

NIJ FY 2024 Research and Evaluation on School Safety Solicitation Webinar

March 11, 2024 | 1:00 PM ET

The webinar will begin shortly.



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NIJ's FY24 Research and Evaluation on School Safety

Solicitation: O-NIJ-2024-171992

Solicitation Post Date: February 20, 2024 | Solicitation Close Date: May 21, 2024

Grants.gov Deadline: May 7, 2024

Webinar Presenters:

Nancy La Vigne, Ph.D. (NIJ Director)

Benjamin Adams (Office Director)

Jennifer Grotpeter, Ph.D. (Social Science Analyst)

Office of Crime Prevention and Youth Justice

Office of Research, Evaluation, Forensics & Technology



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Webinar Agenda

- Welcome from NIJ Director Nancy La Vigne
- Overview of the Solicitation
- Application Process
- NIJ Review Process
- Common Issues and Critiques
- Tips
- FAQs
- Resources
- Q & A

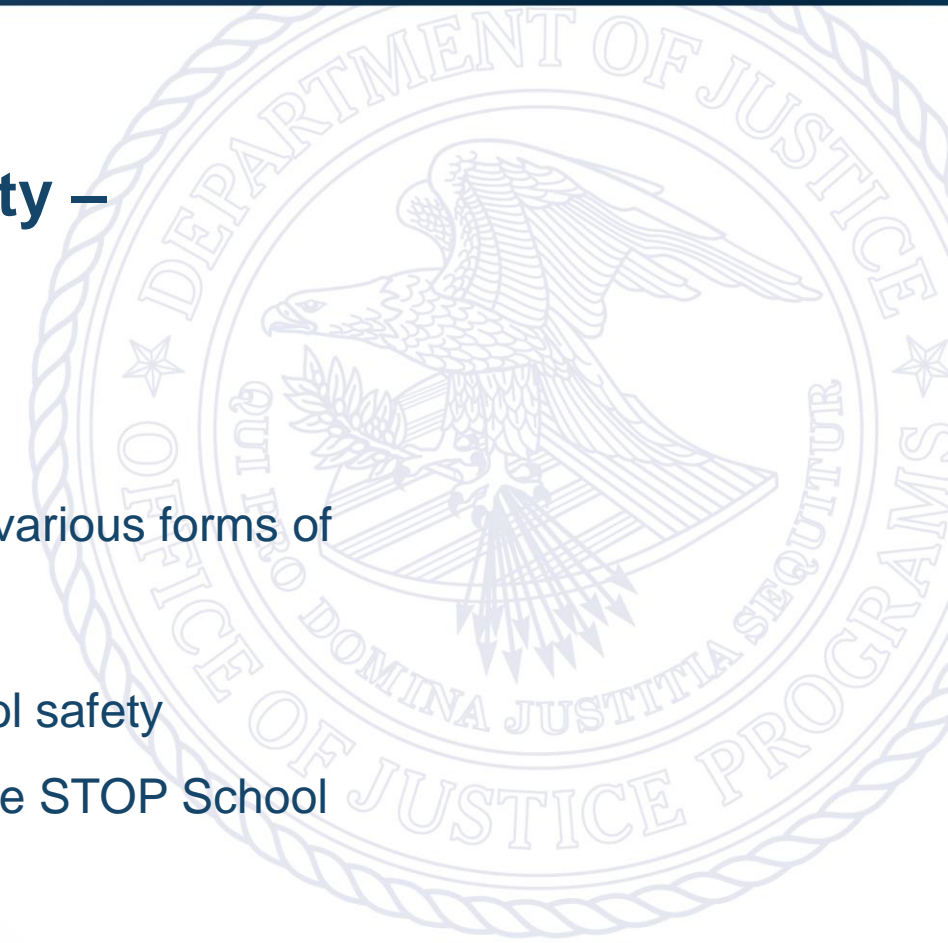


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FY24 Research and Evaluation on School Safety – Purpose and Goals

- **Topical Areas**

- Conduct a study on the root causes and consequences of various forms of school violence in K-12 schools.
- Conduct a rigorous evaluation of the effectiveness of school safety approaches implemented for purposes authorized under the STOP School Violence Act.



