

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



NIJ FY 2022 Invited to Apply - Investigator-Initiated Research and Evaluation on Firearm Violence

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Overview

The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [National Institute of Justice](#) seeks applications for funding for research and program evaluation projects that inform efforts to prevent and reduce intentional, interpersonal firearm violence in the United States. This program furthers the DOJ's mission by supporting **DOJ Strategic Objective 3.1**: Combat violent crime, promote safe communities, and uphold the rights of victims of crime.

This solicitation incorporates the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) by reference. The OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants to prepare and submit applications for funding. **If this solicitation expressly modifies any provision in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation as to that provision.**

Solicitation Categories

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

Eligible Applicants:

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.

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 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.

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 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, at [Grants.gov customer support](#), or support@grants.gov. The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

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

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact Abby Hannifan, Grants Management Specialist, by telephone at 202-532-3822 or by email at lauren.a.hannifan@usdoj.gov.

Submission Information

Applications will be submitted to DOJ in two steps.

Step 1: The applicant 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 <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>. To register in Grants.gov, the applicant will need to ensure that its System for Award Management (SAM) registration is current.

Step 2: The applicant must then 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](#) and the [JustGrants website](#) 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.

NIJ is seeking applications for the funding of research and program evaluation projects that inform efforts to prevent and reduce intentional, interpersonal, firearm violence, and mass shootings in the United States. NIJ will support scientifically rigorous research and evaluation projects designed to strengthen the scientific knowledge-base and produce findings with high-practical utility to improve public safety. This solicitation supports the U.S. Department of Justice's priority to prevent and reduce gun crimes, gun violence-related victimization, and the wide-range of criminal activities related to firearm violence. This solicitation supports **DOJ Strategic Objective 3.1**: Combat violent crime, promote safe communities, and uphold the rights of victims of crime.

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

Specific Information

NIJ is authorized to make grants or enter into cooperative agreements or contracts to conduct multi-year and short-term research, evaluation, and development projects for the purpose of providing objective, independent, evidence-based knowledge and tools to meet the challenges of crime and justice in the United States, particularly at the state, local, and tribal levels.

NIJ will consider applications for rigorously designed scientific research and evaluation projects aiming to produce findings that may improve public safety by addressing intentional, interpersonal firearm violence and mass shootings in the United States. This solicitation is investigator-initiated, meaning that applicants have leeway to generate their ideas and center their research within their field of social science, or in conjunction with other areas of interest and expertise. Where appropriate, NIJ encourages applicants to secure partnerships that involve researchers and criminal justice practitioners for the purposes of facilitating access to data, as well as designing analysis strategies, interpreting findings, and disseminating results.

Though applications may cover a range of topics related to firearm violence, NIJ is particularly interested in the priority topics listed below.

1. Evaluations of programs and practices to reduce firearm violence

NIJ seeks applications that propose evaluations to generate evidence about the effectiveness of programs and practices designed to reduce firearm violence. NIJ is particularly interested in supporting rigorous evaluations of:

1. Collaborative, strategic approaches to reduce, prevent, or deter firearm violence;
2. Community-based firearm violence prevention and intervention programs; and
3. Approaches that focus on the integration of crime and criminal intelligence analysis with forensic technologies, including ballistics, crime gun data, and other forensic evidence.

NIJ will consider applications for such evaluations that are conducted in individual sites, but is particularly interested in supporting evaluations that examine programs or practices occurring in multiple sites.

Applicants are encouraged to propose randomized evaluation designs, multi-site studies, and replication studies of rigorously evaluated programs.^[1] Studies that incorporate more than one of these design elements are encouraged. Applicants should propose the most rigorous and appropriate design possible to produce high-quality causal evidence.

Randomized controlled trial (RCT) studies are a powerful tool for building scientific evidence about what works. Therefore, studies employing RCT methods will be given higher-priority consideration. RCT applications with strong designs measuring outcomes of self-evident policy importance are encouraged strongly.

