Notices regarding the solicitation "NIJ FY23 Research and Evaluation on Domestic Radicalization and Violent Extremism"

March 16, 2023: The transcript and presentation from a webinar discussing this solicitation have been posted to NIJ.ojp.gov.

The original funding opportunity document begins on the next page.

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

NIJ FY23 Research and Evaluation on Domestic Radicalization and Violent Extremism

Assistance Listing Number #   16.560

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-NIJ-2023-171569

Solicitation Release Date: February 07, 2023 2:30 PM ET

Version: 2

Step 1: Application Grants.gov Deadline: April 24, 2023 11:59 PM ET

Step 2: Application JustGrants Deadline: May 08, 2023 8:59 PM ET

Overview

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), National Institute of Justice (NIJ) seeks applications for funding of rigorous research and evaluation projects targeted toward developing a better understanding of the domestic radicalization phenomenon, and advancing evidence-based strategies for effective intervention and prevention. This program furthers the DOJ's mission by supporting the development of new knowledge and tools to address the challenges of crime and justice in the United States through fundamental research.

This solicitation incorporates guidance provided in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide which provides additional information for applicants to prepare and submit applications to OJP 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:
City or township governments, County governments, For profit organizations other than small businesses, Independent school districts, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments), Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education, Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education, Private institutions of higher education, Public and State controlled institutions of higher education, Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities, Small businesses, Special district governments, State governments, Unrestricted (open to any type of entity above), subject to any clarification in text field entitled as Additional Information on Eligibility

An applicant entity may submit more than one application, if each application proposes a different

project in response to the solicitation. Also, an entity may be proposed as a subrecipient (subgrantee) in more than one application.

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.

NIJ may elect to fund applications submitted under this FY 2023 solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and the availability of appropriations.

Contact Information

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

Pre-application Information Session

NIJ will hold a solicitation webinar on February 21, 2023 at 1 PM ET. This call will provide a detailed overview of the solicitation and allow an opportunity for interested applicants to ask questions. Preregistration is required for all participants. Register by clicking on this link https://ojp.webex.com/ojp/onstage/g.php?MTID=e8e0e96400891f71dbaf5c7c5b70733eb and following the instructions. To use the time most efficiently, NIJ encourages participants to review the solicitation and submit any questions they may have in advance and no later than February 15th, 2023. Submit your questions to Raven.A.Lewis@usdoj.gov with the subject as "Questions for FY23 Domestic Radicalization and Violent Extremism Solicitation Webinar."

Submission Information

Registration: Before submitting an application, all applicants must register with the System for Award Management (SAM). You must renew and validate your registration every 12 months. If you do not renew your SAM registration, it will expire. An expired registration can delay or prevent application submission in Grants.gov and JustGrants. Registration and renewal can take up to 10 business days to complete.

Submission: Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process via Grants.gov and JustGrants.

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. **Submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL as early as possible, but no later than 48 hours before the Grants.gov deadline.** If an applicant fails to submit in Grants.gov, they will be unable to apply in JustGrants.

For technical assistance with submitting the SF-424 and a SF-LLL in Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, 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.

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

For technical assistance with submitting the **full application** in JustGrants, contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov. The JustGrants Service Desk operates 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET Monday–Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET on Saturday, Sunday, and Federal holidays.

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. Applicants should maintain all receipts and confirmations received from SAM.gov, Grants.gov, JustGrants systems.

Contents

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.

With this solicitation, NIJ seeks proposals for rigorous research and evaluation projects targeted toward developing a better understanding of the domestic radicalization phenomenon and advancing evidence-based strategies for effective intervention and prevention.

NIJ seeks proposals in four topics as they relate to radicalization and violent extremism under this solicitation:

- Research to inform terrorism prevention efforts.
- Research on the role of communications in promoting and countering extremist content and information.
- Research on disengagement, deradicalization and the reintegration into society of individuals incarcerated for terrorism related offenses.
- Evaluations of programs and practices to prevent acts of terrorism.

NIJ is particularly interested in proposals that explore the radicalization of individuals within the United States to violent white supremacist extremism and anti-government extremism, and identify and advance evidence-based strategies for effective intervention and prevention.

NIJ will not fund applications that intentionally introduce, expose, or disseminate extremist materials and propaganda to study participants. Applications that do not include an explicit plan to anonymize data and personally identifiable information will not be funded. Further, NIJ will not fund applications that employ deceptive or non-privatized data collection practices nor will NIJ fund applications that provide identifiable research data to law enforcement or investigative agencies. Please see the "Important Considerations" and "What will not be funded" sections on pages 8 and 17 below for more information.

