

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



NIJ FY 2021 Invited to Apply - Evaluation of Project Safe Neighborhoods

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Overview

The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [National Institute of Justice](#) (NIJ) is seeking applications a multi-site evaluation to assess the effectiveness of the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) program. PSN is a Department of Justice-sponsored initiative that involves cooperation of multiple criminal justice agencies and their partners working at the local level to develop and implement strategic responses to reduce violent crime, with specific emphasis on gun crime. This evaluation project will include between eight (8) and ten (10) local site-level evaluations as well as one national assessment of PSN. This program furthers the Department's mission by building knowledge about the effectiveness of violence reduction approaches.

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:

Other

Other

Only the applicants that received an official invitation letter from NIJ are able and eligible to apply. Please refer to that letter for the eligibility requirements.

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](#).

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, 833-872-5175. The JustGrants Service Desk operates 5

a.m. – 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 NIJ contact identified below contact identified below **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 Basia E. Lopez, Social Science Analyst, Office of Research, Evaluation, and Technology by telephone at (202) 598-7484, or by email at Barbara.e.lopez@ojp.usdoj.gov.

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](https://www.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

Contact Information	1
Program Description	5
Overview	5
Specific Information	5
Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline	8
Evidence-Based Programs or Practices	8
Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities	8
Evaluation Research	8
Federal Award Information	8
General Guidance for Federal Award	9
Awards, Amounts and Durations	9
Types of Awards	9
Financial Management and System of Internal Controls	9
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement	9
Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)	9
Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver	9
Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs	9
Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)	9
Eligibility Information	9
Application and Submission Information	9
Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)	10
Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)	10
Proposal Abstract	10
Proposal Narrative	10
Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline	11
Budget and Associated Documentation	11
Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)	11
Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)	11
Financial Management Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)	11
Additional Application Components	11
Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement	11
Disclosures and Assurances	11
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	11
DOJ Certified Standard Assurances	11
Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items	11
DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements	11
Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable)	12
How to Apply	12
Submission Dates and Time	12
Application Review Information	12
Review Process	12
Federal Award Administration Information	12
Federal Award Notices	12
Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements	12
	12
	12

Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses	12
General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements	13
Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)	13
Other Information	13
Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a)	13
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) .	13
Provide Feedback to OJP	13
Performance Measures	13
Application Checklist	14
NIJ FY 2021 Invited to Apply - Evaluation of Project Safe Neighborhoods	14
Endnote	15

Program Description

Overview

NIJ is seeking applications for funding a multi-site evaluation to assess the effectiveness of the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) program. PSN is a Department of Justice-sponsored initiative that involves cooperation of multiple criminal justice agencies and their partners working at the local level to develop and implement strategic responses to reduce gun crime.

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

Specific Information

This solicitation seeks applications for funding for a single, multi-site evaluation project to assess the effectiveness of the PSN program. PSN is a gun crime reduction initiative that was originally launched by the Department of Justice in 2001. In October 2017, the Attorney General announced the reinvigoration of the PSN program, calling it the centerpiece of the Department's crime reduction strategy. The announcement described ways that the program has been enhanced and updated, and that further emphasis has been placed on the role of U.S. Attorneys, the use of new technologies, and partnerships with local communities.^[1] In the same month, the Attorney General sent a memorandum to all U.S. Attorneys reestablishing PSN and articulating priorities and principles for the program.^[2]

The goal of the enhanced PSN is to bring together all levels of law enforcement and the communities they serve to reduce violent crime and make neighborhoods safer. The PSN approach is intended to be comprehensive and include prevention, enforcement, and reentry efforts. U.S. Attorneys and their partners, including federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement and prosecutors, are expected to create strategic plans for operationalizing PSN within their districts. These plans are developed to be tailored to the specific needs, issues, and resources in the district. Under PSN, U.S. Attorneys exercise overall leadership for violence reduction strategies, while continuing to focus on their primary roles of investigating and prosecuting crimes. They are expected to bring the full extent of criminal sanctions to bear on violent offenders, deter further crime, and empower law enforcement and community partners, including, for example, community groups, victims' advocates, law enforcement agencies, and academic research entities.

