Notices regarding the solicitation "NIJ FY22 Research and Evaluation on Domestic Radicalization and Violent Extremism"

April 7, 2022: On page 5, NIJ has updated the Statutory Authority section.

April 6, 2022: NIJ has added FAQs related to this solicitation. See the funding detail page.

<u>March 17, 2022</u>: On page 8, under "New Investigator/Early Career Opportunity," the second bullet now correctly reads:

• Have completed a terminal degree or post-graduate clinical training within the six (6) years prior to September 30, 2022.

<u>March 15, 2022</u>: NIJ has changed the anticipated total amount to be awarded under the solicitation from \$10,000,000 to \$6,000,000 (page 10).

The original funding opportunity document begins on the next page.

OMB No. 1121-0329 Approval Expires 12/31/2023



NIJ FY22 Research and Evaluation on Domestic Radicalization and Violent Extremism

Assistance Listing Number #	16.560	
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Application JustGrants Deadline:	May 09, 2022 8:59 PM	

Overview

The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>National Institute of Justice</u> (NIJ), seeks applications for funding for research designed to meet the challenges stemming from domestic radicalization and violent extremism. This program furthers the DOJ'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 <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> by reference. The OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants to prepare and submit applications to OJP 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, "state" means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

To advance Executive Order 13929 Safe Policing for Safe Communities, the Attorney General determined that all state, local, and university or college law enforcement agencies must be certified by an approved independent credentialing body or have started the certification process, to be eligible for FY 2022 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

Page 1 of 25 O-NIJ-2022-171193 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 certification requirement, please visit https://cops.usdoj.gov/SafePolicingEO to access the Standards for Certification on Safe Policing for Safe Communities, the Implementation Fact Sheet, and the List of Designated Independent Credentialing Bodies.

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.)

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 <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>.

NIJ may elect to fund applications submitted under this FY 2022 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 Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF)-424 and a Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form (SF-LLL) in Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, <u>Grants.gov Customer Support</u>, or <u>support@grants.gov</u>. The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

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

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact the OJP Response Center by telephone at 800-851-3420 or TTY: 301-240-6310 (hearing impaired only), or by email at <u>grants@ncjrs.gov</u>. The OJP Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., eastern time Monday–Friday, and 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the solicitation closing date.

Submission Information

Applications will be submitted to DOJ in two steps:

<u>Step 1:</u> Applicants must submit by the Grants.gov deadline the required Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF)-424 and a Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) form when they register in Grants.gov at <u>https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html</u>. 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.

Beginning April 4, 2022, the Federal government will cease using the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number to uniquely identify entities. At that point, entities doing business with the Federal government will use a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) created in SAM.gov. If your entity is currently registered in SAM.gov, your UEI has already been assigned and is viewable in SAM.gov. This includes inactive registrations. For additional information, see the Unique Entity Identifier Update and the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

<u>Step 2</u>: Applicants must then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at <u>JustGrants.usdoj.gov</u>. 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 <u>OJP</u> <u>Grant Application Resource Guide</u> and the <u>JustGrants website</u> for more information, resources, and training.

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Program Description

Overview

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community.

With this solicitation, NIJ seeks proposals for rigorous research and evaluation projects targeted toward developing a better understanding of the domestic radicalization phenomenon, and advancing evidence-based strategies for effective intervention and prevention.

NIJ seeks proposals in four topics as they relate to radicalization to violent extremism under this solicitation:

- Research to inform terrorism prevention efforts.
- Research on disengagement, deradicalization and reintegration.
- Evaluations of programs and practices.
- Research on countering mis-, dis-, and mal-information.

NIJ is particularly interested in proposals that explore the radicalization of Americans to white nationalist extremism and identify and advance evidence-based strategies for effective intervention and prevention.

Wherever possible, funded projects should apply an approach that engages researchers and practitioners in an active partnership to develop more effective solutions to specific problems and to produce transportable lessons and strategies that may help other localities with similar problems.

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, 2023. 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

Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2021, Pub. L. No. 116-260, 134 Stat 1182, 1255-1256; 28 USC 530C.

Specific Information

This solicitation seeks applications for funding for research and evaluation projects that will address the knowledge gaps related to preventing radicalization to violent extremism, with clear implications for criminal justice policy and practice in the United States.