NIJ will give special consideration to proposals with methods that include meaningful engagement with the people with lived experience of the subject of study, including, but not limited to, justice practitioners, community members, crime victims, service providers, and individuals who have experienced justice system involvement.

Applicants are encouraged to propose multidisciplinary research teams to build on the complementary strengths of different methods and areas of subject matter expertise. NIJ also seeks proposals that include consideration and measurement of issues of diversity, discrimination, and bias across age, gender and gender identity, race, ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation, as applicable.

Applications proposing research involving partnerships with criminal justice or other agencies, should include a letter of support, signed by an appropriate decision-making authority from each proposed, partnering agency. A letter of support should include the partnering agency's acknowledgement that de-identified data derived from, provided to, or obtained through an award funded by NIJ will be archived, by the grant recipient, with the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD) at the conclusion of the award. Applicants and their potential partners are encouraged to review NIJ's data archiving guidance. If selected for an award, grantees will be expected to have a formal agreement

in place with partnering agencies by January 1, 2024. That formal agreement must include a provision to meet the data archiving requirements of the award.

NIJ seeks proposals that include robust, creative, and multi-pronged dissemination strategies that include strategic partnerships with organizations and associations that are best equipped to ensure that research findings lead to changes in policies and practices related to the subjects of study. Special consideration will be given to proposals that dedicate at least 15% of the requested project award funding toward implementing such strategies, as demonstrated in the Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative.

In the case of partnerships that will involve the use of federal award funds by multiple partnering agencies to carry out the proposed project, only one entity/partnering agency may be the applicant (as is the case with any application submitted in response to this solicitation); any others must be proposed as subrecipients. The applicant is expected to conduct a majority of the work proposed.

Statutory Authority

Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (sections 201 and 202); the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (sections 231-233); Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2023 (Pub. L. No. 117-328, 136 Stat. 4459, 4533); and 28 U.S.C. 530C.

Specific Information

Definitions and Scope:

For the purposes of this solicitation, "terrorism" is defined as ideologically motivated acts of violence to further political, social, or religious goals. The U.S. Code defines domestic terrorism as acts dangerous to human life, primarily within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States, that are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any state, and appear to be intended to: 1) intimidate or coerce a civilian population, 2) influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion, or 3) affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping (18 U.S.C. § 2331(5)). The U.S. Code further defines international terrorism in the same way as domestic terrorism, except that acts under the international terrorism definition occur primarily outside of the territorial jurisdiction of the United States, or transcend national boundaries in terms of the means by which they are accomplished, the persons they appear intended to intimidate or coerce, or the locale in which their perpetrators operate or seek asylum (18 U.S.C. § 2331(1)). The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) further differentiates these two types of terrorism by their influence, with domestic terrorism defined as being inspired by domestic influences, and international terrorism defined as being inspired by or associated with foreign terrorist organizations or nations. [1]

Violent extremists are defined as those who advocate, encourage, condone, justify, or support the commission of a violent act to achieve terroristic goals.

"Radicalization to violent extremism" is defined as the process by which individuals increasingly adopt a violent extremist or terrorist ideology. Note: an individual may be radicalized and adopt an extremist ideology without engaging in any acts of violence or terrorism. The distinction between violent and non-violent radicalization is an important one, and applicants should demonstrate awareness of this distinction in their proposals.

Terrorism is one form of targeted violence. NIJ understands that offending behavior in terrorism and extremist violence can often overlap with other forms of targeted violence, such as hate crimes and mass shootings. Further, individuals who commit these offenses also share some common risk factors and motivations for inflicting violence on their target populations. However, with this

solicitation, NIJ invites applications for research focused specifically on terrorism and violent extremism. Applicants may propose projects focused on one or more particular form of grievance or ideology, however, NIJ's purpose is to build knowledge about violent extremism, terrorism, and radicalization, regardless of specific grievance or ideology. Although a portion of Congressionally mandated funds may be applied towards applications that propose the study of violent white nationalist supremacists, funds will be available and applications will be considered for all other forms of radicalization to violent extremism and terrorism. Applicants should include clearly stated definitions of key terms and concepts, as well as descriptions and examples of how they will operationalize the radicalization and terrorism related phenomena that they are proposing to study. Applicants should also ensure that the findings from the proposed research (if awarded) will have the potential for high external validity beyond the focus of the study itself.