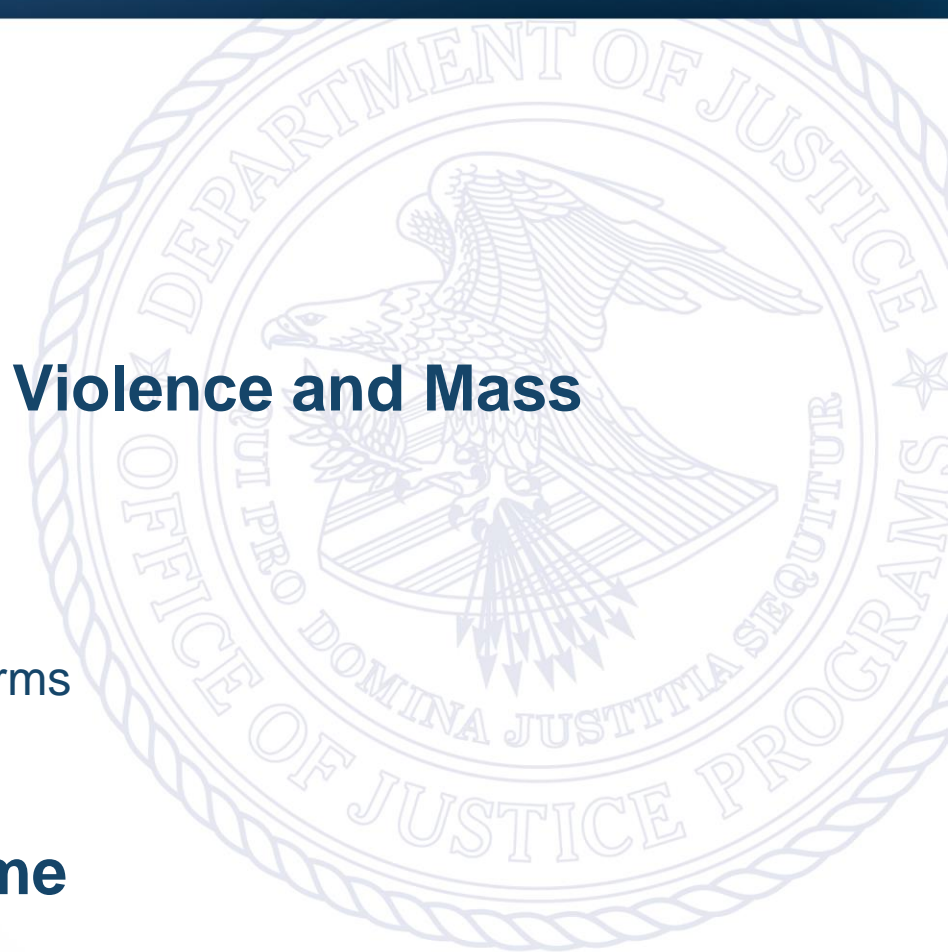
FY24 Research and Evaluation on School Safety – Scope

- Must focus on K-12 schools
- May include focus outside of the school setting (e.g., off-site school sponsored extracurricular activities, travel to and from school and home, online) with demonstration of relevance to the school setting

What will not be funded

- Applications to purchase equipment/materials/supplies, etc. or provide direct services*
- Unresponsive applications





Related Solicitations:

NIJ FY24 Research and Evaluation on Firearm Violence and Mass Shootings

- Research on mass shootings in schools
- Evaluation of school-based campaigns for safe storage of firearms

NIJ FY24 Research on School-Based Hate Crime

- Research on school-based bias-motivated incidents



Expected Deliverables

- Standard grant reporting requirements
- Final Research Report (draft 90 days before end of award)
- Required data sets and associated files and documentation
- Scholarly products





