Fiscal Year 2024 NIJ Graduate Research Fellowship Program Webinar

February 14, 2024 | 12:00 PM ET

The webinar will begin shortly

NIJ

Graduate Research Fellowship Program at the National Institute of Justice

Today's Presenters:

Nancy La Vigne, Ph.D.	NIJ Director
Gregory Dutton, Ph.D.	Program Manager
Joseph Heaps	Senior Physical Scientist

Webinar Topics

1. Program Overview
2. Terms of the Fellowship
3. What's New?
4. How to Apply

National Institute of Justice (NIJ)

Who we are:

- NIJ is the research, development, and evaluation agency of the U.S. Department of Justice
- A science funding agency within the Office of Justice Programs (OJP)

Our mission:

- Improving knowledge and understanding of crime and justice issues through science

NIJ's Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF)

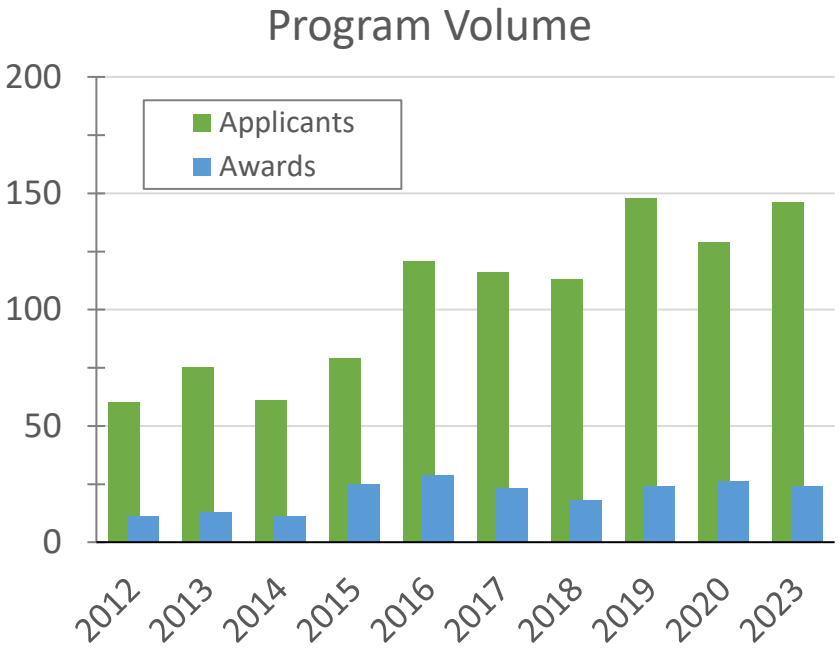
Program Goal:

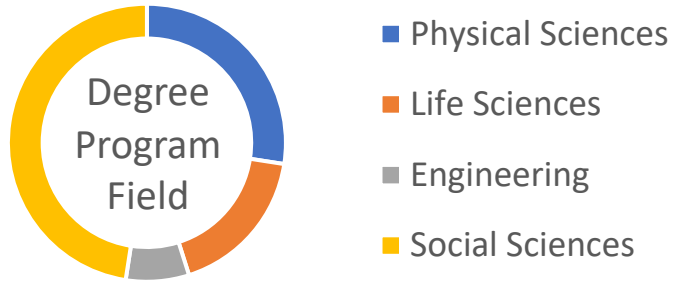
- Support the development of new researchers addressing the challenges of crime and justice in the U.S.

Objective:

- Fund PhD students at their home institutions to the completion of their degrees.

Recent Program History





204 fellows from **72 institutions**

2023 GRF fellows' degree fields

- Criminal Justice
- Criminology
- Anthropology
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Biomolecular Engineering and Bioinformatics
- Economics
- Epidemiology
- Health Policy and Management
- Human Development and Social Policy
- Integrative Life Sciences
- Psychological Science
- Social and Behavioral Science

GRF Program Page

www.nij.gov/GRF

NIJ

Graduate Research Fellowship Program

April 26, 2023

Podcast - A Leg Up: NIJ's Graduate Research Fellowship Program +

2024 GRF Funding Opportunity Released −

Download the 2024 solicitation. Due dates:

- Step 1: Application Grants.gov Deadline: 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 10, 2024
- Step 2: Application JustGrants Deadline: 8:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 17, 2024

NIJ will host a webinar to discuss the FY 2024 opportunity on February, 14, 2024, from 12-1pm ET. Registration is open .