Under this solicitation, applicants will be limited to focusing on the radicalization process as it occurs in the United States, regardless of the locale of any act of terrorism that may ensue from that process. Applicants are encouraged to use comparative approaches in their applications, where warranted, and these may draw on international comparisons. However, applicants must focus their research on the radicalization process as it occurs within the United States, or extremism/terrorism prevention activities within the United States.

NIJ has funded research on terrorism, violent extremism, and domestic radicalization since 2012. Applicants should familiarize themselves with prior NIJ-funded research and include knowledge of relevant research in their literature review. For a summary of NIJ-funded research projects on the subject of terrorism, see https://nij.gov/topics/crime/terrorism/Pages/welcome.aspx. To best target applications and to avoid duplication of efforts for the current funding cycle, potential applicants are encouraged to review the Fiscal Year 2023 Research and Evaluation on Hate Crimes[2] and Research and Evaluation on Firearms Violence and Mass Shootings[3] solicitations and determine where their application fits best. Additionally, applicants are strongly encouraged to familiarize themselves with research projects on this issue that are funded by other federal agencies (e.g., Department of Homeland Security, Department of Defense, etc.) and other sources within and outside of the United States.

Important Considerations:

- Applicants must design research and evaluation projects submitted to this solicitation with the protection of civil rights and liberties prioritized at the forefront of the research design.

- NIJ will not fund research that solely examines the conventional political views of individuals or groups, including their participation in non-violent forms of political activism. Accordingly, applicants should clearly indicate in their proposal how they intend to delineate and study radicalism, extremist views, or other forms of illegal political activity (e.g., direct action or violence) separately from lawful political conduct.

- As it regards the spectrum of political ideologies, NIJ is especially interested in applications that strive to better understand violent white supremacist extremism, one of the primary and most lethal threats faced by the U.S. today.[4] The presence of this radicalization in individuals within American institutions (e.g., military, law enforcement, and other government agencies), as well as its transnational nature, may also be explored. The focus on violent white supremacist extremism may be included in applications to any of the four Research Topics listed below. It should also be noted that, while this prioritization exists, NIJ will continue to fund research on radicalization to all forms of violent extremism, regardless of ideology.

- NIJ will not award funding to applications that intentionally introduce, expose, or disseminate

extremist materials and propaganda to study participants.

- NIJ will not fund applications that do not include an explicit plan to anonymize data and personally identifiable information. Further, NIJ will not fund applications that employ deceptive or non-privatized data collection practices, nor will NIJ fund applications that propose to share identifiable research data with law enforcement or investigative agencies.

- Any machine learning or artificial intelligence methodologies proposed in the research design must include thorough, sufficient explanation and expertise in the proposal and application package.

Research Topics:

NIJ is interested in receiving applications that address the following four research topics listed below. Applicants must apply to one of these four topics. In their applications, applicants must explicitly state which Research Topic they are requesting funding consideration under. Multiple applications may be submitted to this solicitation, but each application must be submitted under only one of the four topic areas. Applications for other than one of these four topics will not be considered.

Topic Area #1: Research to Inform Terrorism Prevention Efforts

NIJ seeks applications that build and improve on existing research in the area of terrorism prevention, including research that improves program development, data sources, and methods. Specifically, NIJ encourages applicants to propose novel approaches to study risk and protective factors, behavioral indicators, and updated risk assessment tools as they relate to domestic radicalization and violent extremism within the evolving threat landscape in the United States. Although applications may cover a range of topics related to domestic radicalization and violent extremism, NIJ is particularly interested in:

- Better understanding of what makes domestic violent extremism in the U.S. unique and how to address the fluid and blended nature of domestic extremist ideologies. This may include subtopics related to the normalization of extremist rhetoric translating to mobilization to violence, the safeguarding of democratic principles from violent extremism (e.g., election-related violence), and the long-term drivers (e.g., grievances) of domestic radicalization. Effective prevention and intervention, particularly novel approaches specific to domestic violent extremism, should be at the forefront of the research proposals.

- The transnational and institutionalized nature of violent white supremacist ideologies (white supremacy across the globe and within and across American institutions (e.g., military, law enforcement, and other government agencies)). Specific areas of focus may include comparative international approaches, or studies on recruitment, training, and separation/ retirement processes within and across various workforce settings.