Key Application Submission Requirements

Critical Application Elements (Basic Minimum Requirements)

- Forms: SF-424 and SF-LLL (in Grants.gov)
- Program Narrative
- Budget Web-Based Form (budget details and narrative)
- Financial Management and System of Internal Control Questionnaire (in JustGrants)
- Curriculum vitae or resume for key personnel

Additional Requirements

- e.g., Project Abstract; Letters of Support; Any tools/instruments, questionnaires, tables/charts/graphs, maps; Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline



Two-Step Application Submission Protocol

1. Grants.gov (<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>)

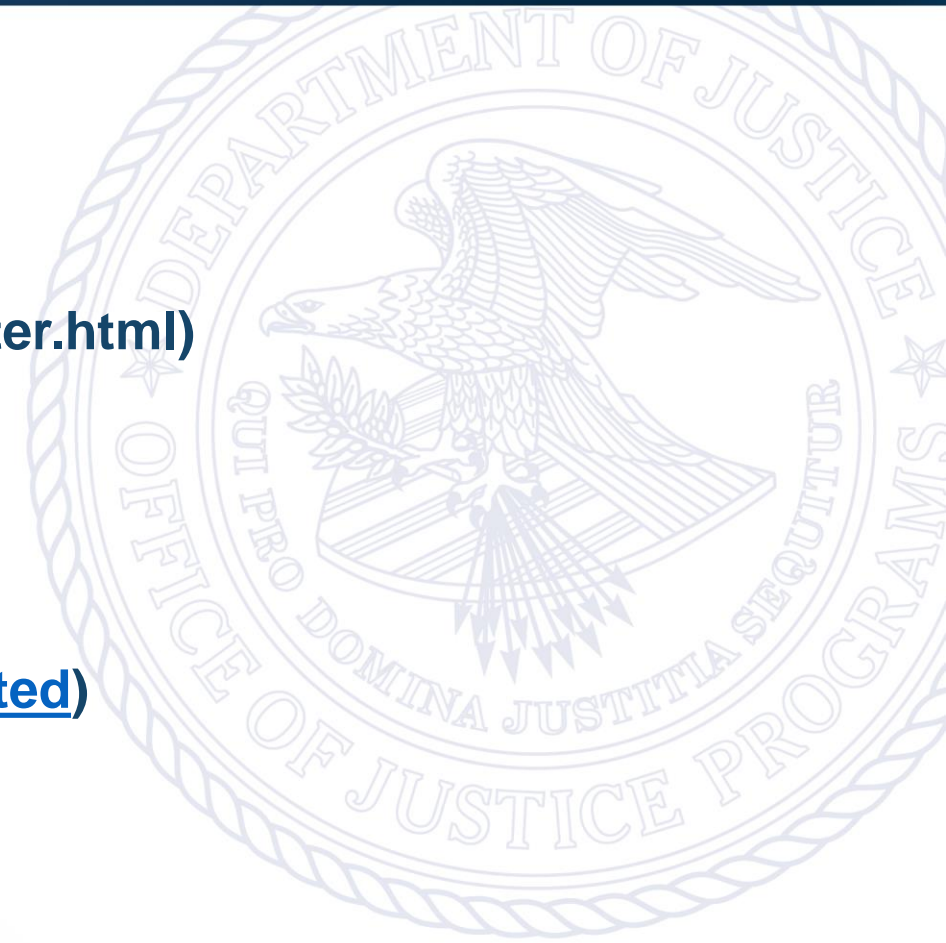
Submit SF-424 and SF-LLL forms ONLY

May 7, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. ET

2. JustGrants.gov (<https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/getting-started>)

Submit FULL application, including ALL attachments

May 21, 2024 at 8:59 p.m. ET



Deadlines are Hard

- Third party software to failed submit applications
- Submitting application material after the deadlines (e.g., letters of support)
- No extensions
- No exceptions