Given the findings of previous studies, applicants should consider whether to explore long-term outcomes (18 months or longer). A strong RCT design should include low sample attrition, sufficient sample size, close

adherence to random assignment, valid outcome measures, and appropriate statistical analyses. Taking RCT costs into consideration, applicants may want to consider studies that minimize costs, such as those that use privacy-protected administrative data that are already being collected, or implement an intervention into a program already funded.

When multiple rigorous studies of a program or strategy produce comparable results, confidence regarding the effectiveness of that program increases. This may be accomplished by conducting replication studies that incorporate the same research questions and designs in different locations (e.g., multi-site studies), or those that test the impact of a program on a different population than the original study.

It is important to understand why a program or strategy is (in)effective. Therefore, applicants should consider incorporating research questions that examine issues including, but not limited to, what elements of a program are responsible for outcomes, the impact of modification(s) on well-developed program models, whether a program works well only for a certain target population, and/or a program's unintended consequences or outcomes.

Applications should include and append supplementary materials, as necessary, to describe the level of program development, and demonstrate that needed data will be available for the study. 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).

2. Research to inform the prevention of mass shooting incidents

NIJ is interested in research that builds knowledge and informs policy and practice on reducing the incidence of mass shootings, including public mass shootings, domestic violence-related mass shootings, and mass shootings carried out during the course of committing a felony. Applicants may address a wide-range of potentially relevant topics, but NIJ is especially interested in studies that: (1) address domestic mass shootings (i.e., familicide with a firearm); and (2) studies that compare different types of mass shootings and examine differences and commonalities in motivation, the preparation phase, weapon selection, and/or other situational factors. In general, NIJ seeks applications for studies that have high potential informational value for practitioners, and for the design of intervention and prevention activities.

The Congressional Research Service defined a public mass shooting incident as one that occurred, "...in relatively public places, involving four or more deaths — not including the shooter(s) — and gunmen who select victims somewhat indiscriminately" and where "...the gunmen do not pursue criminal profit or kill in the name of terrorist ideologies."^[2] The research defines a domestic mass shooting as an incident "where the shooter was either a family member or a past or present intimate partner of a member of the household," and excludes "home invasion and drug-related domestic shootings."^[3]

Experts note that there are limitations associated with counting fatalities when studying mass shootings, as well as familicides.^[4] Specifically, they find that for the development of prevention strategies, there are benefits to studying both averted attacks (e.g., due to official or bystander intervention) and less deadly attacks (e.g., due to near misses, weapon malfunction, rapid medical response, or fewer count of potential victims at the crime scene). Therefore, NIJ is particularly interested in studies that not only aim to examine perpetrators and incidents of mass shootings resulting in death of at least four victims, but also those where there was an evident premeditated intent to kill multiple victims, but the plan was either not carried out, or resulted in fewer or no fatalities and injuries.^[5]

3. Research on the legal and illegal acquisition of firearms used in the commission of a crime

NIJ seeks applications that propose rigorous studies to improve scientific knowledge and understanding of how firearms used in the commission of a crime are acquired, both legally and illegally, to inform development of improved detection and intervention strategies, and investigative tactics. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to, studies examining how such firearms are acquired through secondary gun markets, including straw purchases (direct or indirect^[6]); gifting; underground sales/trafficking (including on the dark web); theft; and lending/sharing among social and familial networks, including gangs.^[7] Applicants may address a wide-range of relevant topics, but NIJ is particularly interested in studies addressing emerging challenges to law enforcement, such as the detection of acquisition and intervention points.

4. Examine the impact of plea bargaining firearm charges on firearm violence

NIJ seeks applications that propose rigorous studies to improve scientific knowledge and assess the impact that plea bargaining of firearm charges in criminal and/or juvenile courts has on crime, violence in general, and firearm violence in particular. NIJ is interested in research projects designed to determine whether using plea bargaining in firearm-related cases contributes to later violence or crime by those affected by the decision to plea bargain. In general, prosecutors and defendants enter into plea bargains in which the defendant pleads guilty in return for some concession from the prosecutor (e.g., lesser charges, dropping other charges, reducing the sentence). There are many reasons why prosecutors and defendants may seek a plea bargain, and many factors to consider when attempting to assess the impact of plea agreements on subsequent crime and violence.