What's new for 2024?

See the new solicitation for full details, but these are some of the most notable changes from last year:

- The Salary and Fringe, and Cost of Education budget categories have been increased.
- New GRF grants will require data archiving at the conclusion of the project. A Data Archiving Plan should be submitted with the application.

Current Funding
Forthcoming Funding
Expired Funding
Awards: Listing of Funded Projects
Guidance for Applicants and Awardees
Fellowship & Student Programs
Graduate Research Fellowship Program
Frequently Asked Questions
Past and Present Fellows
Publications By Fellows
NIJ and NSF INTERN Opportunity

Funding Opportunity: GRF Solicitation

About
20 new fellows
expected
in 2024

NIJ

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

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

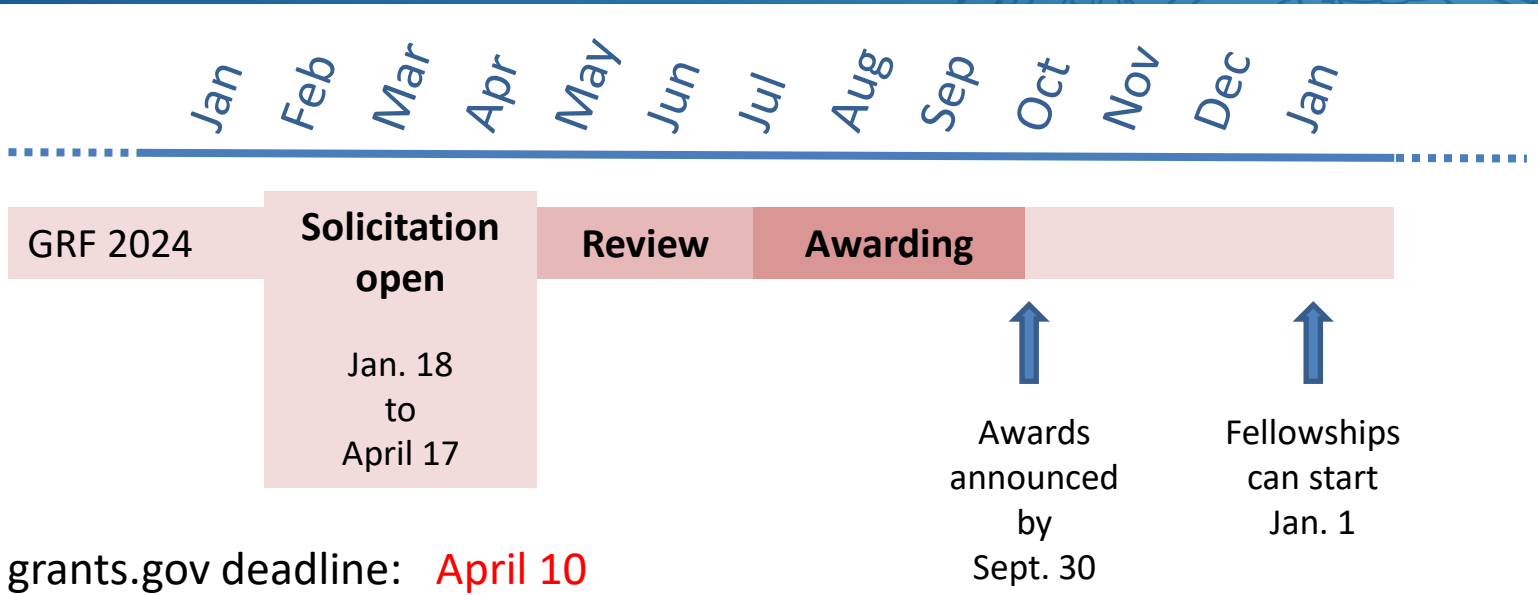
NIJ FY24 Graduate Research Fellowship

Assistance Listing Number: 16.560
Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-NIJ-2024-171946
Solicitation Release Date: January 18, 2024
Step 1: Application Grants.gov Deadline: 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 10, 2024
Step 2: Application JustGrants Deadline: 8:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 17, 2024

