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



NIJ FY24 Invited to Apply - Byrne Discretionary Community Project Grants/Byrne Discretionary Grants Program

Assistance Listing Number: 16.753

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-NIJ-2024-172109

Solicitation Release Date: April 25, 2024

Step 1: Application Grants.gov Deadline: 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on May 23, 2024 **Step 2: Application JustGrants Deadline:** 8:59 p.m. Eastern Time on June 6, 2024

Contents

Synopsis	
Program Description Overview	3
Eligibility	3
Agency Contact Information	3
Application Submission Information	3
Registration	3
Submission	4
Program Description	5
Program Description Overview	5
Statutory Authority	5
Specific Information	5
Solicitation Goals and Objectives	6
Federal Award Information	6
Awards, Amounts, and Durations	6
Availability of Funds	6
Type of Award	6
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement	6
Eligibility Information	6

low To Apply	7
Application Resources	7
How To Apply	7
Registration	7
Submission	7
Submission Dates and Time	8
Application and Submission Information	8
Content of the SF-424 in Grants.gov	8
Content of the JustGrants Application Submission	9
Application Review Information	14
Review Process	14
Federal Award Administration Information	15
Federal Award Notices	15
Evidence-Based Programs or Practices	15
Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities	15
Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements	15
Civil Rights Compliance	15
Financial Management and System of Internal Controls	16
Information Technology Security Clauses	16
General Information About Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements	16
Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)	16
Other Information	16
Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. §§ 552 and 552a)	16
Provide Feedback to OJP	17
Performance Measures	17
Application Checklist	18
Pre-Application	18
Application Step 1	18
Application Step 2	19
Review, Certify, and Submit Application in JustGrants	20
Standard Solicitation Resources	21

Synopsis

Program Description Overview

The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>National Institute of Justice (NIJ)</u> is seeking applications to support projects designated for funding in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-42) to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system, to prevent or combat juvenile delinquency, and to assist victims of crime (other than compensation).

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

This program furthers the DOJ's mission to uphold the rule of law, to keep our country safe, and to protect civil rights.

Eligibility

Other

NIJ sent an invitation to apply to all eligible recipients, which are limited to those identified in the Congressional Joint Explanatory Statement (JES) for the projects designated for funding in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024. A list of the projects designated for funding in FY24 can be found here: FY24 Appropriations. The legal name (or "doing business as" name) associated with the applicant's unique entity identifier (UEI) as registered in the System of Award Management (SAM) must coincide with the recipient listed in the JES.

Prospective applicants still uncertain of eligibility after reviewing this section should contact the agency using the information below to confirm status before starting or submitting an application.

Agency Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, contact the OJP Response Center by phone at 800-851-3420 or 301-240-6310 (TTY for hearing-impaired callers only) or email grants@ncjrs.gov. The OJP Response Center operates from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) Monday–Friday and from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET on the solicitation close date.

Application Submission Information

Registration

Before submitting an application, all applicants must register with the <u>System for Award Management</u> (SAM).

Page 3 O-NIJ-2024-172109

Submission

Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process that begins in Grants.gov and is completed in JustGrants. See the <u>Submission Dates and Time</u> section for the Grants.gov and JustGrants application deadlines.

Step 1: The applicant must register for this opportunity in Grants.gov at https://grants.gov/register and submit by the Grants.gov deadline the required Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF-424) and a Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL). See the Submission Dates and Time section for application deadlines.

Step 2: The applicant must submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at <u>JustGrants.usdoj.gov</u>. See the <u>Submission Dates and Time</u> section for application deadlines.

Page 4 O-NIJ-2024-172109

Program Description

Program Description Overview

With this solicitation, NIJ is seeking applications to support projects designated for funding in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-42) to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system, to prevent or combat juvenile delinquency, and to assist victims of crime (other than compensation).