For example, a plea bargain does not hold the prosecution to the burden of proving its case. Therefore, any case that is plea bargained might have led to an acquittal if it had proceeded to full trial. One cannot assume that all cases that are plea-bargained would have otherwise led to convictions on the original charges. Furthermore, prosecutors may use a plea agreement as a tool to get information or testimony from an offender to inform another case deemed to be more serious or important. Thus, to properly study the effects of plea bargaining in these cases, it is necessary to consider the criminal offending patterns of those who receive plea bargains, as well as the offending patterns of those involved in cases that are informed by plea bargain recipients.

New Investigator/Early Career Opportunity

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

- Hold a non-tenured assistant professor appointment at an accredited institution of higher education in the United States or an equivalent full-time staff scientist position at a research institution in the United States.
- Have completed a terminal degree or post-graduate clinical training within the four (4) years prior to September 30, 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

The goal of this solicitation is to develop evidence-based knowledge that can be applied to more effectively prevent and deter firearms violence, and improve public safety through an enhanced understanding of firearms violence and public mass shooting incidents. The goal of this solicitation may be accomplished through the dissemination of research findings to public safety practitioners, other stakeholders, and policymakers.

Final Research Report. Any recipient of an award under this solicitation will be expected to submit a final research report. Additional information on the final research report requirement for the solicitation is posted on [Research, Development, and Evaluation Grant Award Requirements](#) on NIJ's webpage. The Final Research Report will undergo review for public archive on the [National Criminal Justice Reference Service \(NCJRS\)](#).

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 "Data Archiving Plan" in "Additional Application Components" under the Application and Submission Information section below.

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

Technology Prototype: An exemplar of any algorithm, method, software development kit, and training data set resulting from research and development activities funded under this solicitation will be delivered to NIJ at the end of the award for third-party evaluation, along with detailed implementation instructions. Documentation must include descriptions of algorithmic development and approaches to data collection.

NIJ expects that there will be an equal effort to make the research findings accessible to practitioner and policymaker audiences through articles in trade publications, the development of training manuals, policy briefs, conferences, webinars, and articles for newspapers or magazines.

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.

Evidence-Based Programs or Practices

OJP strongly encourages the use of data and evidence in policymaking and program development for 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."

Federal Award Information

General Guidance for Federal Award

Total number of awards NIJ expects to make: 1
Maximum dollar amount for each award: \$321,666.71
Total amount to be awarded under solicitation: \$321,666.71
Period of performance start date: July 1, 2022
Period of performance duration: 24 months

Solicitation Categories

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

Awards, Amounts and Durations

Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation
\$321,667.00

Types of Awards

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

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 [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 the Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver.

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

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs.

Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)

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

Eligibility Information

For eligibility information, see the solicitation cover page.

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

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 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. It 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 8F 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 [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. 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

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 proposal narrative fails to comply with these length restrictions, PO may consider such noncompliance in final award decision.

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

Program Narrative Guidelines:

a. Title Page (not counted against the 30-page program narrative limit)

The title page should include the title of the project, submission date, funding opportunity number, and the name and complete contact information (that is, address, telephone number, and e-mail address) for both the applicant and the principal investigator.

b. Resubmit Response (if applicable) (not counted against the 30-page program narrative 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 30-page program narrative limit)

d. Main Body

The main body of the program narrative should describe the proposed project in depth. The following sections should be included as part of the program narrative:

- Statement of the Problem and Research Questions. 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. As part of this discussion, applicants should present a review of previous literature and discuss previous research related to these problems.

This section should also identify the proposed research questions and discuss the purpose, goals, and objectives of the proposed project.

- 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 above.

Applicants should describe the research methodology in detail and demonstrate the validity and usefulness of the data they will collect. Applicants should consider the rigor and soundness of the methodology and analytical and technical approaches for the proposed research and address the feasibility of the proposed project and potential challenges or problems in carrying out the activities.