Support

- **OJP Response Center**
 - Phone: (800) 851-3420
 - Email: grants@ncjrs.gov
- **Grants.gov**
 - 1-800-518-4726
 - support@grants.gov
- **JustGrants**
 - Toll-free: +1 (833) 872-5175
 - Email: JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov



Application Review Process

- **Basic Minimum Review (BMR) Determination**
- **External Peer Review**
 - Technical and Practitioner Reviewers
 - Independent scores and comments
 - Review criteria (starting p. 30)
- **Internal Review**
 - NIJ science staff, NIJ leadership, other federal subject matter experts

All funding decisions are made at the discretion of the NIJ Director!



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NIJ favors proposals that meet our funding priorities

- Propose an inclusive research design.
- Address issues of race, ethnicity, gender, and other potential disparities in data sources, research methods, and outcomes.
- Propose a multi-disciplinary research team.
- Ensure rigorous measurement of implementation fidelity.
- Allocate ample resources for translation and dissemination of research findings.

Key Objectives

- Propose rigorous research that develops needed knowledge or tools to address the major challenges of safety and justice in the United States.
- Demonstrate that resulting products have potential to address those challenges



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Other commonly missed opportunities :

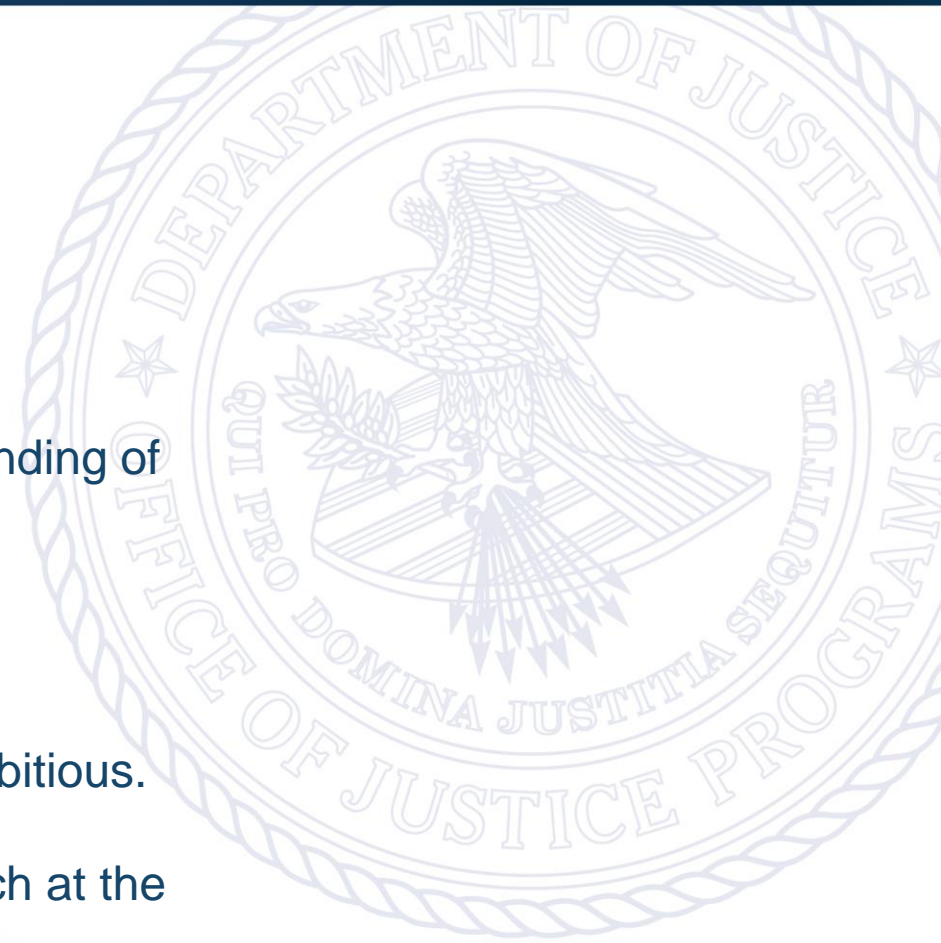
- Failure to describe research independence and integrity of evaluation findings.
- Insufficient discussion of the potential risks and harms to individuals or groups
- Underdeveloped dissemination strategies Timelines, staffing plans, and/or budgets that are not aligned with the proposed work.
- Inadequate specification of research questions
- Failure to demonstrate that the most rigorous feasible research and analysis methods have been proposed.