- Research that actively engages with and empowers local communities to develop community-led, contextualized multidisciplinary prevention and intervention frameworks through deeper understandings of the local threat landscape, social and political contexts, prevalent ideologies or grievances, barriers to reporting, and mapping of local services and resources. Special attention should be given to bolstering resilience, providing trauma-informed care, improving data collection by frontline workers, and case management, as needed.

Topic Area #2: Research on the Role of Communications in Promoting and Countering Extremist Content and Information

NIJ seeks applications for research that aims to better understand the dynamic role of communications and media platforms in radicalization to violent extremist ideologies. NIJ recognizes that extremists' use of online platforms can be a vital mechanism for communication and recruitment to radicalization, especially in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, "internet-based communications platforms, including social media, online gaming platforms, file-upload sites, and end-to-end encrypted chat platforms" all serve as a breeding ground for recruitment to radical ideologies (including conspiracy theories) and mobilization to violent extremism.[5] This problem is exacerbated by the use of information that is false (i.e., mis-information), false and deliberately created to discredit an entity (i.e., dis-information), or based on reality but is used to ignite hatred or inflict harm (i.e., mal-information) both by violent extremist groups and foreign governments/entities. Therefore, NIJ encourages applicants to propose research that identifies strategies and best-practices to bolster resistance to such material in both the online and offline spaces. Further, NIJ encourages applications for research on effective technologies and tools for identification, moderation, and/or removal of extremist content. Research results from projects funded under this topic should have an end-goal of informing effective messaging and counternarrative campaigns, developing strategies to amplify credible voices, cultivating digital literacy and evidence-based digital programming, as well as bolstering efforts to limit the widespread availability of extremist content online.

It should be noted that NIJ expects applicants to ensure that strategies that are proposed respect constitutional protections for expression, free speech, and association. Further, an application's research focus may not rely solely on social media data and should be paired with another research component.

Other important considerations for applications under this research topic include:

- Acknowledging the increased role of graphics, images, and short videos (e.g. memes, GIFs, "reels") in online and digital communications versus conventional text and the implications of this on the research design.

- Research that enhances multi-source information availability and information sharing efforts (both to the public and within and across government/law enforcement agencies) regarding the full range of domestic terrorism threats is vital. The role of public messaging as a preventative measure, with the end goal of shifting sentiments and knowledge about domestic extremism, should be considered.

- This research topic is not limited to the online space; both social and mass media can be utilized to inform research topics under this area of focus.

Topic Area #3: Research on Disengagement, Deradicalization, and the Reintegration Into Society of Individuals Incarcerated for Terrorism Related Offenses

NIJ seeks applications for research related to the effective and efficient reintegration of individuals incarcerated for terrorism-related offenses as they return to their communities. Specifically, NIJ seeks to build knowledge of pre-release and post-confinement characteristics of individuals who have committed terrorist acts that may inform reintegration policies, programs, and practices. This population is understudied. NIJ is seeking applications to conduct empirical assessments of those convicted of terrorism-related offenses: their sentences, their risks and needs, and how they compare to others in custody or released from custody. For example, what are their risks and needs when they return to the community with regards to issues like reengaging with family, finding employment, and finding housing? Additional issues pertaining to pre-release include, but are not limited to, factors that positively or negatively influence radicalization during confinement, factors

related to participation in correctional programs, and factors that influence length of stay and release. Additional post-confinement issues include, but are not limited to, life trajectories of individuals incarcerated for terrorism-related offenses following release, recidivism within this population, services provided to them post-release, and radicalization independent of further offending.

Further, NIJ is seeking applications for research to better understand the deradicalization and disengagement phenomena. NIJ is particularly interested in understanding factors that promote withdrawal and independence from extremist behaviors, as well as those factors that play a role in encouraging individuals to depart from radical ideologies (or at least shift away to less-extreme beliefs).

NIJ recognizes that this topic is seeking research projects involving a hard-to-reach population. Applicants should demonstrate that they are well-prepared to access research participants, gain and retain a sufficient sample size, access administrative data sets, and conduct research in correctional settings (as necessary) by including letters of support and other appropriate documentation (including all appropriate human subjects protection protocols).

Topic Area #4: Evaluations of Programs and Practices to Prevent Terrorism

NIJ seeks proposals for either: (1) formative evaluations and evaluability assessments, or (2) outcome evaluations of terrorism prevention programs. For both options, evaluations considering a diverse array of terrorism prevention approaches will be prioritized. NIJ encourages applicants to review and partner with federally-funded programs (e.g., DHS Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships)[6]. NIJ is particularly interested in evaluations of community-based terrorism prevention programs and evaluations of programs to reintegrate individuals who were convicted for terrorism or terrorism related offenses (e.g., providing material support to terrorists).