PSN is comprised of a number of mandatory strategic guidelines with the expectation that considerable variation will occur across districts. U.S. Attorneys are expected to work with partners to develop and implement plans — based on five principles — to address the most significant violent crime in the district. The five principles are:

1. Leadership – The U.S. Attorney should provide strong personal leadership and commitment by the U.S. Attorney's Office to take a leadership role in developing and implementing the program.
2. Partnership – The U.S. Attorney's Office should work in partnership with a wide range of engaged stakeholders, including vital partnerships with federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement and prosecutors. Community support and robust partnerships with community groups and victim advocates are also deemed to be integral.
3. Targeted and Prioritized Enforcement – Focused enforcement efforts should harness the full range of available information and technology to identify locations within U.S. Attorney districts that have the greatest needs for violent crime reduction and the offenders who are driving violence in those areas.
4. Prevention of Additional Violence – PSN places enforcement at the heart of violent crime reduction efforts, but also asserts that prevention and deterrence of additional crime are required for lasting impact. Such efforts may include public awareness activities, focused-deterrence messages to offenders, and locally-based prevention and reentry efforts.
5. Accountability – U.S. Attorneys are expected to be accountable for results, closely follow the effects of their efforts in the local communities, and adjust their approach as necessary

In October, 2018, the Department announced \$30 million in grant awards to support the PSN program, through funding administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA).^[3] Approximately \$18 million of this funding was distributed through formula awards to all 94 U.S. Attorney districts under BJA's 2018 PSN grant announcement.^[4] BJA also supported a PSN Suite of programs in 2018, which focused on reducing violent crime. Funding for these programs was intended to be used in coordination with, and to advance, PSN activities already under way in U.S. Attorney Districts. The BJA-funded PSN Suite included the following programs:

- Innovations in Community-Based Crime Reduction (CBCR).^[5]
- Supporting Innovation: Field-Initiated Programs to Improve Officer and Public Safety.^[6]
- Local Law Enforcement Crime Gun Intelligence Center Integration Initiative.^[7]
- Strategies for Policing Innovation.^[8]

- Technology Innovation for Public Safety (TIPS) Addressing Precipitous Increases in Crime.[\[9\]](#)
- Innovative Prosecution Solutions for Combating Violent Crime and Illegal Opioids.[\[10\]](#)

Although not officially part of the PSN Suite of programs, BJA also encouraged grant recipients under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program to coordinate with U.S. Attorneys Offices and PSN grantees in order to leverage funding for violence reduction projects.

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) also funded two programs in FY 2018 as part of the PSN Suite. These included:

- Gang Suppression: A Law Enforcement and Prosecutorial Approach to Address Gang Recruitment of Unaccompanied Alien Children.[\[11\]](#)
- Gang Suppression Planning Grants Program.[\[12\]](#)

Evaluating PSN

NIJ is seeking to make a single award to conduct a multi-level, multi-site evaluation of PSN. The evaluation will be multi-level in the sense that it will include a national assessment as well as multiple local site-level evaluations. It will be multi-site in the sense that local evaluations will be conducted in 8 to 10 PSN sites. NIJ seeks to develop strong evidence on the effectiveness of the PSN program in reducing violent crime, as well as valuable information about the variables that influence the effectiveness of PSN at the national and local levels. The evaluation should assess both program implementation and program outcomes. It should utilize both quantitative and qualitative methods. NIJ strongly encourages applicants to propose a multidisciplinary advisory board comprised of researchers and practitioners to help guide the development and execution of this evaluation.

NIJ has identified high-level research questions to inform the evaluation strategy. These questions are not intended to be exhaustive and applicants should modify or propose additional research questions, as necessary.

Research questions related to outcomes:

- How did PSN affect violent crime rates nationwide?
- How did PSN affect violent crime in individual districts?
- To what extent were differences in violent crime outcomes associated with:
 - PSN strategies and activities;
 - The types of violent crime targeted;
 - The characteristics of the communities that are targeted and prioritized;
 - The composition of the local PSN task force;
 - The inclusion of a research partner;
 - The leadership and activities of the U.S. Attorney's Office?

Research questions related to implementation:

- What direction, guidance, and resources did DOJ make available to U.S. Attorney districts implementing PSN?
- How were the five PSN program principles implemented across U.S. Attorney districts?
- What were the primary ways in which implementation of PSN varied across districts?

- Who were the primary PSN partners and how did partnerships function?

National Assessment: The primary purpose of the national assessment is to produce an estimate of the national effect of PSN on violent crime. The evaluator will be expected to analyze information relevant to PSN programs across all U.S. Attorney districts. This assessment will incorporate data provided by U.S. Attorney-led PSN task forces, data available through public sources, and information provided by DOJ personnel involved in administering PSN.