Common Critiques Raised During Peer Review

Statement of the Problem

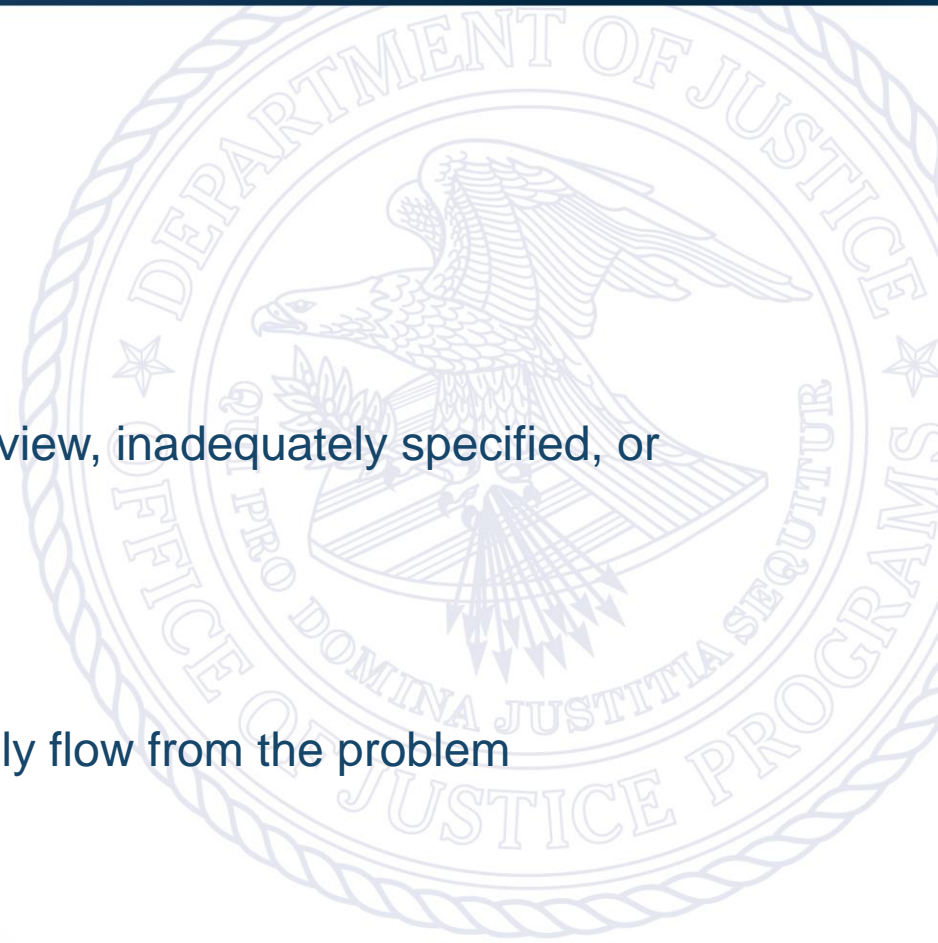
- Statement fails to identify gaps in the current literature or understanding of current research.
- The literature review is insufficient or dated.
- The scope of the proposed research is extremely limited or too ambitious.
- Too much focus is placed on the necessity of the proposed research at the expense of the research design.