Contents

Synopsis 4
Overview 4
Eligibility 4
Agency Contact Information 4
Pre-Application Information Session 5
Application Submission Information 5
Registration 5
Submission 5
Program Description 6
Program Description Overview 6
Statutory Authority 6
Program-Specific Information 6
Solicitation Goals and Objectives 10
Goals 10
Objectives 10
Deliverables 10

Timeline



grants.gov deadline: April 10

JustGrants deadline: April 17

Eligibility

Student:

- Enrolled full-time in a PhD program in the sciences or engineering
- Dissertation topic is relevant to criminal or juvenile justice, or victimization and victim services in the U.S.

University:

- Accredited institution in the U.S. or its territories
- The university applies on behalf of the student

Fellowship Terms

Up to **$60,000/year** for up to three (3) years of support usable within a five-year period:

- **$41,000** annual student salary
- **$16,000** annual cost of education allowance
- **$3,000** annually for research expenses

Programmatic Budget Categories

1. **Salary and Fringe Benefits ($41,000/yr.)**
   - Student salary
   - Fringe benefits
   - Health insurance

NIJ recommends that the full $41,000 be requested

Programmatic Budget Categories

2. **Cost of Education Allowance (up to $16,000/yr.)**
   - Tuition
   - Student fees
   - University administrative or indirect costs

Programmatic Budget Categories

3. **Research Expenses (up to $3,000/yr.)**
   - Research supplies
   - Instrument time
   - Human subjects incentives
   - Undergraduate research assistants
   - Data collection site travel
   - Conference travel
   - Professional society membership fees
   - Other reasonable, allowable costs

Fellowship Terms

These are one-time awards:

- Total amount needed **must be requested up front**

Annual requirements:

- Progress report
- Verification of enrollment; Chair statement of progress

Final Deliverables:

- Defended dissertation
- List of scholarly products
- Data archived

What's New?

Eligibility Clarified

- Science and engineering fields
- Victimization and victim services

Budget Categories Increased

- Salary and Fringe
- Cost of Education Allowance

What's New?

Data Archiving Required

- Data necessary for others to replicate results must be archived at the end of the fellowship.
- Data Archiving Plan submitted with application.

Proposal Formatting

- Page limit reduced to 10
- Other formatting details relaxed

How to Apply

1. **Review the solicitation for eligibility**

2. **Contact your university grants office (e.g., Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP)) – NOW!**

3. **Start assembling application materials**
    a. Write the program narrative
    b. Ask for letter of support
    c. Obtain enrollment verification and transcripts

Application Submission

1. **The university submits on your behalf**
2. **NIJ has a 2-step submission process**
    1) Grants.gov deadline for submitting SF-424
    2) JustGrants deadline for submitting complete application package
3. **Your university OSP will have their own internal timeline**

Application Elements

Six Critical Elements:

1. Proposal Narrative
2. Budget webform
3. Verification of Current Enrollment
4. Undergraduate and Graduate Transcripts
5. Statement of Support
6. Biosketch, CV, or resume

Application Elements

Other Elements

- Personal Statement
- Human Subjects Protection form
- Privacy Certificate
- Data Archiving Plan
- Others, as applicable (see solicitation)

Application Elements

- Dissertation topic approval is not required at time of application
- IRB (Institutional Review Board) approval for human subjects research is not required at the time of application

BUT– fellowship funds will become available only after these are completed and reviewed by NIJ

Additional Help

General guidance for all NIJ applicants

https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/guidance-applicants-and-awardees