- Data and information provided by PSN task forces to DOJ/NIJ will be made available for the purposes of this evaluation. This will include violent crime data for the targeted geographic areas in the form of monthly counts of homicides, robberies, aggravated assaults, rapes, and non-fatal shootings beginning in October 2015. [13] Task forces will also provide to DOJ/NIJ information on their strategic plans, program implementation information (e.g., partners engaged, strategies and tactics utilized), and prosecution filings.
- Data available through public sources may include FBI UCR data and a range of other data sources, such as local hospital data on patients treated at the Emergency Department for violence related injuries and data from the Chief Medical Examiner on violence related mortality.
- DOJ personnel involved in administering PSN will provide additional information related to PSN program implementation, resources, and guidance. The evaluator should also plan to collect such information through direct observation and participation during PSN conferences, meetings, conference calls, video conferences, etc.

Site-level Evaluations: The primary purpose of the site-level evaluations is to provide a more rigorous and detailed analysis of the effectiveness of PSN as a violent crime reduction strategy within local communities. Each individual site-level evaluation should include a detailed, multimethod case study of program implementation, violent crime outcomes, and local factors that may affect implementation and violent crime. For each site-level evaluation, the evaluator should create a rigorous quasi-experimental design in which at least one matched comparison area is identified for each geographic area targeted by the PSN task force. Adjacent geographic areas should also be considered for analysis as potentially viable comparisons, and for analysis of possible crime displacement.

Site-level evaluations provide the opportunity to address much more specific research questions related to the opportunities and challenges confronted by PSN programs, and the local factors that influence effectiveness. Careful attention should be paid to central program components such as the leadership of the U.S. Attorney's Office, the composition and functioning of the Task Force, and the use of data and technology to help establish and refine the strategic plan and program activities. Case studies should also examine community-level factors that may affect implementation or outcomes, as well as community responses to PSN activities.

To the extent possible, the PSN evaluator should anticipate and work to ameliorate the data collection burden for local participating sites. This should include budgeting for costs within the evaluation to support data collection at the local level. Applicants are also strongly encouraged to plan for a high level of engagement with PSN personnel in the participating local sites in order to produce quality evaluation findings with a high degree of practical relevance. This includes planning for regular site visits and/or maintaining an ongoing presence in local evaluation sites. It also includes providing annual interim reports back to participating sites (see Interim Reports below).

The selected PSN evaluator will work with NIJ and others at DOJ to identify the 8-10 local sites for participation in the site-level evaluations. Local sites will be selected based on criteria yet to be fully determined, but which will likely include sites with high capacity for supporting rigorous evaluations and diversity in terms of geography and violent crime challenges. Applicants should propose additional criteria or methods as appropriate for informing the selection of local evaluation sites.

Evaluation Project Period and Program Performance Period: NIJ intends to fund the evaluation of PSN in two phases. The project period for the evaluation will begin on January 1, 2020 (for more information see [Federal Award Information](#) below). Applicants should set the project period for the first phase of this evaluation for 24 months. If NIJ should decide to fund the second phase of the evaluation, it will also be for 24 months, bringing the full project period to 48 months. During the first year of this project, NIJ anticipates that the evaluation effort will require six-to-nine months to complete tasks such as site selection, planning with site personnel, obtaining letters of support from all PSN participating agencies and partners, instrument development, and Institutional Review Board approval. Data collection for the evaluation will include both retrospective and prospective data. Retrospective data collection will go back to October 2015, three years prior to the start of the PSN program, as noted [above](#). Applicants should anticipate prospective data collection to last no-less-than 24 months. The remaining project period should be used to collect additional prospective data if possible, conduct analyses, and prepare final reports.

Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

The goal of this solicitation is to evaluate the overall effectiveness of the PSN program in terms of reducing violent crime. The primary objectives are to produce a national level assessment and 8-10 local level, rigorous evaluations. The deliverables from this solicitation will consist of published works that speak to these objectives.

Interim Reports. Any recipient of an award under this solicitation will be expected to produce annual interim reports focused on the national assessment of PSN and each of the local PSN sites participating in the evaluation. These reports should be prepared to benefit local and federal personnel who administer PSN, but should also be suitable for public release. Analyses and data presentations within these reports should address performance data, violent crime patterns, prosecutions, program activities, and partnerships. These reports are intended to supplement, and not replace, local level analyses and tracking of crime and performance indicators at PSN sites, which is expected to continue on an ongoing basis as a normal part of programmatic activity. The application should describe how the applicant plans to prepare and deliver these interim reports. Applicants may also propose additional methods for conveying findings to practitioner and policy maker audiences.