Community-based programs often include efforts to: (1) provide local law enforcement and other practitioners with appropriate professional development opportunities to prepare them to engage in terrorism prevention; (2) engage with key community members and groups to build awareness and trust; (3) improve the likelihood of reporting by community members who may see warning signs; and (4) intervene, communicate, or deliver services as appropriate to prevent and reduce the likelihood of terrorism.

NIJ is also interested in evaluations of reentry programming for individuals convicted of terrorism related offenses. Programs may include new or existing rehabilitation programs in correctional settings (e.g., prisons) or community-based reentry programs.

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).

Topic 4 - Option 1: Formative Evaluations and Evaluability Assessments. NIJ recognizes that not all terrorism prevention programs may be at the stage of outcome evaluation readiness; as such, a phased approach is needed. The phased evaluation approach is a multistep process that ultimately results in a rigorous outcome evaluation. In Option 1, applicants should plan to conduct a formative evaluation, as well as an evaluability assessment to determine whether an outcome evaluation of the program or model is possible.

If successfully completed (i.e., if a program has achieved a suitable level of development), awardees may apply for funding of additional phases to build on their findings in response to future solicitations (dependent on future funding). The specifics of the additional phases will be dependent on the

findings of the formative evaluation and evaluability assessment. Subsequent phases may include: (1) a process evaluation of the specified program(s) or model(s), or (2) an outcome/impact evaluation of specified program(s) or model(s). Future evaluation opportunities out of the phased approach may also include support for replication studies of programs or models.

Evaluation Designs should include:

- Descriptive research of terrorism prevention program(s) leading to the development of a logic model(s).

- Evaluability and research capacity assessments of programs to be studied, including but not limited to access to data and participant recruitment, consent procedures, and agency burden.

- Development of an implementation guide for specific program(s).

- Development of instruments or measures to test fidelity of program(s).

Applications should provide detailed information on how all tasks will be accomplished, include a multidisciplinary evaluation team, and demonstrate clear support from related partners by submitting letters of support.

Topic 4 - Option 2: Outcome Evaluation. In cases where programs have achieved a suitable level of development, NIJ encourages applicants to propose rigorous outcome evaluations using randomized evaluation designs, where it is possible and appropriate to do so. If that is not possible or appropriate, applicants should propose the most rigorous and appropriate design to produce high-quality causal evidence.

Under this option, NIJ will only fund projects that evaluate well-developed programs. Applications should include and append supplementary materials as necessary to describe the level of program development. Supplementary materials may include copies or links to logic models, program guides and materials, policies and procedures, manuals, prior evaluation findings, program staffing, and funding information.

Coordination with Existing Studies

Applicants are strongly encouraged to familiarize themselves with relevant research funded by other federal agencies, including but not limited to: the Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate, the National Counterterrorism Center, and the Department of Defense. NIJ will take into consideration how proposals build on existing or published research on topics described in this solicitation. NIJ will also coordinate with other federal agencies to ensure that awards are not made under this solicitation for research that duplicate existing studies.

Additional Information

Applicants should discuss potential risks and harms to individuals or groups associated with the use and/or misuse of any practice or technology proposed as a part of the research and evaluation, as well as any ethical considerations that may factor into its use. In addition, applicants should be aware of all relevant statutes, regulations, and/or governing judicial decisions (e.g., established case law, prevailing court rulings) related to the practice or technology's proposed use. Any limitations that may impede the lawful use or implementation of any practice or technology proposed should be described, and a realistic approach to mitigate such limitations in the context of the proposed research should be discussed.

Evaluation Research

If an application includes an evaluation research component (or consists entirely of evaluation research), the application is expected to propose the most rigorous evaluation design appropriate for the research questions to be addressed. If the primary purpose of the evaluation is to determine the effectiveness or impact of an intervention (e.g., program, practice, or policy), the most rigorous evaluation designs may include random selection and assignment of participants (or other appropriate units of analysis) to experimental and control conditions. In cases where randomization is not feasible, applicants should propose a strong quasi-experimental design that can address the risk of selection bias.