Definitions and Scope: Terrorism is one form of targeted violence. For the purposes of this solicitation, "terrorism" is defined as ideologically motivated violence to further political, social, or religious goals. "Terrorists" are those individuals who commit or provide support for the commission of terrorism. Violent extremists are defined as those who advocate, encourage, condone, justify, or support the commission of a violent act to achieve terroristic goals. "Radicalization" is defined as the process by which individuals increasingly adopt a violent extremist or terrorist ideology. Note: an individual may be radicalized and adopt an extremist or terrorist

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ideology without engaging in any acts of terrorism.

NIJ understands that perpetrator actions in terrorism and extremist violence can often overlap with other forms of targeted violence, such as hate crimes and mass shootings. Further, these perpetrators also share many common risk factors and motivations for inflicting violence on their target populations. However, with this solicitation, NIJ invites applications for research focused specifically on terrorism and violent extremism. Although applicants may propose projects focused on one or more particular form of grievance or ideology, NIJ's purpose is to build knowledge about violent extremism, terrorism, and radicalization, regardless of specific grievance or ideology. Applicants should include clearly stated definitions of key terms and concepts, as well as descriptions and examples of how they will operationalize the radicalization and terrorism related phenomena that they are proposing to study. Applicants should also ensure that the findings from the proposed research (if awarded) will have the potential for high external validity beyond the focus of the study itself. To best target applications and to avoid duplication of efforts, potential applicants are encouraged to review the Fiscal Year 2022 Hate Crimes[1] solicitation and determine where their application fits best.

Under this solicitation, applicants will be limited to focusing on the radicalization process as it occurs in the United States, regardless of the locale of any act of terrorism that may ensue from that process. Applicants are encouraged to use comparative approaches in their applications, where warranted, and these may draw on international comparisons. However, applicants must focus their research on the radicalization process as it occurs within the United States, or extremism/terrorism prevention activities within the United States.

NIJ has funded research on terrorism, violent extremism, and domestic radicalization since 2012. Applicants should familiarize themselves with prior NIJ-funded research and include knowledge of relevant research in their literature review. For a summary of NIJ-funded research projects on the subject of terrorism, see https://nij.gov/topics/crime/terrorism/Pages/welcome.aspx. Additionally, applicants are strongly encouraged to familiarize themselves with research projects on this issue that are funded by other federal agencies (e.g., Department of Homeland Security, Department of Defense, etc.) and other sources within and outside of the United States.

Important Considerations:

- Applicants must design research and evaluation projects submitted to this solicitation with the protection of civil rights and liberties prioritized at the forefront of the research design.
- NIJ will not fund research that solely examines the conventional political views of individuals or groups, including their participation in non-violent forms of political activism. Accordingly, applicants should clearly indicate in their proposal how they intend to delineate and study radicalism, extremist views, or other forms of illegal political activity (e.g., direct action or violence) separately from lawful political conduct.
- As it regards the spectrum of political ideologies, NIJ is especially interested in applications that strive to better understand white nationalist extremism, one of the current and most pervasive threats faced by the U.S.[2] In response to its Congressional mandate, NIJ is prioritizing additional funds towards research efforts that explore the radicalization of Americans to white nationalist extremism and identify and advance evidence-based strategies for effective intervention and prevention. The infiltration of this ideology in American institutions (e.g. military, law enforcement), as well as its transnational nature, may also be explored. The focus on white nationalist extremism may be included in applications to any of the four Research Topics listed below. It should also be noted that while this prioritization exists, NIJ will continue to fund research on radicalization to all forms of extremism, regardless of ideology.
- NIJ will not award funding to applications that intentionally introduce, expose, or disseminate extremist
 materials and propaganda to study participants.
- NJJ will not fund applications that do not include an explicit plan to anonymize data and personally identifiable information. Further, NIJ will not fund applications that employ deceptive or non-privatized data collection practices.
- Any machine learning or artificial intelligence methodologies proposed in the research design must include thorough, sufficient explanation and expertise in the proposal and application package.