The explanatory statement regarding the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118–42) lists the designated projects, which the Act incorporates by reference, as stated in relevant part, below—

\$350,028,000 is for discretionary grants to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system, to prevent or combat juvenile delinquency, and to assist victims of crime (other than compensation), which shall be made available for the OJP—Byrne projects, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" included for this division in the explanatory statement described in section 4 (in the matter preceding division A of this consolidated Act[.]

Public Law No. 118-42, div. C, title II (2024).

Statutory Authority

Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law No. 118–42)

Specific Information

This funding is for discretionary grants to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system, to prevent or combat juvenile delinquency, and to assist victims of crime (other than compensation). Funding shall be used for the OJP-Byrne projects, and in the amounts, specified in the table titled "Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending" included in the explanatory statement, which is incorporated by reference into Public Law No. 118–42.

Note that this solicitation is only for OJP-Byrne projects to be administered by NIJ. Separate solicitations will be open and invitations sent for projects to be administered by OJP's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), and Office for Victims of Crime (OVC).

No funds provided under this program may be used, directly or indirectly, to provide any security enhancements or any equipment to any nongovernmental entity that is not engaged in criminal justice or public safety.

OJP will issue awards with a period of performance beginning date of March 9, 2024, the enactment date of the Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2024, unless applicants request a later start date. Costs incurred on/after March 9, 2024, or the requested start date, if different, but prior to issuance of an award and approval of the project budget by OJP may be

Page 5 O-NIJ-2024-172109

reimbursed, but are incurred at the applicant's own risk, as authorized costs will be limited to those approved by OJP.

Note: Funding will only be provided for the specific OJP-Byrne projects designated for funding in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law No. 118-42). Further, NIJ cannot approve any changes to the purpose of the project after an award has been made.

Solicitation Goals and Objectives

The goal of this program is to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system, prevent or combat juvenile delinquency, and assist victims of crime (other than compensation) in geographic areas designated in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law No. 118–42). 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.

Federal Award Information

Awards, Amounts, and Durations

Anticipated Number of Awards: 1

Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount per Award: \$963,000 (individual award amounts not to exceed amounts specified in the JES)

Period of Performance Start Date: March 9, 2024 (unless applicants request a later start date, which must be the first day of a month and no later than October 1, 2024)

Period of Performance Duration (Months): 12 to 48-months (applicants should propose a period of performance that is anticipated to be sufficient for meeting project goals)

Anticipated Total Amount To Be Awarded Under Solicitation: \$963,000

Availability of Funds

This funding opportunity, and awards under this funding opportunity, are subject to the availability of funding and to any changes 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.

Type of Award

OJP expects to make awards under this funding opportunity as grants. See the "<u>Administrative</u>, <u>National Policy</u>, <u>and Other Legal Requirements</u>" section of the <u>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.

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

This solicitation does not require a match.

Eligibility Information

For eligibility information, see the Synopsis section.

Page 6 O-NIJ-2024-172109

How To Apply

Application Resources

When preparing and submitting an application, the following resources may aid prospective applicants:

- 1. Grants.gov "How to Apply for Grants"
- 2. OJP "How To Apply" section in the Application Resource Guide
- 3. JustGrants Application Submission Training

This solicitation (notice of funding opportunity) incorporates guidance provided in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide (Application Resource Guide), which provides additional information for applicants to prepare and submit applications to OJP for funding. If this solicitation requires something different from any guidance provided in the Application Resource Guide, the difference will be noted in this solicitation and the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation, rather than the guidance in the Application Resource Guide that is in conflict.

How To Apply

Registration

Before submitting an application, all applicants must register with the System for Award Management (SAM.gov). An applicant must renew their registration every 12 months. If an applicant does not renew their SAM.gov registration, it will expire. An expired registration can delay or prevent application submission in Grants.gov and JustGrants. Applicants are encouraged to start the SAM.gov registration process at least 30 days prior to the application deadlines. Applicants who fail to begin the registration or renewal process at least 10 business days prior to the Grants.gov deadline may not complete the process in time and will not be considered for late submission.

Submission

Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process that begins in Grants.gov and is completed in JustGrants.