Applications that propose evaluation research should also include an implementation evaluation component to ensure that implementation fidelity metrics are collected and analyzed. Applicants are encouraged to propose research methods that enable interim feedback on implementation fidelity to enable program providers to make ongoing improvements in program delivery.

If an application proposes research (including research and development) and/or evaluation, the applicant must demonstrate research/evaluation independence and integrity through discussion of potential risks (if any) to independence and integrity, and appropriate safeguards, as required.

NIJ also encourages applicants to consider the feasibility of including a cost/benefit analysis. In cases where evaluations find that interventions have produced the intended benefit, cost/benefit analysis provides valuable and practical information for practitioners and policymakers that aids decision-making. Evaluation research projects may also address a wide range of research questions beyond those focused on the effectiveness or impact of an intervention. Different research designs may be more appropriate for different research questions and at different stages of program development. The intervention strategies, setting, other contextual factors, and resources should be considered when selecting an evaluation design.

In all cases, applications are expected to propose the most rigorous evaluation design appropriate for the research questions to be addressed. Applicants are encouraged to review evidence-rating criteria at https://crimesolutions.ojp.gov/about/how-we-review-and-rate-program-start-finish for further information on high-quality evaluation design elements.

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 six (6) years prior to September 30, 2023.
- Have never previously received NIJ funding as a PI on a research project with the exception of Graduate Research Fellows.

If seeking to be considered for the New Investigator/Early Career Opportunity, the applicant should

identify that it is submitting a New Investigator/Early Career proposal on the title page of the application.

Diversity of Perspectives

NIJ is interested in increasing diversity and promoting greater inclusion in extremism research. NIJ encourages diversity of perspectives among applicants to add to the broader scientific understanding of radicalization to violent extremism. Applications are encouraged from researchers of all backgrounds, and research partnerships should demonstrate how the researchers and/or practitioners involved in any proposal promote inclusivity and opportunities to be more closely involved in the field of violent extremism prevention.

Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables

Goals

The goal of this solicitation is to develop knowledge and evidence that has practical utility in developing evidence-based strategies to prevent radicalization to violent extremism and the commission of acts of terrorism.

Objectives

An applicant should address all the objectives listed below in the Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline web-based form.

The objective of this solicitation is to fund rigorous research and evaluation projects that build upon the evidence-base to inform prevention and intervention of domestic radicalization to violent extremism efforts.

Deliverables

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 NIJ's [webpage](#).

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.

In addition to these deliverables (and the required reports and data on performance measures), 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. NIJ expects that there will be an equal effort to make the research findings accessible to practitioner and policymaker audiences.

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.

Priority Areas

The Department of Justice 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.

1. Priority Considerations Supporting Executive Order 13985, *Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government*

In support of Executive Order 13985, OJP will give priority consideration to:

A. Applications that propose research project(s) that are designed to promote racial equity **and** the removal of barriers to access and opportunity for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality, when making award decisions.

To receive this consideration, the applicant must describe how the proposed project(s) will address potential inequities and barriers to equal opportunity, and/or contribute to greater access to services for underserved and historically marginalized populations.

B. Applicants that demonstrate that their capabilities and competencies for implementing their proposed project(s) are enhanced because they (or at least one proposed subrecipient that will receive **at least 40%** of the requested award funding, as demonstrated in the Budget Web-Based Form) identify as a *culturally specific organization*.

To receive this additional priority consideration, applicants must describe how being a culturally specific organization (or funding the culturally specific subrecipient organization(s)) will enhance their ability to implement the proposed project(s) and should also specify which populations are intended or expected to be served or to have their needs addressed under the proposed project(s).

Culturally specific organizations are defined for the purposes of this solicitation as private nonprofit or tribal organizations whose primary purpose as a whole is to provide culturally specific services to racial and ethnic groups, including, among others, Black people, Hispanic and Latino people, Native American and other Indigenous peoples of North America (including Alaska Native, Eskimo, and Aleut), Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and/or Pacific Islanders.

2. Minority Serving Institutions

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

MSIs include:

- 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)

Whether an institution is an MSI is based on the original purpose of its establishment or its current enrollment thresholds and is designated as such by the federal government for various purposes

under specific statutes. For more information, please see the U.S. Department of Education's definitions and lists of institutions. (The lists are provided for reference purposes only; MSI status is not an eligibility criterion for this solicitation.)

Note: Addressing these priority areas is one of many factors that NIJ considers in making funding decisions. Receiving priority consideration for one or more priority areas does not guarantee an award.