NIJ

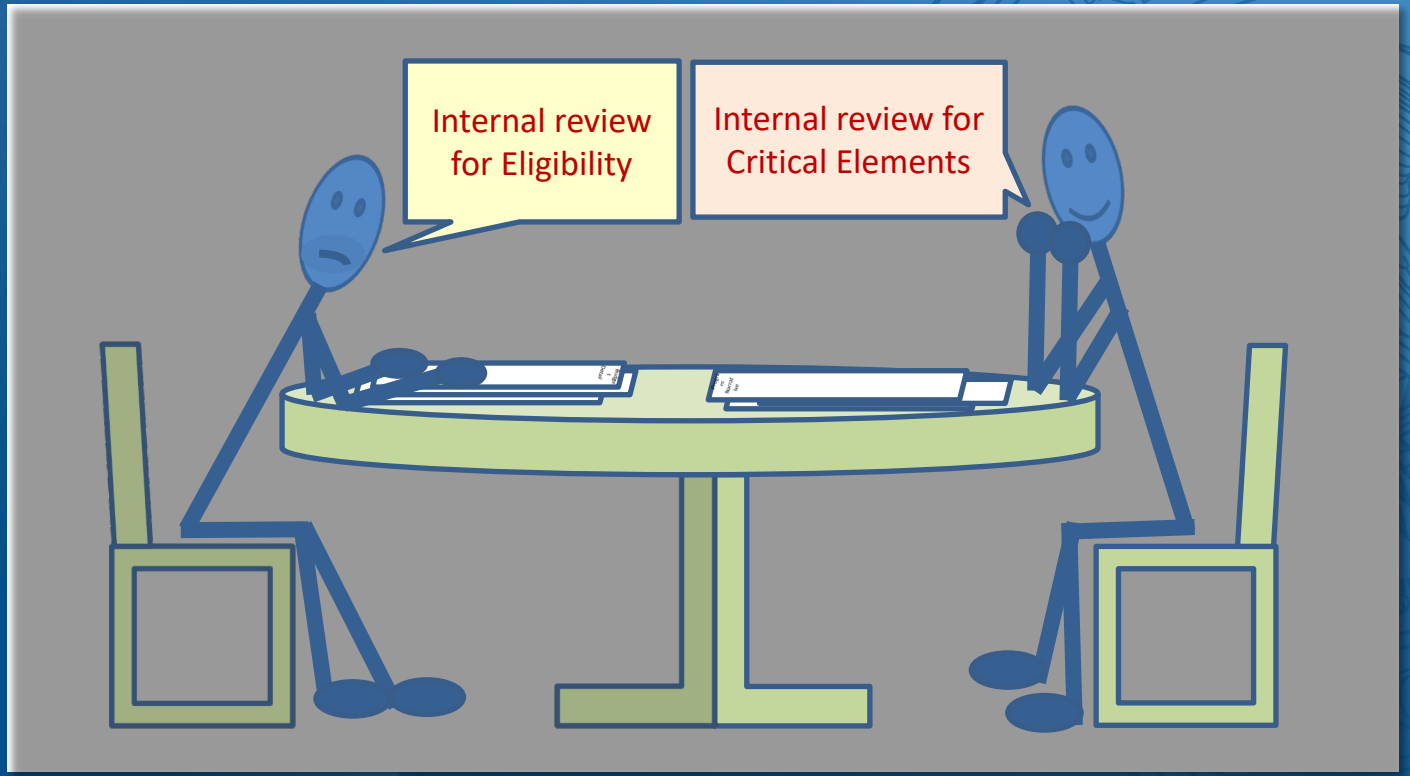
Sample Applications

We have posted a selection of sample applications to aid you as you build our proposal.