Research Topics:

NIJ is interested in receiving applications that address the following four topics. Applicants must apply to one of the four Research Topics listed. In their applications, applicants must explicitly state which Research Topic they are requesting funding consideration under. Applications for other than one of these four topics will not be considered.

Topic #1: Research to Inform Terrorism Prevention Efforts

NIJ is seeking applications that build and improve on existing national and international research in the area of terrorism prevention, including research that improves on program development, data sources, and methods. More specifically, NIJ encourages applicants to propose novel approaches to study risk and protective factors as

Page 6 of 25 O-NIJ-2022-171193 they relate to domestic radicalization and violent extremism within the evolving threat landscape in the United States. NIJ is particularly interested in understanding how the radicalization process is similar or different based on the types of extremist ideologies as manifested in the United States, including, but not limited to, the full spectrum of political ideologies. This also extends to an understanding of how strategies for effective intervention and prevention may vary based on the ideology.

Topic #2: Research on Disengagement, Deradicalization, and Reintegration

NIJ seeks applications for research related to the reintegration of individuals incarcerated for terrorism-related offenses as they return to their communities. NIJ encourages applications that build knowledge of how to effectively and efficiently support the reintegration of formerly incarcerated individuals on terrorism-related offenses. Specifically, NIJ seeks to build knowledge of pre-release and post-confinement characteristics of perpetrators of terrorist acts that may inform reintegration policies, programs, and practices. This population is understudied. NIJ is seeking applications to conduct empirical assessments of those convicted of terrorism-related offenses: their sentences, their risks and needs, and how they compare to others in custody or released from custody. For example, what are their risks and needs when they return to the community with regards to issues like reengaging with family, finding employment, and finding housing? Additional issues pertaining to pre-release include, but are not limited to, factors that positively or negatively influence radicalization during release. Additional post-confinement issues include, but are not limited to, but are not limited to, life trajectories of terrorism offenders following release, recidivism within this population, services provided to them post-release, and radicalization independent of further offending.

Further, NIJ is seeking applications for research to better understand the deradicalization and disengagement phenomena. NIJ is particularly interested in understanding factors that promote withdrawal and independence from extremist behaviors, as well as those factors that play a role in encouraging individuals to depart radical ideologies (or at least shift away to less-extreme beliefs).

NIJ recognizes that this research topic is seeking research projects of a hard-to-reach population. Applicants should demonstrate that they are well prepared to access research participants, gain and retain a sufficient sample size, access administrative data sets, and conduct research in correctional settings (as necessary) by including letters of support and other appropriate documentation.

Topic #3: Evaluations of Programs and Practices to Prevent Terrorism

NIJ seeks proposals for either: (1) formative evaluations and evaluability assessments, or (2) outcome evaluations of terrorism prevention programs. For both options, evaluations considering a diverse array of terrorism prevention approaches will be prioritized. NIJ encourages applicants to review and partner with federally-funded programs (e.g. DHS Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships).[3] NIJ is particularly interested in evaluations of community-based terrorism prevention programs and evaluations of programs to reintegrate offenders that were convicted for terrorist related offenses (e.g., providing material support).

Community-based programs often include efforts to: (1) provide local law enforcement and other practitioners with appropriate professional development opportunities to prepare them to engage in terrorism prevention; (2) engage with key community members and groups to build awareness and trust; (3) improve the likelihood of reporting by community members who may see warning signs; and (4) intervene, communicate, or deliver services as appropriate to prevent and reduce the likelihood of terrorism.

NIJ is interested in the development and process evaluation of reentry programming for individuals convicted of terrorism related offenses. Programs may include new or existing rehabilitation programs in correctional settings (e.g., prison) or community-based reentry programs. These efforts should inform future research efforts for impact/outcome evaluations and replication.

Note: funding under this solicitation may only be used to cover costs associated with the evaluation, but may include reasonable costs incurred by program personnel to support activities directly and exclusively required for the execution of the evaluation (e.g., manual extraction of administrative records).

Option 1: Formative Evaluations and Evaluability Assessments: NIJ recognizes that not all terrorism prevention programs may be at the stage of outcome evaluation readiness; as such, a phased approach is needed. The phased evaluation approach is a multistep process that ultimately results in a rigorous outcome evaluation. In Option 1, applicants should plan to conduct a formative evaluation, as well as an evaluability assessment to determine whether an outcome evaluation of the program or model is possible.

