

NIJ Fiscal Year 2024 Research and Evaluation on the Impact of Technologies for Forensic Science Applications Solicitation Webinar

March 7, 2024 | 1:00 PM ET

The webinar will begin shortly



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NIJ's FY24 Research and Evaluation on the Impact of Technologies for Forensic Science Applications

Solicitation: O-NIJ-2024-171968

Solicitation Post Date: February 6, 2024 | Solicitation Close Date: May 6, 2024

Grants.gov Deadline: April 29, 2024

Webinar Presenters:

Danielle McLeod-Henning

Physical Scientist, Office of Investigative and Forensic Sciences

Danielle Crimmins

Social Science Research Analyst, Office of Criminal Justice Systems



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Today's Webinar

- Introduction – Dr. Nancy La Vigne, NIJ Director
- Specific Information
- Solicitation Goal and Objective
- Priority Areas
- Application Submission Process
- Application Review Process
- Support and Resources
- Q & A




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Specific Information

NIJ seeks applications to study how adopted technologies with a forensic science application impact criminal justice systems, how the implementation of forensic laboratory programs or practices broadly effect outcomes, and how changes in policies adapt the use of forensic evidence.

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

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



NIJ FY24 Research and Evaluation on the Impact of Technologies for Forensic Science Applications

Assistance Listing Number: 16.560
Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-NIJ-2024-171968
Solicitation Release Date: February 06, 2024
Step 1: Application Grants.gov Deadline: 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on April 29, 2024
Step 2: Application JustGrants Deadline: 8:59 p.m. Eastern Time on May 06, 2024

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Specific Information

NIJ is interested in **research and evaluation** projects analyzing the **implementation of technologies, methods, or workflows across the forensic science enterprise**, to include crime laboratories, medical examiner/coroner offices, law enforcement agencies, officers of the court, and other entities that collect, process, or consume forensic evidence.

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Specific Information

To better understand the impact on:

- Forensic evidence backlog reduction.
- Capacity enhancement in forensic evidence analysis and interpretation.
- Cost effectiveness or cost-benefit analysis of implementation of the technology/method/workflow process.
- Workforce development regarding education, training, and retention.
- Case closure efficiency.

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Specific Information

- Proposals should examine the impact of technological advances on the criminal justice system within the forensic science enterprise that will increase the body of knowledge to guide and inform forensic science policy and practice.
- Applicants should describe how they propose to evaluate the technology, method or workflow, including how the evaluation will address implementation and outcomes.
- Although evaluations may be single-site, NIJ encourages applicants to partner with other sites to simultaneously and robustly evaluate the technology, method, or workflow at each site.



Specific Information – What Will Not Be Reviewed

The following are not within the scope of this solicitation, and will not be reviewed:

- Proposals that do not contain a research component.
- Proposals that do not respond to the specific goals of this solicitation.
- Proposals that do not clearly address criminal justice concerns in the United States.
- Applications primarily to purchase equipment, materials, or supplies.
- Proposals primarily to provide training.
- Proposals that provide direct services.
- Proposals to evaluate technologies, methods, or workflows that are *not* within the scope of the forensic science enterprise.

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Solicitation Goal & Objective

- The **goal** of this solicitation is to generate evidence-based knowledge on the implementation of technologies, methods, or workflow processes within the forensic enterprise, and how those technologies impact criminal justice systems
- The **objective** of this solicitation is to evaluate technologies, methods, or workflow processes within the forensic enterprise to measure the impacts on backlog reduction, capacity enhancement, cost effectiveness, workforce development, or case closure efficiency.

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Priority Areas

NIJ may, in appropriate circumstances, give special consideration in award decisions to:

- New Investigators
- Applications from Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs)

Note: these are two of many factors that NIJ considers in making funding decisions.

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Application Submission

Critical Application Elements (Basic Minimum Requirements):

- Program Narrative
- Budget Web-Based Form (budget details and narrative)
- Curriculum Vitae, Resumes or Biosketches for Senior/Key Personnel

Required Forms:

- SF-424 (Application for Federal Assistance)
- SF-LLL (Disclosure of Lobbying Activities)
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire, including applicant disclosure of high-risk status

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Two-Step Application Submission Protocol

1. Grants.gov

- Submit SF-424 and SF-LLL forms ONLY
- Deadline: **April 29, 2024**
- Register at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html>

2. JustGrants

- Submit the FULL application, including all attachments
- Deadline: **May 6, 2024**
- Register at <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/getting-started>

See “How to Apply” Starting on Solicitation Page 15



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General Guidance for NIJ Applicants

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



Guidance for Applicants and Awardees

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 Process

- Internal Initial Review
 - Basic Minimum Requirements
 - Responsiveness to Solicitation
- External Merit Review
 - External SME peer reviewers
 - Initial assessments against the merit review criteria
 - Convene collaboration session of reviewers to discuss criteria
- All funding decisions are made at the discretion of the NIJ Director

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Tips

- Proposals should be
 - Responsive to the funding opportunity
 - Well-written
 - Innovative
 - Timely
 - Rigorous and well-designed
 - Feasible
 - Impactful

Please read the solicitation carefully and in its entirety!



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Support

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



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Recommended Resources

- OJP Funding Resource Center: <https://www.ojp.gov/funding>
- DOJ Grants Financial Guide:
<https://www.ojp.gov/funding/financialguideojp/overview>
- NIJ Funding FAQs: <https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/faqs>



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Questions?

Please enter your questions into the **Q&A Box**
Send to **All Panelists**



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