Federal Award Information

Solicitation Categories

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

Awards, Amounts and Durations

Anticipated Number of Awards
TBD

Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount of Awards
TBD

Period of Performance Start Date	**Period of Performance Duration (Months)**
1/1/24	Up to 5 years

Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation
$5,500,000.00

Additional Information
Please see Anticipated Number of Awards,
Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount of Awards,
and Period of Performance Duration sections
below.

Continuation Funding Intent

NIJ may, in certain cases, provide additional funding in future years to awards made under this solicitation through continuation awards. NIJ will consider, among other factors, NIJ's strategic priorities, a recipient's overall management of the award, and the award-funded work's progress, when making continuation award decisions.

Availability of Funds

This solicitation, and awards under this solicitation, are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications 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

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.

Budget Information

If the applicant is proposing a project that reasonably could be conducted in discrete phases, with each phase resulting in completion of one or more significant, defined milestones, then NIJ strongly recommends that the applicant structure the application — specifically including the narrative, expected scholarly products, timelines/milestones, and budget detail worksheet and budget narrative — to clearly define each phase. (This is particularly the case if the applicant proposes a project that will exceed — in cost or the length of the period of performance — the amount or length of time anticipated for an individual award (or awards) under this solicitation.) Given limitations on the availability to NIJ of funds for awards for research, development, and evaluation, this information will assist NIJ in considering whether partial funding of applications would be productive. (If, in FY 2023, NIJ elects to fund only certain phases of a proposed project, the expected scholarly products from the partial-funding award may, in some cases, vary from those described above.)

NIJ may elect to fund applications submitted under this FY 2023 solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and on the availability of appropriations.

What will not be funded:

- Applications primarily to purchase equipment, materials, or supplies, or to provide direct services. (A budget may include these items if they are necessary to conduct research, development, demonstration, evaluation, or analysis.)
- Applications that are not responsive to the purposes of this specific solicitation.
- Applications that intentionally introduce, expose, or disseminate extremist materials and propaganda to study participants.
- Applications that do not include an explicit plan to anonymize data and personally identifiable information.
- Applications that employ deceptive or non-privatized data collection practices
- Applications that provide identifiable research data to law enforcement or investigative agencies.

The applicant should identify within their budget which items, services, etc., will/would be covered by matching sources and explain what type of match will be provided.

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

See "Cofunding" paragraph under "Budget and Associated Documentation" in the "Application and Submission Information" section.

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.

Anticipated Number of Awards

Total number of awards NIJ expects to make to be determined by the number of applications received and their merit.

Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount of Awards

Maximum dollar amount for each award to be determined by the research requirements proposed in applications selected for award. Applicants are encouraged to submit budgets that match the research activities offered, up to the total dollar amount anticipated to be awarded under this solicitation.

Period of Performance Duration

To be determined by the period of performance of awarded applications. Applicants are encouraged to submit timelines that match the research activities proposed, up to a maximum five-year period of performance.

Eligibility Information

For eligibility information, see the solicitation cover page.

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

For the purposes of this solicitation, "state" means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Foreign governments, foreign organizations, and foreign colleges and universities are not eligible to apply. Federal agencies are eligible to apply. (Any award made to a federal agency will be made as an inter-agency reimbursable agreement.)

Notice regarding law enforcement agencies: 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 2023 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.

Application and Submission Information

Content of Application Submission

The following application elements **must** be included in the application to meet the basic minimum requirements to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding:

- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Web-Based Form (The web-based form includes the budget details and the budget narrative.)
- Curriculum Vitae/Resumes for Key Personnel. (For purposes of this solicitation, "key personnel" means the principal investigator, and any and all co-principal investigators.)

If NIJ determines that an application does not include these elements, it will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.

Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (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 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 (E.O.) 12372. In completing the SF-424, an applicant is to answer question 19 by selecting "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 their 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 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 [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for an example of a proposal abstract.

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 numbered pages. If the Proposal Narrative fails to comply with these length restrictions, NIJ may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in the final award decision.