If successfully completed (i.e. if a program has achieved a suitable level of development), awardees may apply for funding of additional phases to build on their findings. The specifics of the additional phases will be dependent on the findings of the formative evaluation and evaluability assessment. Subsequent phases may include: (1) a process evaluation of the specified program(s) or model(s) or (2) an outcome/impact evaluation of specified

Page 7 of 25 O-NIJ-2022-171193 program(s) or model(s). Future evaluation opportunities out of the phased approach may also include support for replication studies of programs or models. Evaluation Designs should include:

- Descriptive research of terrorism prevention program(s) leading to the development of a logic model(s).
- Evaluability and research capacity assessments of programs to be studied, including, but not limited to,
- access to data and participant recruitment, consent procedures, and agency burden.
 Development of an implementation guide for specific program(s).
- Development of an implementation guide for specific program(s).
 Development of instruments or measures to test fidelity of program(s).

Applications should provide detailed information on how all tasks will be accomplished, include a multidisciplinary evaluation team, and demonstrate clear support from related partners by submitting letters of support.

Option 2: Outcome Evaluation: In cases where programs have achieved a suitable level of development, NIJ encourages applicants to propose rigorous outcome evaluations using randomized evaluation designs, where it is possible and appropriate to do so. If that is not possible or appropriate, applicants should propose the most rigorous and appropriate design to produce high-quality causal evidence.

Under this option, NIJ will only fund projects that evaluate well-developed programs. Applications should include and append supplementary materials as necessary to describe the level of program development. Supplementary materials may include copies or links to logic models, program guides and materials, policies and procedures, manuals, prior evaluation findings, program staffing, and funding information.

Topic #4: Mis-, Dis-, and Mal-information

NIJ recognizes that extremists' use of online platforms can be a vital mechanism for communication and recruitment to radicalization, especially in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, "internet-based communications platforms, including social media, online gaming platforms, file-upload sites, and end-to-end encrypted chat platforms" all serve as a breeding ground for recruitment to radical ideologies (including conspiracy theories) and mobilization to violent extremism.[4] This problem is exacerbated by the use of information that is false (mis-), false and deliberately created to discredit an entity (dis-), or based on reality but is used to ignite hatred or inflict harm (mal-) both by terrorist groups and foreign governments/entities. Therefore, NIJ encourages applicants to propose research that identifies strategies and best-practices to bolster resistance to such material in both the on- and offline spaces. Research results from projects funded under this topic should have an end-goal of informing effective messaging and counternarrative campaigns, strategies to amplify credible voices, cultivating digital literacy and evidence-based digital programming, as well as bolstering efforts to limit the widespread availability of extremist content online. It should be noted that NIJ expects applicants to ensure that strategies that are proposed respect constitutional protections for expression, free speech, and association.

Coordination with Existing Studies

Applicants are strongly encouraged to familiarize themselves with research projects that are addressing this issue at other federal agencies, including but not limited to: the Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate, the National Counterterrorism Center, and the Department of Defense. NIJ will take into consideration how proposals build on existing or published research on topics described in this solicitation. NIJ will also coordinate with other federal agencies to ensure awards are not made under this solicitation for research that duplicates existing studies.

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 six (6) years prior to September 30, 2022.
- 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.

Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

Goals

The goal of this solicitation is to fund rigorous research and evaluation projects that build knowledge with practical utility for federal, state, local, and tribal criminal justice agencies and their partners engaged in terrorism prevention efforts in the United States.

Objectives

This solicitation has four primary objectives: (1) conduct research to inform terrorism prevention efforts; (2) conduct research on disengagement, deradicalization, reintegration of radicalized individuals and/or violent extremists; (3) evaluate programs and practices to prevent terrorism; and (4) conduct research on the spread of extremist ideologies (specifically the use of mis-, dis-, and mal-information) and how to counter extremist narratives. The deliverables from this solicitation will consist of published works that speak to these objectives.

Deliverables

<u>Final Research Report</u>. 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 <u>webpage</u>.

<u>Required Data Sets and Associated Files and Documentation</u>. 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 show the completed work's results, as discussed in the "Application and Submission Information" section.