Step 1: After registering with SAM.gov, the applicant must submit the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL** in Grants.gov at https://grants.gov/register by the Grants.gov deadline. **To leave time to address any technical issues that may arise, an applicant should submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL as early as possible**. If an applicant fails to submit in Grants.gov by the deadline, they will be unable to apply in JustGrants. Applicants can confirm Grants.gov submission by verifying their application status shows as "submitted" or "agency tracking number assigned."

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

OJP recommends that applicants submit the complete application package in JustGrants as soon as possible. Some of the required sections of the application will be entered directly into JustGrants, and other sections will require documents to be uploaded and attached. Therefore,

Page 7 O-NIJ-2024-172109

applicants should allow enough time before the JustGrants deadline to prepare all the requirements of the application. Applicants may save their progress in the system and add to or change the application as needed prior to hitting the "Submit" button at the end of the application in JustGrants.

An applicant will receive emails when successfully submitting in Grants.gov and JustGrants and should maintain all emails and other confirmations received from SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants systems.

For additional information, see the "How To Apply" section in the <u>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 by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on May 23, 2024.

The **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by 8:59 p.m. Eastern Time on June 6, 2024.

Application and Submission Information

Content of the SF-424 in Grants.gov

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 Application Resource Guide for additional information on completing the SF-424. In box 15 "Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project" of the SF-424, the applicant must enter the project title exactly as it appears in the Congressional Joint Explanatory Statement (JES). The legal name (or "doing business as" name) associated with the applicant's unique entity identifier (UEI) as registered in the System of Award Management (SAM) must coincide with the recipient listed in the JES.

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 funding opportunity is subject to Executive Order (E.O.)

12372. An applicant may find the names and addresses of State Single Points of Contact
(SPOCs) at the following website: https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/SPOC-list-as-of-2023.pdf. If the applicant's state appears on the SPOC list, the applicant must contact its SPOC to find out about, and comply with, the state's process under E.O. 12372. On the SF-424, an applicant whose state appears on the SPOC list is to make the appropriate selection in response to question 19, once the applicant has complied with its State E.O. 12372 process. An applicant whose state does not appear on the SPOC list should answer question 19 by selecting "Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the state for review."

Page 8 O-NIJ-2024-172109

Content of the JustGrants Application Submission

Entity and User Verification (First Time Applicant)

For first time JustGrants applicants, once the application is received from Grants.gov, DOJ will send an email (from DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov) to the individual listed in Section 8F of the SF-424 with instructions on how to create a JustGrants account. This email should arrive within 24 hours after this individual receives confirmation from Grants.gov of their SF-424 and SF-LLL submissions. Register the Entity Administrator (the person who manages who can access JustGrants on behalf of the applicant), the Application Submitter, and Authorized Representative for the applicant with JustGrants as early as possible and (recommended) not later than 48-72 hours before the JustGrants deadline. Once registered in JustGrants, the Application Submitter will receive a link in an email to complete the rest of the application in JustGrants. Find additional information on JustGrants Application Submission in the Application Resource Guide.

Standard Applicant 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 their Authorized Representative; and verify and confirm the organization's unique entity identifier, legal name, and address. The project title entered must match the project title from the Congressional Joint Explanatory Statement (JES).

Proposal Abstract

A Proposal Abstract (no more than 400 words) summarizing the proposed project—including its purpose, primary activities, expected outcomes, the service area, intended beneficiaries, and subrecipients (if known)—must be completed in the JustGrants web-based form. This abstract should be in paragraph form without bullets or tables, written in the third person, and exclude personally identifiable information. Abstracts will be made publicly available on the OJP and USASpending.gov websites if the project is awarded. See the Application Resource Guide for an example of a proposal abstract.

Data Requested With Application

The following application elements should be submitted in the web-based forms in JustGrants.

Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)

The Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire helps OJP assess the financial management and internal control systems, and the associated potential risks of an applicant as part of the pre-award risk assessment process. Every OJP applicant (other than an individual applying in their personal capacity, not representing an applicant organization) is required to complete the web-based Questionnaire form in JustGrants. See the Application Resource Guide: Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (including Applicant Disclosure of High Risk Status) for additional guidance on how to complete the questionnaire.