Final Research Report. Any recipient of an award under this solicitation will be expected to submit a combined final evaluation report that includes a full description of the methods and findings from the national assessment and all site level evaluations. 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. For more information, see Program Narrative in [Application and Submission Information](#) section below.

In addition to these deliverables (and the required reports and data on performance measures described in [Federal Award Administration Information](#) section below), 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.

The Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Expected Scholarly Products are directly related to the performance measures that demonstrate the results of the work completed.

Evidence-Based Programs or Practices

OJP strongly emphasizes the use of data and evidence in policymaking and program development in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. For additional information and resources on evidence-based programs or practices, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities

OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the programs and activities funded under this solicitation. For additional information, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) section entitled "Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities."

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.

Federal Award Information

General Guidance for Federal Award

Total number of awards NIJ expects to make: 1
Maximum dollar amount for each award: \$3,000,000
Total amount to be awarded under solicitation: Not to exceed \$3,000,000
Period of performance start date: January 1, 2022
Period of performance duration: 24 months

Awards, Amounts and Durations

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

Types of Awards

The OJP Invitation Letter specifies the type of award (grant or cooperative agreement) OJP expects to make in response to the invited application.

Financial Management and System of Internal Controls

Award recipients and subrecipients (including recipients or subrecipients that are pass-through entities) must, as described in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.303, comply with standards for financial and program management. The "Part 200 Uniform Requirements" means the DOJ regulation at 2 C.F.R. Part 2800, which adopts (with certain modifications) the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200. See [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

This solicitation does not require a match.

Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for 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](#) for 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 Limitation on Use of Costs Associated with Language Assistance.

Eligibility Information

For eligibility information, see the title page.

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

Application and Submission Information

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 organizations 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 10 pages. Pages should be numbered and submitted as an attachment. If the proposal narrative fails to comply with these length restrictions, NIJ may negatively consider such noncompliance in final award decisions.

The following sections must be included as part of the proposal narrative:

a. Description of the Issue OR Statement of the problem if research is involved

Describe why this project/ these proposed activities are necessary (significance/value) and/or address a need and include supporting information.

b. Project Design and Implementation

Describe the strategy to address the needs identified in the Description of the Issue/Statement of the Problem. List the proposed program activities and describe how they relate to the stated objectives. Activities are the specific actions to be undertaken to fulfill the program objectives and reach the program goal(s). Provide a detailed description of the method(s) to be used to carry out each activity. Provide a timetable indicating roughly when activities or program milestones are to be accomplished.

c. Capabilities and Competencies

Describe the capabilities and competencies required in order to accomplish the goals and objectives of the project.

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

Describe the process for measuring project performance. Identify who will collect the data; who is responsible for performance measurements; and how the information will be used to guide and evaluate the impact of the project. Describe the process to accurately report data.

Note: applicants are **not** required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measures information is included as an alert that successful applicants will be required to submit performance data as part of the reporting requirements under an award.

OJP will require each successful applicant to submit regular performance data that demonstrate the results of the work carried out under the award. The performance data directly relate to the goals, objectives, and deliverables identified under “Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables.”

Applicants can also visit OJP’s performance measurement page at www.ojp.gov/performance for an overview of performance measurement activities at OJP.

Award recipients will be required to submit performance measure data and performance reports in JustGrants. Further guidance on the post-award submission process will be provided, if selected for award.

Note on Project Evaluations

An applicant that proposes to use award funds through this solicitation to conduct project evaluations must follow the guidance under “Note on Project Evaluations” in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

Applicants will submit the 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.

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

The applicant will attach the requested documentation in JustGrants.

Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement

If an application proposes research (including research and development) and/or evaluation, the applicant must demonstrate research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, before it may receive award funds. Applicants will submit a description of their research and evaluation independence and integrity by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants. For additional information regarding demonstrating research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Disclosures and Assurances

Applications 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 DOJ Certified Standard Assurance on the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items

Applicants will complete the JustGrants web-based Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

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

Applicants will review and accept the DOJ Certified Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements. See [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

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

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

How to Apply

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

Applicants will submit the **full application** including attachments in JustGrants at JustGrants.usdoj.gov.

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

Submission Dates and Time

The SF-424 and the SF-LLL will be submitted in Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on July 21, 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 July 28, 2021. To be considered timely, the full application must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline.