Priority Areas

The Department of Justice is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community.

1. Priority Considerations Supporting Executive Order 13985, Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government

Consistent with this Executive Order, the term "underserved community" refers to a population sharing a particular characteristic, as well as a geographic community, that has been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life or whose members have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality. Such communities include, among others, Black people, Hispanics and Latino/a/e people, Native American and other Indigenous peoples of North America (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts), Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders.

In support of Executive Order 13985, OJP will:

A. Give priority consideration to applications that propose research project(s) that will address issues related to racial equity and the removal of barriers to access and opportunity for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality, when making award decisions.

To receive this consideration, the applicant must describe how the proposed project(s) will address potential

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B. Give priority consideration to applicants that can demonstrate that their capabilities and competencies for implementing their proposed project(s) are enhanced because the applicant (or at least one proposed subrecipient that will receive at least 30% of the requested award funding, as demonstrated in the Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative) identifies as a culturally specific organization. To receive this additional priority consideration, applicants must describe how being a culturally specific organization (or funding the culturally specific subrecipient organization(s)) will enhance their ability to implement the proposed project (s) and should also specify which culturally specific populations are intended or expected to be served or to have their needs addressed under the proposed project(s).

Culturally specific organizations are defined for purposes of this solicitation as private nonprofit or tribal organizations whose primary purpose as a whole is to provide culturally specific services to, among others, Black people, Hispanics and Latino/a/e people, Native American and other Indigenous peoples of North America (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts), Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and/or Pacific Islanders.

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

Federal Award Information

Solicitation Categories

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

Awards, Amounts and Durations

Period of Performance Start Date 1/1/23 12:00 AM

Period of Performance Duration (Months) 60

Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation \$6,000,000.00

Additional Information

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

Continuation Funding Intent

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

Availability of Funds

This solicitation, and awards (if any are made) under this solicitation, are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by the agency or by law. In addition, nothing in this solicitation is intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

Types of Awards

NIJ expects to make awards under this solicitation as grants. See the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section of the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for a brief discussion of important statutes, regulations, and award conditions that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP grants).

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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. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> 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 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 2022, NIJ elects to fund only certain phases of a proposed project, the expected scholarly products from the partial-funding award may, in some cases, vary from those described above.)

NIJ may elect to fund applications submitted under this FY 2022 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. Applications that seek program implementation funds (see Note on page 8 under the Topic #3: Evaluations of Programs and Practices to Prevent Terrorism section).
- Applications that intentionally introduce, expose, or disseminate extremist materials and propaganda to study participants.

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

This solicitation does not require a match.

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

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs).

Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on the Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver.

Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs.

Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on Costs Associated with Language Assistance.

Anticipated Number of Awards

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

Maximum Dollar Amount for each Award

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

Period of Performance Duration

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

Eligibility Information

For eligibility information, see the solicitation cover page.

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

Application and Submission Information

Content of Application Submission

The following application elements **must** be included in the application to meet the basic minimum requirements to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding:

- Proposal Narrative.
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative.
- 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 <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on what happens to an application that does not contain all the specified elements or is nonresponsive to the scope of the solicitation.

Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

The SF-424 must 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 <u>OJP Grant Application Resource</u> <u>Guide</u> for additional information on completing the SF-424.

In Section 8.F. of the SF-424, please include the name and contact information of the individual **who will complete the application in JustGrants**. JustGrants will use this information *(email address)* to assign the application to this user in JustGrants.

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

Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)

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

Proposal Abstract

Page 12 of 25 O-NIJ-2022-171193 A proposal abstract (no more than 400 words) summarizing the proposed project including the purpose of the project, primary activities, expected outcomes, the service area, intended beneficiaries and subrecipients (if known), will be completed in the JustGrants web-based form. This abstract should be written in the third person and will be made publicly available on the OJP website if the project is awarded.

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 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 restrictions, NIJ may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions.

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

a. <u>Title Page</u> (not counted against the proposal narrative page limit)

The title page should include:

- Project title.
- Submission date.
- Funding opportunity number.
- Principal Investigator (and any co-principal investigators).
- Unique author identifier (e.g., ORCID, ResearcherID, Scopus Author ID), if available.
- Requests for consideration under "new investigator" and/or priority area 1A" and/or "priority area 1B".
- 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. <u>Resubmit Response</u> (if applicable) (not counted against the proposal narrative page limit.)

