimental design that can address the risk of selection bias.

Applications that include evaluation research should consider the feasibility of including cost/benefit analysis. In cases where evaluations find that interventions have produced the intended benefit, cost/benefit analysis provides valuable and practical information for practitioners and policymakers that aids decision-making.

Evaluation research projects may also address a wide range of research questions beyond those focused on the effectiveness or impact of an intervention. Different research designs may be more appropriate for different research questions and at different stages of program development. The intervention strategies, setting, other contextual factors, and resources should be taken into account when selecting an evaluation design. In all cases, applications are expected to propose the most rigorous evaluation design appropriate for the research questions to be addressed.

Applicants are encouraged to review evidence-rating criteria at https://www.crimesolutions.gov/about_starttofinish.aspx for further information on high-quality evaluation design elements.

Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

Goals

The primary goal of this solicitation is to advance the body of knowledge on promising practices in offender reentry, in part to inform federal and other reentry-specific initiatives.

Objectives

The objective of this solicitation is to advance this knowledge through the support of rigorous RCT evaluations of promising reentry strategies, practices, and programs. Successfully implemented RCTs have the greatest likelihood of providing comprehensive, reliable, and unbiased evidence to practitioners and policymakers seeking to implement effective interventions in their jurisdictions. Findings from this research will assist state, local, and tribal jurisdictions to reduce violent crime and protect public safety personnel by reducing recidivism among former offenders as they successfully reintegrate into the community.

Deliverables

Interim Research Report. Any recipient of an award under this solicitation will be expected to submit an interim research report detailing initial study findings. The findings should include, but would not be limited to, 1-year post-release arrest rates.

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 the 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.

OJP Priority Areas

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

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

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

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

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

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

Federal Award Information

Awards, Amounts and Durations

Total Federal Awards

4

Maximum Dollar Amount for Awards
\$1,200,000.00

Period of Performance Start Date
1/1/22 12:00 AM

Period of Performance Duration (Months)

60

Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation

\$5,000,000.00

Clarifications

Maximum dollar amount for each award: The median funding amount for past NIJ Research and Evaluation on Promising Reentry Initiatives grant awards is \$1.2 million. Applicants are encouraged to propose budgets that match the research activities proposed, which may be more or less than the anticipated maximum dollar amount of awards. Total Federal Awards: NIJ anticipates making 1 to 4 awards.

Continuation Funding Intent

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

Availability of Funds

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

Type of Award

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.) Given limitations on the availability to NIJ of 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 2021, 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 if they are 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.

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 “Content of Application Submission” in 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:

- Program Narrative.
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based form).
- 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.

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 program narrative should be submitted as an attachment in JustGrants. The attached document should be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point Times New Roman font; have no less than 1-inch margins; and should not exceed 30 pages. Pages should be numbered and submitted as an attachment. If the program 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 program narrative:

a. Title Page (not counted against the program 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 program 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 program 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.

3. Potential Impact.

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. This should include a discussion of the applicant’s 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 program narrative page limit) include:

- Bibliography/references. Provide a bibliography of any references cited in the Project Narrative.
- 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.
- 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).
- 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.
- Documentation of “new investigator” status, if applicable.
- The project management plan.
- Proposed project timeline and expected milestones.
- Consortium/contractual arrangements. Explain the programmatic, fiscal, and administrative arrangements to be made between the applicant organization and the consortium organization(s).
- Human Subjects Protection paperwork (documentation and forms related to Institutional Review Board [IRB] review). See <https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/human-subjects-and-privacy-protection>. **Note:** Final IRB approval is not required at the time an application is submitted.
- Privacy Certificate (for further guidance go to <https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/confidentiality-and-privacy-protections> and <https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/model-privacy-certificate>).
- 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>.

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.

Note that recipients are strongly encouraged to submit required data sets at least 90 days before the end of the period of performance.

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

- 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).
- 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-science-research>.

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 10.

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found on page 24.

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

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

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

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.