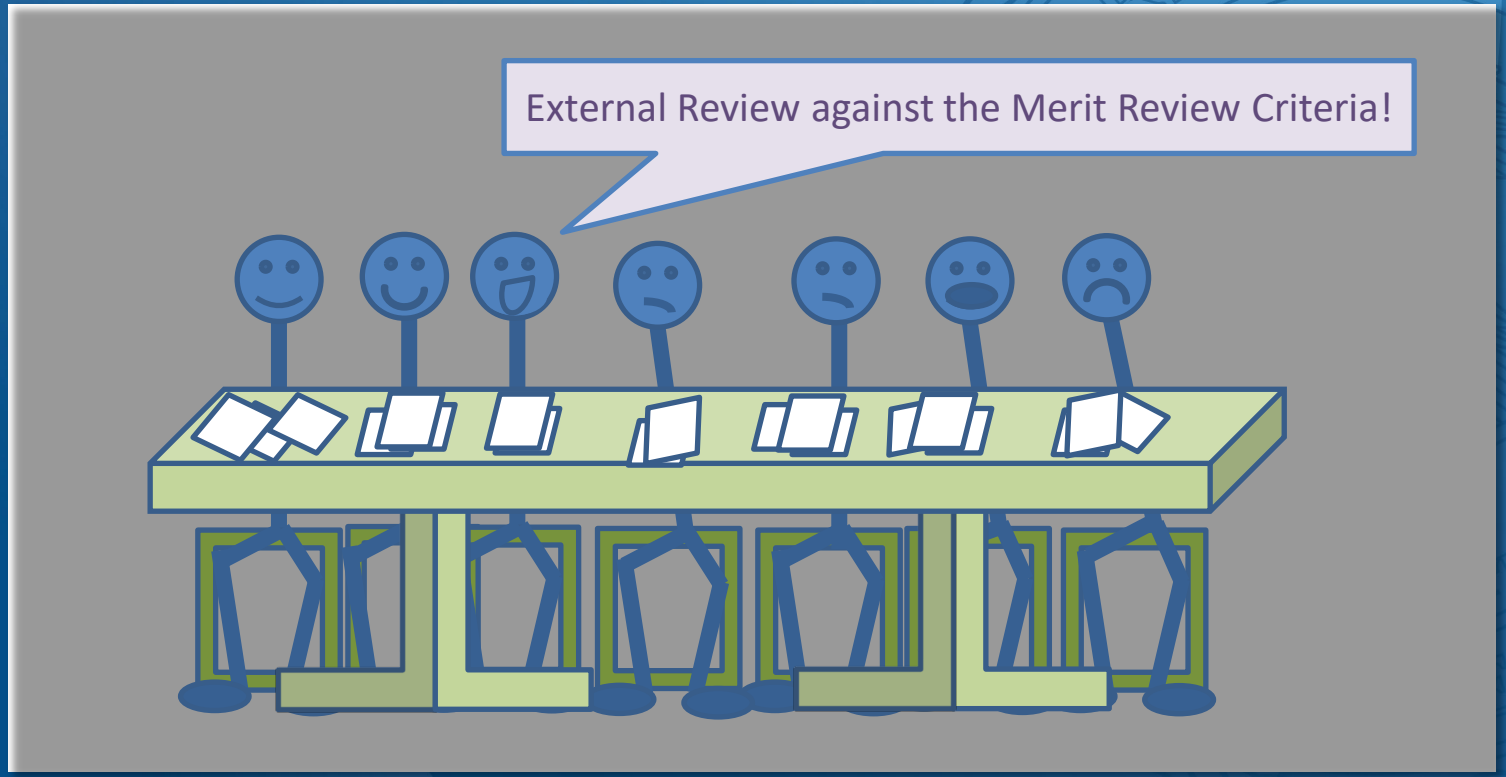
- What NIJ Funds +
- Find a Funding Opportunity +
- What to Do Before You Apply +
- Build Your Proposal +
- Submit Your Application +
- Application Review and Award Notification +
- If Your Proposal Is Funded +

- Current Funding
- Forthcoming Funding
- Expired Funding
- Awards: Listing of Funded Projects
- **Guidance for Applicants and Awardees**
  - FAQs
  - Human Subjects and Privacy Protection
  - National Environmental Policy Act
  - Data Archiving