- 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 discussion of impact should include a discussion of the deliverables, including planned scholarly products indicated in the "Goals, Objectives, Deliverables" section under "Program Description" above, and a plan for dissemination to appropriate audiences. Applicants should identify plans to produce or make available to broader interested practitioners and policymakers in a form that is designed to be readily accessible and useful to them.

- 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.

- Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures.

Note: The applicant is **not** required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included as an alert that each successful applicant 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 show the completed work's results. The performance data directly relate to the goals, objectives, and deliverables identified in the "Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables" discussion. The applicant can also visit OJP's performance measurement page at www.ojp.gov/performance for an overview of performance measurement activities at OJP.

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found in the "Performance Measures" section.

NIJ will require award recipients to submit performance measure data in JustGrants through quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports, and the Final Research Report. NIJ will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process, 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 in the "Note on Project Evaluations" section 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.

Budget and Associated Documentation

Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (attachment)

Applicants will complete the budget attachment and submit it by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

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.

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 [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information and the link to the questionnaire.

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

The applicant will attach the requested documentation in JustGrants.

Curriculum Vitae or Resumes

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 [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on tribal authorizing resolutions.

Timeline Form

Proposed project timeline and expected milestones.

Letters of Support

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

Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement

If an application proposes research (including research and development) and/or evaluation, the applicant must demonstrate research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, before it may receive award funds. 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 [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Bibliography/reference

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

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

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

List of Individuals in the Application

To assist OJP in assessing actual or apparent conflicts of interest (including such conflicts on the part of prospective reviewers of the application, 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. This applies to all such individuals, including, for example, individuals who are or would be employees of the applicant or employees of any proposed subrecipient entity, any individuals who themselves may be a subrecipient, and individuals who may (or will) work without compensation (such as advisory board members). This appendix to the program narrative is to include, for each listed individual: name, title, employer, any other potentially-pertinent organizational affiliation(s), and the individual's proposed roles and responsibilities in carrying out the proposed project. If the application identifies any specific entities or organizations (other than the applicant) that will or may work (or advise or consult) on the proposed project, without also naming any associated individuals, the name of each such organization also should be included on this list. Applicants should use the "[Proposed Project Staff, Affiliation, and Roles](#)" form available on the NIJ webpage to prepare this list.

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. Applicants should provide this list as a separate sheet entitled "Proposed non-competitive procurement contracts."

For information on distinctions — for purposes of federal grants administrative requirements — between subawards and procurement contracts under awards, see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Human Subjects Protection

Human Subjects Protection paperwork (documentation and forms related to Institutional Review Board [IRB] review). See "[Human Subjects Protection](#)" on the NIJ webpage. **Note:** Final IRB approval is not required at the time an application is submitted.

Privacy Certificate

Privacy Certificate (for further guidance go to "[Confidentiality and Privacy Protections](#)" on the NIJ webpage).

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 under "[Participant Support Costs and Incentives](#)" on the NIJ webpage).

List of previous and current NIJ awards

List of any previous and current NIJ awards to the applicant and investigator(s), including the NIJ-assigned award numbers and a brief description of any scholarly products that resulted in whole or in part from work funded under the NIJ award(s). (See "Goals, Objectives Deliverables" under "Program Description," above, for the definition of "scholarly products.")

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 "[Data Archiving](#)" on the NIJ webpage.

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 [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

DOJ Certified Standard Assurances

Review and accept the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items

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

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 [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

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 [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

How to Apply

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

Step 2: The applicant must then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at JustGrants.usdoj.gov.

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

Submission Dates and Time

The **SF-424** and the **SF-LLL** must be submitted in Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on June 10, 2022.

The **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by 8:59 p.m. eastern time on June 14, 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 grants@ncjrs.gov **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 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. 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 Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and 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 [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

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 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 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 [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of information related to information technology security. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on information technology security.

General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements

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

Required reports. Award recipients typically must submit quarterly financial reports, semi-annual performance reports, final financial and performance 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 measure data.

Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For OJP contact(s), see the solicitation cover page.

For contact information for Grants.gov and JustGrants, see the solicitation cover page.