Common Critiques Raised During Peer Review

Research Design

- Proposed research questions are not derived from the literature review, inadequately specified, or are not even explicitly stated.
- The overall research design is not well articulated.
- The proposed research design/methods approach does not logically flow from the problem statement, research questions and literature review.
- The research design is too ambitious and too complex.
- The research and analysis plan are not demonstrated to be the most rigorous feasible.



Common Critiques Raised During Peer Review

Research Design

- The proposed sampling strategy is flawed or too ambitious.
- Measurement of complex constructs and how they will be used in analyses is not clearly described.
- The proposed quantitative analyses is vague and unclear.
- The data collection and analysis plan is confusing or very brief.
- Research challenges and mitigation strategies are not discussed.
- Access and ability to utilize proposed data sources is not demonstrated.
- Timelines, staffing plans, and/or budgets do not support the proposed work.



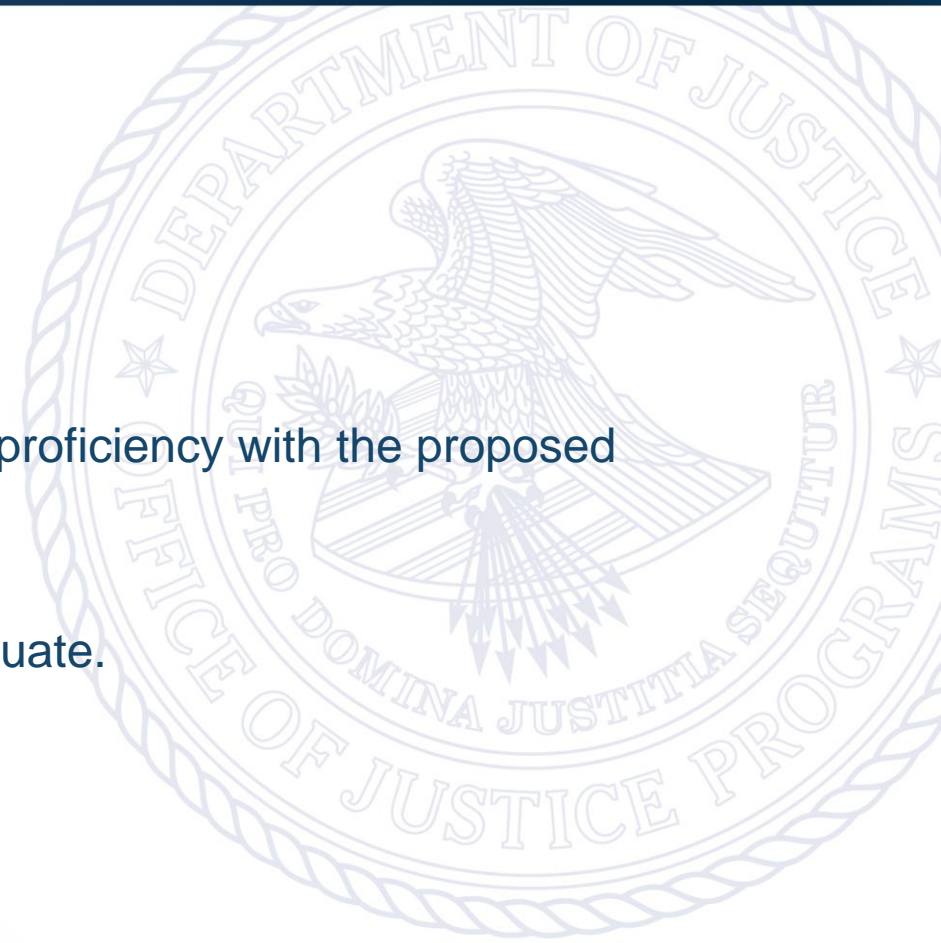
Common Critiques Raised During Peer Review

Capabilities and Competencies

- The Principal Investigator (PI) does not demonstrate familiarity or proficiency with the proposed quantitative analysis.
- The PI has direct involvement in the program they propose to evaluate.