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

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

- d. Main Body
 - 1. Statement of the problem.

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

2. Project Design and Implementation.

Applicants should provide a detailed description of the strategies to implement this research project and address the research questions. Design elements should follow directly from the research project's goals and objectives and address the program-specific information noted in the solicitation. Applicants should describe the research methodology and analysis plan in detail and demonstrate the validity and usefulness

Page 13 of 25 O-NIJ-2022-171193 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.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration for Priority 1(A), it should address in this section how the proposed project(s) will address issues related to racial equity and/or the removal of barriers to access and opportunity, and/or contribute to greater access to services, for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality.

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. The applicant should include a discussion of the proposed dissemination plan to produce scholarly products and to make information available to broader interested audiences, such as criminal justice practitioners or policymakers.

4. Capabilities and Competencies.

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

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

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

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1(B), it should describe within this section how being a culturally specific organization (or funding a culturally specific subrecipient organization at a minimum of 30% of the project budget) will enhance its ability to implement the proposed project(s) and should also specify which culturally specific populations are intended or expected to be the subject and/or beneficiary of the research conducted under the proposed project(s).

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

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

Note: Applicants are not required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included as an alert that successful applicants will be required to submit performance data as part of each award's reporting requirements.

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 in the "Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables" discussion.

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found on page 22.

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

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performance measurement activities at OJP.

NIJ will require award recipients to submit performance measure data in quarterly financial reports, semi-annual performance reports, and the Final Research Report. NIJ will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process, 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 <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

Budget and Associated Documentation

Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)

The applicant will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource</u> <u>Guide</u> for additional information.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1(B) based on the identification of at least one proposed subrecipient as a culturally specific organization, the proposed funding for the subrecipient in the webbased budget form **must be a minimum of 30% of award funding.**

The budget narrative must also describe how the activities that will be funded with the (minimum) 30% of award funding provided to the subrecipient **specifically relate to the priority consideration requested under Priority 1(B)** and described in the Capabilities and Competencies section of the application.

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)

The applicant will submit its indirect cost rate agreement by uploading it 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)

The applicant will download the questionnaire, complete it, and submit it by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for the link to the questionnaire and additional information.

Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation

This solicitation expressly modifies the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide by not incorporating its "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation" provisions. Applicants to this solicitation are not required to provide this disclosure.

Additional Application Components

Applicants will attach the additional requested documentation in JustGrants.

Curriculum Vitae or Resumes

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

Tribal Authorizing Resolution

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of tribal authorizing documentation as an attachment. If applicable, the applicant will submit the tribal authorizing documentation by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on tribal authorizing resolutions.

Timeline Form

Proposed project timeline and expected milestones.

Letters of Support

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

Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement

If an application proposes research (including research and development) and/or evaluation, the applicant must demonstrate research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, before it may receive award funds. The applicant will submit documentation of its research and evaluation independence and integrity by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. For additional information, see the <u>OJP Grant Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u>.

Bibliography/reference

Provide a bibliography of any references cited in the Proposal Narrative.

Any tools/instruments, questionnaires, tables/chart/graphs, or maps

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

List of Individuals in the Application

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

Human Subjects Protection

Human Subjects Protection paperwork as a separate attachment (documentation and forms related to Institutional Review Board [IRB] review). See https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/human-subjects-protection. Note: Final IRB approval is not required at the time an application is submitted.

Privacy Certificate

Privacy Certificate as a separate attachment (for further guidance go to <u>https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/confidentiality-and-privacy-protections</u> and <u>https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/model-privacy-certificate</u>).

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Request to Use Incentives or Stipends

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

Documentation of "New Investigator" Status, if applicable

Documentation of "new investigator/early career" status, if applicable.

Consortium/Contractual Arrangements

Explain the programmatic, fiscal, and administrative arrangements to be made between the applicant organization and the consortium organization(s).