Page 9 O-NIJ-2024-172109

Proposal Narrative

Note: Funding will only be provided for the specific projects in the amounts designated in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law No. 118-42). Thus, the proposal narrative must align with the project title found in the JES.

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 10 numbered pages. Tables, charts, and graphs included in the proposal narrative can be created in a legible font smaller than 12-point and do not count toward the page limit.

The Proposal Narrative must include the following sections:

- a) Description of the Issue: Describe the nature and scope of the problem to be addressed by this project.
- b) Project Design and Implementation: Describe the proposed project and how it will be accomplished.
- c) Capabilities and Competencies: Describe the roles and responsibilities of project staff and explain the project's organizational structure and operations.

 Management and staffing should be clearly connected to the project design.
- d) Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures: Describe the process for measuring project performance. Identify who will collect the data, who is responsible for performance measurements, and how the information will be used to guide and evaluate the impact of the project.

Note: An applicant is **not** required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included to provide notice that award recipients will be required to submit performance data as part of each award's reporting requirements.

OJP will require each award recipient to submit regular performance data that show the completed work's results. The performance data directly relate to the solicitation goals and objectives identified in the "Goals and Objectives" section. Applicants can visit OJP's performance measurement page at www.ojp.gov/performance for more information on performance measurement activities.

NIJ will require award recipients to submit performance measure data and performance reports in JustGrants. A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found at https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/performance-measures-semiannual-narrative-questions.pdf.

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.

Page 10 O-NIJ-2024-172109

Application Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline Web-Based Form

The applicant will submit the project's goals, objectives, deliverables and timeline in the JustGrants web-based form. This is a summary of the goals, objectives, deliverables, and timeline that relate to the proposal narrative. The applicant will also enter the projected fiscal year and quarter that each objective and deliverable will be completed. Please refer to the Application Submission Job Aid for step-by-step directions.

- **Goals:** The applicant should describe the project's intent to change, reduce, or eliminate the problem noted in the proposal narrative.
- **Program Objectives and Timeline:** The applicant should include objectives and timeline to demonstrate how and when it will accomplish its goals. Objectives are specific, measurable actions to reach the project's desired results.
- **Deliverables and Timeline:** Project deliverables refer to outputs—tangible (for example, a report or a website) or intangible (for example, greater feelings of safety reported by the community)—that are documented and submitted within the scope of a project. Deliverables include timelines.

Program objectives and deliverables should be included in one timeline.

Budget and Associated Documentation

Funding Restrictions

Funding will only be provided for the specific projects in the amounts designated in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law No. 118-42). Thus, the costs in the budget most clearly support the project listed in the JES.

No funds provided under this program may be used, directly or indirectly, to provide any security enhancements or any equipment to any nongovernmental entity that is not engaged in criminal justice or public safety.

Absent sufficiently specific authorization in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law No. 118-42), recipients must comply with restrictions on the use of federal funds for certain prohibited and controlled expenditures consistent with OJP's policy implementing Executive Order 14074, "Advancing Effective, Accountable Policing and Criminal Justice Practices To Enhance Public Trust and Public Safety" and OJP/BJA policy prohibiting grant funds for unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), including unmanned aircraft vehicles (UAV), and all accompanying accessories to support UAS or UAV is unallowable.

In addition to the unallowable costs identified in the <u>DOJ Grants Financial Guide</u>, award funds may not be used for the following:

- Rewards, entertainment, prizes, trinkets, or any other monetary incentives
- Client/participant stipends
- Gift cards
- Food and beverage

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

Page 11 O-NIJ-2024-172109

Budget Detail and Narrative Web-Based Form

The applicant will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form, which includes both detailed calculations and budget narrative sections.

For additional information about how to prepare a budget for federal funding, see the "Application Resource Guide" section on <u>Budget Preparation and Submission Information</u> and the technical steps to complete the budget form in JustGrants in the <u>Complete the Application in JustGrants</u>: <u>Budget training</u>.