Potential Impact

- The dissemination plan lacks specificity and/or is not innovative.
- There is no plan for reaching non-academic audiences.



Tips

Proposals should be:

- Well-written
- Innovative
- Timely
- Rigorous and well-designed
- Feasible
- Impactful
- Include Letters of Support
- Consider Research/Evaluation Independence





FAQs

- Award amount + period of performance
- Timing of award and non-award notifications
- Foreign entities / subrecipients / co-investigators
- Filling and submitting forms / IRB / HSP / New Investigator

Support

- **OJP Response Center**
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Recommended Resources

- OJP Funding Resource Center:
<https://ojp.gov/funding/index.htm>
- DOJ Grants Financial Guide:
<https://ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/index.htm>
- NIJ Funding FAQs:
<https://www.nij.gov/funding/Pages/faqs.aspx>

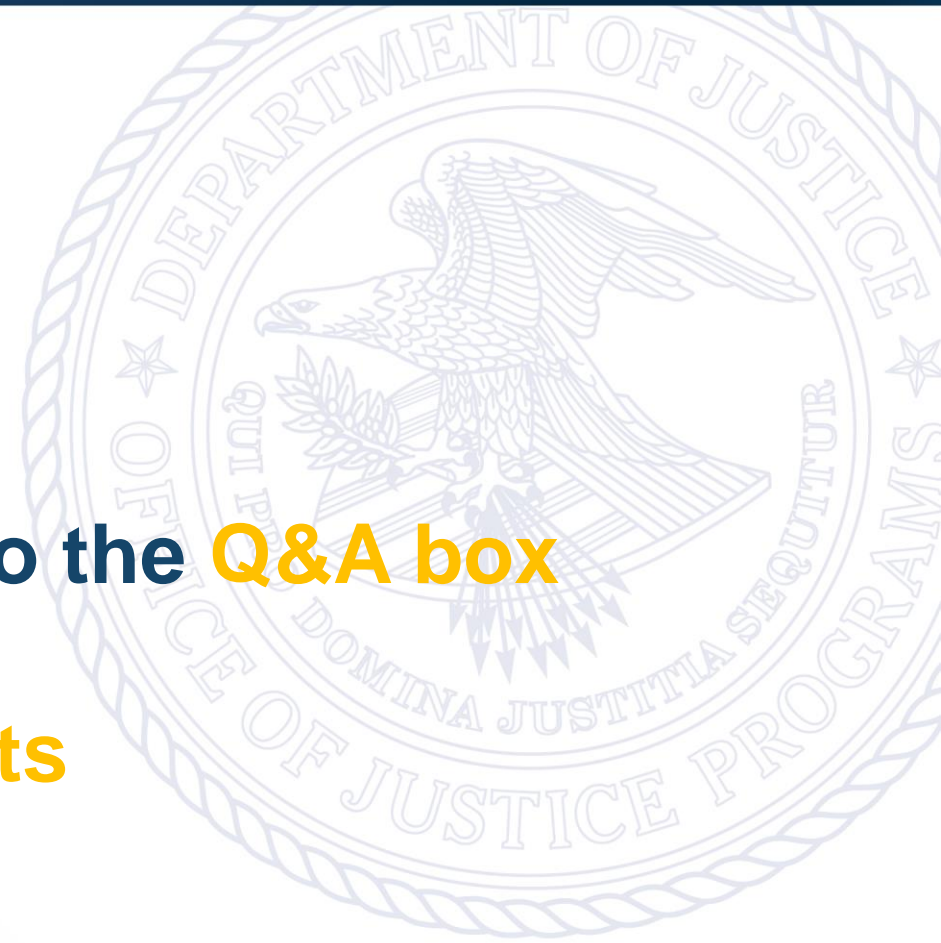


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Questions?

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

Send to **All Panelists**



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