Data Archiving Plan

Applicants should anticipate that NIJ will require, through special award conditions, that data sets resulting in whole or in part from projects funded under this solicitation be submitted for archiving with the NACJD. See https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/research-development-and-evaluation-grant-award-requirements#data.

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.

Disclosures and Assurances

The applicant will address the following disclosures and assurances.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Complete and submit the SF-LLL in Grants.gov. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

DOJ Certified Standard Assurances

Review and accept the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants. See the <u>OJP Grant Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u>.

Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items

Complete the JustGrants web-based Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the <u>OJP Grant</u> <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

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

Review and accept the DOJ Certified Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; and Law Enforcement and Community Policing in JustGrants. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.</u>

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

If applicable, submit the DOJ High Risk Disclosure and Justification as an attachment in JustGrants. A DOJ High Risk Grantee is an award 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. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

How to Apply

Step 1: The applicant will submit the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL** in Grants.gov at <u>https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html</u>.

Step 2: The applicant will then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants in <u>JustGrants.usdoj.gov</u>.

For additional information, see the "How to Apply" section in the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> and the <u>DOJ Application Submission Checklist</u>.

Submission Dates and Time

The SF-424 and the SF-LLL must be submitted in Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on April 25, 2022.

The full application must be submitted in JustGrants by 8:59 p.m. eastern time on May 9, 2022.

OJP urges applicants to submit their Grants.gov and JustGrants submissions prior to the due dates to allow sufficient time to correct errors and resubmit by the submission deadlines if a rejection notification is received. To be considered timely, the **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline.

Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues

An applicant that experiences unforeseen SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants technical issues beyond its control that prevent application submission by the deadline, must demonstrate all efforts in requesting technical support in order to submit an application by the deadline. Technical support is available via phone and email to the applicable SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants support centers or service desks in which an applicant received a ticket number for resolution. If an applicant misses a deadline due to unforeseen technical difficulties, the applicant may request a waiver to submit an application after the deadline. *Note: If an applicant does not submit all the required Grants.gov forms by the Grants.gov deadline, the applicant will not be able to proceed to the JustGrants portion of the application process.*

An applicant experiencing technical difficulties with the following systems must contact the associated support desk indicated below to report the technical issue and receive a tracking number:

- Grants.gov contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline
- SAM.gov contact the SAM Help Desk (Federal Service Desk)
- JustGrants contact the JustGrants Support Desk at JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or 833-872-5175

An applicant requesting a waiver to submit a late application must document their request for technical assistance in an email to the OJP Response Center at <u>grants@ncjrs.gov</u> within 24 hours after the application deadline to request approval to submit its application after the deadline. If an applicant has technical issues with Grants.gov, the applicant must contact OJP Response Center 24 hours of the Grants.gov deadline to request approval to submit after the deadline. However, waiver requests will not be reviewed until after the JustGrants deadline to

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allow time for all waivers to be submitted. Waiver requests to submit after the submission deadline must:

- Describe the technical difficulties experienced;
- Include a timeline of the applicant's submission efforts (e.g., what date and time did the error occur, what date and time was action taken to resolve the issue and resubmit; and what date and time did support representatives respond)
- Include an attachment(s) of the complete grant application and all required documentation and material; and
- Include the applicant's DUNS number (or Unique Entity Identifier if applying after April 4, 2022), any applicable SAM.gov tracking number(s), Grants.gov Help Desk, and JustGrants Support Desk Ticket Numbers.

OJP will review each request for late submission and required supporting documentation and notify the applicant whether the request has been approved or denied. For more details on the waiver process, OJP encourages applicants to review the "Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues" section in the <u>OJP Grant Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u>.

Application Review Information

Review Criteria

Merit Review Criteria

Applications that meet basic minimum requirements will be evaluated by peer reviewers 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) (15%)

- Qualifications and experience of proposed project staff (that is, the principal investigator, any and all coprincipal 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 (20%)

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

5. Budget (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.

Other Review Criteria/Factors

Other important considerations for NIJ include geographic diversity, strategic priorities (specifically including, but not limited to, those priority areas already mentioned), 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 listed above.

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

- 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 with 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 such comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in FAPIIS, in its assessment of the risk posed by the applicant.

All final award decisions will be made by Director of the National Institute of Justice, who may consider not only peer review ratings and NIJ recommendations, but also other factors as indicated in this section.