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 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)	Data Recipient Provides
<p>Conduct research in social and behavioral sciences having clear implications for criminal justice policy and practice in the United States.</p> <p>Conduct research in science, technology, engineering, and/or mathematics having clear implications for criminal or juvenile justice policy and practice in the United States.</p>	<p>1. Relevance to the needs of the field as measured by whether the project's substantive scope did not deviate from the funded project or any subsequent agency-approved modifications to the scope.</p> <p>2. Quality of the research as demonstrated by the scholarly products that result in whole or in part from work funded under the NIJ award, such as published, peer-reviewed, scientific journal articles, and/or (as appropriate for the funded project) law review journal articles, book chapter(s) or book(s) in the academic press, technological prototypes, patented inventions, or similar scientific products.</p> <p>3. Quality of management as measured by such factors as whether significant project milestones were achieved, reporting and other deadlines were met, and costs remained within approved limits.</p> <p>4. Number of technologies fielded as a result (in whole or in part) of work funded under the NIJ award.</p>	<p>1. Quarterly financial reports, semi-annual and final progress reports, and products of the work performed under the NIJ award (including, at a minimum, a final research report). If applicable, an annual audit report.</p> <p>2. List of citation(s) to all scholarly products that resulted in whole or in part from work funded under the NIJ award.</p> <p>3. If applicable, each data set that resulted in whole or in part from work funded under the NIJ award.</p> <p>4. Description of all technologies fielded as a result (in whole or in part) of work funded under the NIJ award.</p>

Application Checklist

NIJ FY 2022 Invited to Apply - Investigator-Initiated Research and Evaluation on Firearm Violence

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

What an Applicant Must Do:

Prior to registering in Grants.gov

- Confirm your Entity's [System Award Management \(SAM\)](#) Registration Information (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

To register in Grants.gov:

- Acquire an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and Grants.gov username and password (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Acquire AOR confirmation from the E-Business Point of Contact (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 the [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 <https://www.ojp.gov/funding/financialguidedoj/iii-postaward-requirements#6g3y8> (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 2022 Awards](#)” in the [OJP Funding Resource Center](#).

Review Scope Requirement:

- The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of \$321,666.71.

Review Eligibility Requirement: See cover page.

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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 validation, or if error notifications are received:

- Contact NIJ or the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, at [Grants.gov customer support](#), or support@grants.gov 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

- Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Narrative

Budget and Associated Documentation

- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (attachment)
- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

Additional Application Components

- Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

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 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 if error notifications are received:

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

Endnotes

[1] Many firearm violence prevention and reduction programs and strategies have been implemented in communities across the nation. Some of these have been carefully evaluated and have demonstrated strong evidence of effectiveness. NIJ's [CrimeSolutions.gov](#) website profiles gun/firearm violence programs that have been scientifically evaluated. There is a strong need for more rigorous program evaluations in this area.

[2] Bjelopera, J. P., Bagalman, E., Caldwell, S. W., Finklea, K. M., & McCallion, G. (2013). *Public mass shootings in the United States: Selected implications for federal public health and safety policy*. Washington, DC: Congressional Research Service. Retrieved from <https://www.fas.org/sqp/crs/misc/R43004.pdf>.

[3] Levy, Marc et al. (2019). Mass shootings: Are children safer in the streets than in the home? *Journal of Pediatric Surgery*, 54(1), 150-154.

[4] (2018, August). *2018 NIJ Topical Meetings on Mass Shootings: Researchers and Practitioners Perspective*. National Institute of Justice, Washington, DC.

[5] See the Federal Bureau of Investigation definition of an active shooter. FBI (2019). *Active Shooter Incidents in the United States in 2018*. Retrieved from Homeland Security Digital Library, <https://www.hsdl.org/?abstract&did=823952>.

[6] Braga, A., Cook, P., Kennedy, D., & Moore, M. (2002). The Illegal Supply of Firearms. *Crime and Justice*, 29, 319-352. Retrieved from <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1147711>.

[7] Cook, P.J., Harris, R.J.; Ludwig, J.; Pollack, H.A. (2015). Some sources of crime guns in Chicago: Dirty dealers, straw purchasers, and traffickers. *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology* 104 (4), 717-760.