For additional information about how to prepare a budget for federal funding, see the "Application Resource Guide" section on <u>Budget Preparation and Submission Information</u> and the technical steps to complete the budget form in JustGrants in the <u>Complete the Application in JustGrants: Budget</u> training.

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

OJP strongly encourages every applicant that proposes to use award funds for any conference, meeting-, or training-related activity (or similar event) to review carefully—before submitting an application—the Application Resource Guide for information on prior approval, planning, and reporting of conference/meeting/training costs.

Costs Associated With Language Assistance (if applicable)

If an applicant proposes a program or activity that would deliver services or benefits to individuals, the costs of taking reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to those services or benefits for individuals with limited English proficiency may be allowable. See the Application Resource Guide for information on costs associated with language assistance.

Budget/Financial Attachments

Pre-Agreement (Pre-Award) Costs (if applicable)

Pre-agreement costs are defined as costs requiring approval incurred by the applicant prior to the start date of the period of performance of the federal award. OJP does not typically approve pre-agreement costs. If a successful applicant, in anticipation of the federal award, but before the start date of the period of performance, incurs costs which are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the funded project, those costs may not be charged to the award. See the "Costs Requiring Prior Approval" section in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide Post-Award Requirements for more information.

Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

Indirect costs are costs of an organization that are not readily assignable to a particular project but are necessary to the operation of the organization and the performance of the project. Examples of costs usually treated as indirect include those incurred for facility operation and maintenance, depreciation, and administrative salaries. The requirements for the development and submission of indirect cost proposals and cost allocation plans are listed in Appendices III – VII of 2 C.F.R. Part 200. A non-federal applicant should follow the guidelines applicable to its type of organization. If applicable, an applicant with a current federally approved indirect cost

Page 12 O-NIJ-2024-172109

rate agreement will upload it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the <u>DOJ Financial Guide</u> for additional information on <u>Indirect Cost Rate Agreement</u>.

Consultant Rate (if applicable)

Costs for consultant services require prior approval from OJP. If the proposed project expects to fund consultant services, compensation for individual consultant services is to be reasonable and consistent with that paid for similar services in the marketplace. See the DOJ Grants Financial Guide for information on the consultant rates, which require prior approval from OJP.

Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards Over \$250,000; Waiver (if applicable)

If an applicant proposes to hire employees with federal award funds, for any award of more than \$250,000 made under a funding opportunity, an award recipient may not use federal funds to pay total cash compensation (salary plus cash bonuses) to any employee of the recipient at a rate that exceeds 110 percent of the maximum annual salary payable to a member of the federal government's Senior Executive Service (SES) at an agency with a Certified SES Performance Appraisal System for that year. See the Application Resource Guide for information on the "Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards over \$250,000; Waiver."

Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation (if applicable)

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

Additional Application Components

Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement (if applicable)

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 upload documentation of its research and evaluation independence and integrity as an attachment in JustGrants. For additional information, see the <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.

Disclosures and Assurances

The applicant will address the following disclosures and assurances.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

The SF-LLL attachment that was completed and submitted in Grants.gov is attached to this section.

Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items

To ensure funding coordination across grant making agencies, and to avoid unnecessary or inappropriate duplication among grant awards, the applicant will disclose if it has any pending

Page 13 O-NIJ-2024-172109

applications for federal funding, including pending applications for subawards of federal funds. Complete the JustGrants web-based Applicant Disclosure of Duplication `in Cost Items form. See the Application Resource Guide for additional information.

DOJ Certified Standard Assurances

Review and accept the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants. See the <u>Application</u> Resource Guide for additional information.

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

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

Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High-Risk Grantees

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; noncompliance with award terms and conditions on prior awards or is otherwise not responsible. See the Application Resource Guide for additional information.

Application Review Information

Review Process

OJP reviews the application to make sure that the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, achievable, and 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.gov.