Federal Award Administration Information

Federal Award Notices

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on award notifications and instructions.

Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements

If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the OJP-approved application, the recipient must comply with all award conditions and all applicable requirements of federal statutes and regulations, including the 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 <u>OJP Grant Application Resource</u> <u>Guide</u>.

Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of information related to information technology security. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on information technology security.

General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements

In addition to the deliverables described in the "Program Description" section, all award recipients under this solicitation will be required to submit certain reports and data.

<u>Required reports</u>. Award recipients typically must submit quarterly financial reports, *semi-annual* performance reports, final financial and performance 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 <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measure data.

Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For questions directed to the Federal Awarding Agency, see OJP Response Center contact information on 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 <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for information on the 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)	Description	Data Recipient Provides
Conduct research in social and behavioral sciences having clear implications for criminal justice policy and practice in the United States.	 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. 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. 		 Quarterly financial reports, semi-annual and final performance reports, and products of the work performed under the NIJ award (including, at minimum, a final research report). If applicable, an annual audit report. List of citation(s) to all scholarly products that resulted in whole or in part from work funded under the NIJ award. If applicable, each data set that resulted in whole or in part from work funded under the NIJ award.
	 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. Number of technologies fielded as a result (in whole or in part) of work funded under the NIJ award. 	A technology is defined as a tool to include, for example, test methods, software, hardware, etc.	4. Description of all technologies fielded as a result (in whole or in part) of work funded under the NIJ award.
		A fielded technology is one that remains in use at the conclusion of the grant or agreement.	

Application Checklist

NIJ FY22 Research and Evaluation on Domestic Radicalization and Violent Extremism

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

What an Applicant Must Do:

Prior to registering in Grants.gov:

- Confirm your Entity's System Award Management (SAM) Registration Information (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Acquire a SAM Unique Entity Identifier (UEI):
 - If applying before April 4, 2022, obtain or confirm your Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number at www.dnb.com.
 - On April 4, 2022, the federal government will stop using DUNS and start using the new SAM UEI.

To register in Grants.gov:

- Acquire an AOR and a Grants.gov username and password (see OJP Grant Application Resource) Guide)
- Acquire AOR confirmation from the E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

To find the funding opportunity:

- Search for the funding opportunity in Grants.gov using the opportunity number, Assistance Listing or keyword(s)
- Access the funding opportunity and application package (see Step 7 in OJP Grant Application) Resource Guide)
- Sign up for Grants.gov email <u>notifications</u> (optional) (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)
 Read <u>Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov</u>
- 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 "<u>Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2022 Awards</u>" in the <u>OJP Funding Resource Center</u>.

Review Scope Requirement:

The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of \$6M.

Review Eligibility Requirement: See cover page.

Prepare to submit the Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF)-424 and Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form (SF-LLL)

- Review Information to complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) in Grants.gov
- Complete Standard Applicant Information (SF-424 information from Grants.gov)
- Submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL in Grants.gov

After the 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 OJP Response Center regarding technical difficulties (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

Receive email notification to complete application in JustGrants:

Proceed to complete application in JustGrants

Content of Application Submission: Critical Application Elements

The following items are critical application elements required to pass the basic minimum requirements review. If OJP determines that an application does not include the following elements, it will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.

- Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form)
- Project Staff List and CV's/Resumes

Budget and Associated Documentation:

- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Disclosure of Process related to Executive Compensation (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)**

Disclosures and Assurances:

- <u>Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)</u> (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)
 Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)
- DOJ Certified Standard Assurances (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 the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov regarding technical difficulties.
- If an applicant has technical issues with Grants.gov, the applicant must contact OJP Response Center within 24 hours of the Grants.gov deadline to request approval to submit after the deadline. However, waiver requests will not be reviewed until after the JustGrants deadline to allow time for all waivers to be submitted.

Endnotes

- [1] Link to Hate Crimes solicitation: https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/o-nij-2022-171191.
- [2] https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/2020 10 06 homeland-threat-assessment.pdf.
- [3] https://www.dhs.gov/tvtpgrants.

[4] https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/National-Strategy-for-Countering-Domestic-Terrorism.pdf.