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

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

Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement

If an application proposes research (including research and development) and/or evaluation, the applicant must demonstrate research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, before it may receive award funds. Applicants will submit a description of their research

and evaluation independence and integrity by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants. For additional information regarding demonstrating research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Documentation of Rural Challenges (if applicable)

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

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.

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 Certified Standard Assurances

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

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

Applicants will review and accept the DOJ Certified Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment,

Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements. See [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

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

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

How to Apply

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

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

For additional information, see the “How to Apply” section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

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 March 25, 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 April 8, 2021.

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

Application Review Information

Review Criteria

a. Scored 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 information available to broader interested audiences, such as criminal justice practitioners or policymakers.

5. Budget (0%)

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. Additional Review Criteria

Other important considerations for NIJ include geographic diversity, strategic priorities (specifically including, but not limited to, those mentioned above relating to addressing specific challenges that rural communities face, high-poverty areas or persistent-poverty counties, demonstrable potential enhancement to public safety in one or more federally designated Qualified Opportunity Zones), available funding, past performance, and the extent to which the Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based form) accurately explain project costs that are reasonable, necessary, and otherwise allowable under federal law and applicable federal cost principles.

Review Process

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

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

- The application must be submitted by an eligible type of applicant.
- The application must request funding within programmatic funding constraints (if applicable).
- The application must be responsive to the scope of the solicitation.
- The application must include all items necessary to meet the basic minimum requirements.
- The application, if submitted by an applicant that is a DOJ High Risk Grantee, or is designated “high risk” by a federal grant-making agency outside of DOJ, must not have been determined by the 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 take into account 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 Program Description, 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, quarterly, *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.

Progress Reporting Frequency

semi-annual

Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For questions directed to the Federal Awarding Agency, see NCJRS contact information on page 2.

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

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.

Performance Measures

Objective	Performance Measure(s)	Data Recipient Provides
<p>Conduct research in social and behavioral sciences having clear implications for criminal justice policy and practice in the United States.</p> <p>Conduct research in science, technology, engineering, and/or mathematics having clear implications for criminal or juvenile justice policy and practice in the United States.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>2. List of citation(s) to all scholarly products that resulted in whole or in part from work funded under the NIJ award.</p> <p>3. If applicable, each data set that resulted in whole or in part from work funded under the NIJ award.</p>

Application Checklist
Research and Evaluation on Promising Reentry Initiatives, Fiscal Year 2021

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

What an Applicant Must Do:

Prior to Registering in Grants.gov:

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

To Register with Grants.gov:

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

To Find Funding Opportunity:

- Search for the Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov
- Access Funding Opportunity and Application Package (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Sign up for Grants.gov email [notifications](#) (optional) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Read [Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov](#)

- Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting available at ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/PostawardRequirements/chapter3.10a.htm (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements:

- Review the “ [Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP 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 *\$5 million*.

Eligibility Requirement:

- State governments
- Special district governments
- City or township governments
- Public and State controlled institutions of higher education
- County governments
- Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities
- Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)
- Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)
- 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
- For profit organizations other than small businesses
- Independent school districts
- Small businesses

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.)

- 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 the 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.

- Program Narrative (see page 14)
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form) (see page 18)
- Curriculum Vitae/Resumes for Key Personnel (see page 18)

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
- Program 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](#))
- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Documentation of rural challenges (if applicable)
- Documentation of high-poverty areas or persistent poverty counties (if applicable)
- Documentation of enhanced public safety in federally designated Qualified Opportunity Zones (if applicable)

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

[1] See United States Sentencing Commission (2019). *Recidivism Among Federal Violent Offenders*. Washington, DC: USSC. Alper, M. and Durose, M. (2018). *Special Report: 2018 Update on Prisoner Recidivism: A 9-Year Follow-Up (2005-14)*, Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

[2] Alper, M. and Durose, M. (2018). *Special Report: 2018 Update on Prisoner Recidivism: A 9-Year Follow-Up (2005-14)*, Washington, DC: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

[3] Mills, J. (2017). "Violence Risk Assessment: A Brief Review, Current Issues, and Future Directions." *Canadian Psychology* 58:40-49.

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