Important note on Responsibility/Qualification Data (formerly FAPIIS): An applicant, at its option, may review and comment on any information about itself that currently appears in SAM.gov and was entered by a federal awarding agency. OJP will consider such comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in SAM.gov, in its assessment of the risk posed by the applicant.

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final award decisions will be made by the Assistant Attorney General, who may consider not only NIJ recommendations, but also other factors as indicated in this section.

Page 14 O-NIJ-2024-172109

Federal Award Administration Information

Federal Award Notices

Generally, award notifications are made by the end of the current Federal fiscal year, September 30. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for information on award notifications and instructions.

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 (programs or practices that have been evaluated as effective), see the <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.

Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities

OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the projects and activities funded under this solicitation. For additional information on what should be included in the application, see the Application Resource Guide section entitled "Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities."

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>Application Resource Guide</u>.

Civil Rights Compliance

If a successful applicant accepts funding from OJP—as a recipient of OJP funding—that award recipient must comply with certain federal civil rights laws that prohibit it from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disability in how the recipient delivers its program's services or benefits and in its employment practices. The civil rights laws that may be applicable to the award include Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), the nondiscrimination provisions of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (Safe Streets Act), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. These and other federal civil rights laws are discussed in greater detail here: Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2024 Awards under the "Civil Rights.

Part of complying with civil rights laws that prohibit national origin discrimination includes recipients taking reasonable steps to ensure that people who are limited in their English proficiency (LEP) because of their national origin have meaningful access to a recipient's program and activity. An LEP person is one whose first language is not English and who has a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English. To help recipients meet this obligation to serve LEP persons, DOJ has published a number of resources, including a

Page 15 O-NIJ-2024-172109

language access assessment and planning tool, which are available at https://www.lep.gov/language-access-planning. Additional resources are available at https://www.ojp.gov/program/civil-rights-office/limited-english-proficient-lep. If the award recipient proposes a program or activity that would deliver services or benefits to LEP individuals, the recipient may use grant funds to support the costs of taking reasonable steps (e.g., interpretation or translation services) to provide meaningful access. Similarly, recipients are responsible for ensuring that their programs and activities are readily accessible to qualified individuals with disabilities. Applicants for OJP funding must allocate grant funds or explain how other available resources will be used to ensure meaningful and full access to their programs. For example, grant funds can be used to support American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter services for deaf or hard of hearing individuals or the purchase of adaptive equipment for individuals with mobility or cognitive disabilities. For resources, see http://www.ADA.gov or contact OJP.

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>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

Information Technology Security Clauses

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

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 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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measure data.

Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For OJP contact(s), contact information for Grants.gov, and contact information for JustGrants, see the solicitation Synopsis.

Other Information

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. §§ 552 and 552a)

See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for information on the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. §§ 552 and 552a).

Page 16 O-NIJ-2024-172109

Provide Feedback to OJP

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

Performance Measures

See above link to performance measures.

Page 17 O-NIJ-2024-172109

Application Checklist

NIJ FY24 Invited to Apply - Byrne Discretionary Community Project Grants/Byrne Discretionary Grants Program

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. For more information, reference The OJP Application Submission Steps in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide and the DOJ Application Submission Checklist.

Pre-Application

Before Registering in Grants.gov

 Confirm your entity's registration in the <u>System for Award Management (SAM.gov)</u> is active through the solicitation period; submit a new or renewal registration in SAM.gov if needed (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>).

Register in Grants.gov

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

Find the Funding Opportunity

- Search for the funding opportunity in Grants.gov using the opportunity number, assistance listing number, or keyword(s).
- Access the funding opportunity and application package (see Step 7 in the <u>Application</u> Resource Guide).
- Sign up for Grants.gov email notifications (optional) (see Application Resource Guide).
- Read <u>Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov</u> (about <u>browser compatibility</u> and special characters in file names).
- Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting available at https://www.ojp.gov/funding/financialguidedoj/iii-postaward-requirements#6g3y8 (see Application Resource Guide).

Review the Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements

• Review the "Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2024 Awards" in the OJP Funding Resource Center.