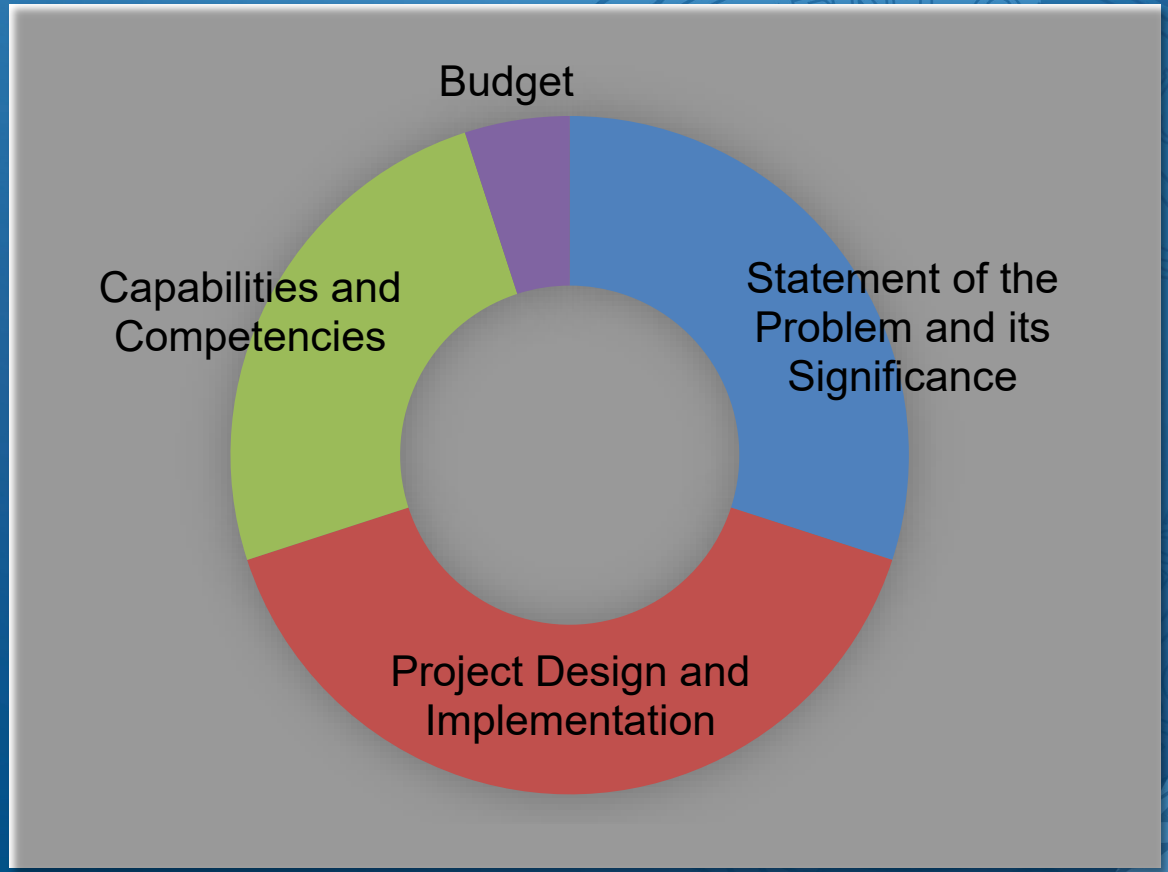
Application Review – Initial Review



Application Review – Merit Review



What are the Merit Review Criteria?



Priority Areas

NIJ will give special consideration in award decisions to proposals from Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs):

- Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU)
- Hispanic-serving Institutions (HSI)
- Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU)
- Alaska Native-serving Institutions or Native Hawaiian-serving Institutions (ANNH)
- Predominantly Black Institutions (PBI)
- Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving Institutions (AANAPISI)
- Native American-serving Non-Tribal Institutions (NASNTI)

Note: this is one of many factors that NIJ considers in making funding decisions.

Award Decisions

1. Merit review is the primary factor
2. Award decisions are made by the NIJ Director, who may take into account merit review ratings as well as other factors
3. Applicants are notified of outcomes in September/October

Helpful Tips

1. Browse past fellows' abstracts
2. Be sure to articulate the relevance to criminal justice
3. Include preliminary results, if available
4. Ask others (peers and advisors) to read and comment:
   - Concept
   - Experimental design
   - Proofread for errors
5. **Visit the program FAQs**

For More Information

Program page & FAQs: www.nij.gov/GRF

For questions while the solicitation is open, contact:

OJP Response Center

1-800-851-3420 (TTY: 301-240-6310 for hearing impaired only)

Email: grants@ncjrs.gov

Questions?

Please enter your questions into the **Q&A box**

Send to **All Panelists**