Application Review Information

Review Process

OJP reviews each application to make sure that the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, and achievable, as well as consistent with the solicitation. For invited applications, OJP reviews for consistency with the invitation letter and invited applicant guidance. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on the application review process.

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, at its option, 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.

Final award decisions for research and statistics programs will be made by the Director of the National Institute of Justice. For purposes of this Guidance for Invited Applications, this “final award decisions” provision expressly modifies the “final award decisions” provision in the “Application Review Information” section of the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

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, semi-annual progress reports, final financial and progress reports, and, if applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with the Part 200 Uniform Requirements or specific award conditions. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent. (In appropriate cases, OJP may require additional reports.)

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measures data.

Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For OJP contact(s), see page 2.

For contact information for Grants.gov and JustGrants, 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

OJP will require each successful applicant to submit regular performance data that demonstrate the results of the work carried out under the award (see "[General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements](#)" in [Federal Award Administration Information](#) section below).

Applicants should visit OJP's performance measurement page at www.ojp.gov/performance for an overview of performance measurement activities at OJP.

The application should demonstrate the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements for this grant program and detail how the applicant will gather the required data should it receive funding.

Please note that applicants are **not** required to submit performance data with the application. 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.

Objective	Performance Measure(s)	Data Recipient Provides
Conduct research in social and behavioral sciences having clear implications for criminal justice policy and practice in the United States.	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. 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. 3.Quality of management as measured by such factors as whether significant project milestones were achieved, reporting and other deadlines were met, and costs	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 2. List of citation(s) to all scholarly products that resulted in whole or in part from work funded under the NIJ award. 3. If applicable, each data set that resulted in whole or in part from work funded under the NIJ award.

Application Checklist

NIJ FY 2021 Invited to Apply - Evaluation of Project Safe Neighborhoods

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 \$3000,000.

Eligibility Requirement: Only the applicants that received an official invitation letter from NIJ are able and eligible to apply. Please refer to that letter for the eligibility requirements.

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 Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, at [Grants.gov customer support webpage](#), or email at support@grants.gov regarding technical difficulties (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#)) and the OJP staff member identified in the OJP Invitation Letter regarding technical difficulties.

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
 - Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Disclosures and Assurances
 - [Disclosure of Lobbying Activities \(SF-LLL\)](#) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
 - Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
 - DOJ Certified Standard Assurance (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
 - DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
 - Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

Submit Application in JustGrants:

- Application has been successfully submitted in JustGrants

If No JustGrants Application Submission, Validation, or Error Notifications are Received:

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

Endnote

- [1] [Attorney General Sessions Announces Reinvigoration of Project Safe Neighborhoods and Other Actions to Reduce Rising Tide of Violent Crime | OPA | Department of Justice](#)
- [2] [Memorandum for all United States Attorneys \(justice.gov\)](#)
- [3] [Justice Department Awards More Than \\$30 Million to Project Safe Neighborhoods to Combat Violent Crime | OPA | Department of Justice](#)
- [4] [The Project Safe Neighborhoods FY 2018 Grant Announcement \(ojp.gov\)](#)
- [5] [Innovations in Community-Based Crime Reduction Program \(CBCR\) FY 2018 Competitive Grant Announcement \(ojp.gov\)](#)
- [6] [Supporting Innovation: Field-Initiated Programs to Improve Officer and Public Safety FY 2018 Competitive Grant Announcement \(ojp.gov\)](#)
- [7] [Local Law Enforcement Crime Gun Intelligence Center Integration Initiative \(ojp.gov\)](#)
- [8] [Strategies for Policing Innovation FY 2018 Competitive Grant Announcement \(ojp.gov\)](#)
- [9] [Technology Innovation for Public Safety \(TIPS\) Addressing Precipitous Increases in Crime \(ojp.gov\)](#)
- [10] [Innovative Prosecution Solutions for Combating Violent Crime and Illegal Opioids - FY 2018 Competitive Grant Announcement \(ojp.gov\)](#)

- [11] [Frequently Asked Questions - OJJDP FY 18 Gang Suppression: A Law Enforcement and Prosecutorial Approach to Address Gang Recruitment of Unaccompanied Alien Children \(ojp.gov\)](#)
- [12] [OJJDP FY 2018 Gang Suppression Planning Grants Program \(ojp.gov\)](#)
- [13] October 2015 is three years prior to the Attorney General's announcement of the enhanced approach to PSN. This is intended to serve as a three-year baseline period.