Review the Scope Requirement

• The federal amount requested equals the appropriation amount listed in the JES.

Review Eligibility Requirement

 Review "Eligibility" in the Synopsis section and "Eligibility Information" section in the solicitation.

Application Step 1

After registering with SAM.gov, submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL in Grants.gov

• In Section 8F of the SF-424, include the name and contact information of the individual who will complete the application in JustGrants and the SF-LLL in Grants.gov.

Page 18 O-NIJ-2024-172109

- In Section 15 "Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project" of the SF-424, enter the project title exactly as it appears in the Congressional Joint Explanatory Statement (JES).
- Submit Intergovernmental Review (if applicable).

Within 48 hours after the SF-424 and SF-LLL submission in Grants.gov, receive four (4) Grants.gov email notifications:

- A submission receipt.
- A validation receipt.
- A grantor agency retrieval receipt.
- An agency tracking number assignment.

If no Grants.gov receipt and validation email is received, or if error notifications are received:

Contact Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035,
 Grants.gov customer support, or support@grants.gov regarding technical difficulties (see "Application Resource Guide" section on Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues).

Within 24 hours after receipt of confirmation emails from Grants.gov, the individual in Section 8F of the SF-424 will receive an email from JustGrants with login instructions.

• Proceed to Application Step 2 and complete application in JustGrants.

Application Step 2

Submit the following information in JustGrants:

Application Components

- Entity and User Verification (First Time Applicant)
- Standard Applicant information (SF-424 information from Grants.gov)
- Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Narrative Attachment
- Proposal Narrative: Application Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline webbased form

Budget and Associated Documentation

- Budget Detail and Narrative web-based form
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see <u>Application</u> Resource Guide)
- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see Application Resource Guide)

Additional Application Components

- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (if applicable) (see <u>Application</u> Resource Guide)
- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)

Disclosures and Assurances

- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) (see Application Resource Guide)
- Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)

Page 19 O-NIJ-2024-172109

- DOJ Certified Standard Assurances (see Application Resource Guide)
- DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing (see Application Resource Guide)
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification DOJ High-Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see Application Resource Guide)

Review, Certify, and Submit Application in JustGrants

- Any validation errors will immediately display on screen after submission.
- Correct validation errors, if necessary, and then return to the "Certify and Submit" screen
 to submit the application. Access the <u>Application Submission Validation Errors Quick</u>
 <u>Reference Guide</u> for step-by-step instructions to resolve errors prior to submission.
- Once the application is submitted and validated, a confirmation message will appear at the top of the page. Users will also receive a notification in the "bell" alerts confirming submission.

If no JustGrants application submission confirmation email or validation is received, or if error notification is received:

 Contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u> regarding technical difficulties. See the <u>Application</u> Resource Guide for additional information.

Page 20 O-NIJ-2024-172109

Standard Solicitation Resources

<u>Application Resource Guide</u> provides guidance to assist OJP grant applicants in preparing and submitting applications for OJP funding.

<u>DOJ Grants Financial Guide</u> serves as the primary reference manual to assist award recipients in fulfilling their fiduciary responsibility to safeguard grant funds and to ensure funds are used for the purposes for which they were awarded. It compiles a variety of laws, rules and regulations that affect the financial and administrative management of DOJ awards. This guide serves as a starting point for all award recipients and subrecipients of DOJ grants and cooperative agreements in ensuring the effective day-to-day management of awards.

<u>JustGrants Resources Website</u> is an entryway into information about JustGrants and the grants management system itself. Through this portal both award recipients and applicants can access training resource and user support options, find frequently asked questions, and sign up for the <u>JustGrants Update e-newsletter</u>.

<u>JustGrants Application Submission Training page</u> offers helpful information and resources on the application process. This training page includes e-learning videos, reference guides, checklists, and other resources to help applicants complete an application.

<u>Weekly Training Webinars</u> are advertised here and provide opportunities for users to receive topic-specific training, direct technical assistance, and support on JustGrants system functionality.

Page 21 O-NIJ-2024-172109