The Proposal Narrative should include the following sections:

a. <u>Title Page</u> (not counted against the proposal narrative page limit)

The title page should include:

> Project title.
> Submission date.
> Funding opportunity number.
> Principal Investigator (and any co-principal investigators).
> Unique author identifier (e.g., ORCID, ResearcherID, Scopus Author ID), if available.
> Requests for consideration under "new investigator" and/or "priority areas of research" areas.
> Key words, including science focus areas.
> Contact information (that is, name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address) for both the applicant and the principal investigator.

b. <u>Resubmit Response</u> (if applicable) (not counted against the proposal narrative page 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. <u>Table of Contents and Figures</u> (not counted against the proposal narrative page limit)

d. <u>Main Body</u>

> 1. Statement of the Problem
>
> 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. It is not uncommon for multiple problems to exist simultaneously (for example, there may be a criminal justice problem affecting public safety, a current technical challenge/need identified by forensic practitioners, as well as a scientific/technology gap between the current state of the art and a desired solution) and applicants should discuss each of these clearly and justify the importance of the separate issues. As part

of this discussion, applicants should present a review of previous literature and discuss previous research related to these problems.

2. 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 in the solicitation. Applicants should describe the research methodology and analysis plan 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.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration for Priority 1(A), it should address in this section how the proposed project(s) will address issues related to racial equity and the removal of barriers to access and opportunity, and/or contribute to greater access to services, for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality, and should also identify how the project design and implementation will specifically incorporate the input or participation of these communities.

3. 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 applicant should include a discussion of the proposed dissemination plan to produce scholarly products and to make information available to broader interested audiences, such as criminal justice practitioners or policymakers.

4. 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. Among other factors, that plan should include a description of the anticipated level of effort of key personnel.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1(B), it should describe, within this section, how being a culturally specific organization (or funding a culturally specific subrecipient organization at a minimum of 40% of the project budget) will enhance its ability to implement the proposed project(s) and specify which culturally specific populations are intended or expected to be the subject and/or beneficiary of the research conducted under the proposed project(s).

5. Appendices (not counted against the proposal narrative page limit) include:

- The project management plan.
- 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.
- List of other agencies, organizations, or funding sources to which this application has been submitted (if applicable).

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

Note: An applicant is not required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included as a notification that award recipients will be required to submit performance data as part of each award's reporting requirements. Some measures are presented as examples, while others are the exact measures that every recipient will be expected to address.

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 goals, objectives, and deliverables identified in the "Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables" discussion. Applicants can 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 below.

NIJ will require award recipients to submit performance measure data in quarterly financial reports, semi-annual performance reports, and the final research report, as well as separately submit a semi-annual performance report in JustGrants. NIJ will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process, if the applicant is selected for award.

Goal, Objective and Deliverables

The applicant will submit the project's goals, objectives, deliverables and timeline in the JustGrants web-based form. 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 previous section and outline the project's goals.

Program Objectives. The applicant should explain how the program will accomplish its goals. Objectives are specific, quantifiable statements of the project's desired results. They should be measurable and clearly linked to the goal.

Deliverables. Project deliverables refer to outputs—tangible or intangible—that are submitted within the scope of a project.

Budget and Associated Documentation

Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)

The applicant will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form. For additional information, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide and the Complete the Application in JustGrants – Budget

training.

The following paragraph (on "Cofunding") expressly modifies the "Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement" provisions in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide. The applicant is to follow the guidance in the following paragraph instead of the guidance stated under the "Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement" heading in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

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.

For additional match information, see the "Cost Sharing or Match Requirement" section under Federal Award Information.

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.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1(A) and has proposed activities (such as community or stakeholder meetings, community outreach or public awareness campaigns, community participation in project design, implementation, or evaluation, etc.) to incorporate the input and participation of communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality, financial support for the identified activities and participation must be reflected in the web-based budget form.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1(B) based on the identification of at least one proposed subrecipient as a culturally specific organization, the proposed funding for the subrecipient in the web-based budget form **must reflect a minimum of 40% of award funding.** The budget narrative must also describe how the activities that will be funded with the (minimum) 40% of award funding provided to the subrecipient **specifically relate to the priority consideration requested** and described in the Capabilities and Competencies section of the application.

Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)

See the section on Costs Requiring Prior Approval in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide Post Award Requirements for more information.

Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

If applicable, the applicant will upload their indirect cost rate agreement as an attachment in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for more information on indirect costs.

Consultant Rate

See the DOJ Grants Financial Guide for information on the consultant rates which require prior approval from OJP.

Limitation on Employee Compensation; Waiver

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on the Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards over $250,000; Waiver.

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

The applicant will download the questionnaire, complete it, and upload it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for the link to the questionnaire and additional information.

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 additional requested documentation in JustGrants.

Curriculum Vitae or Resumes

Provide curriculum vitae or resume of the principal investigator and any and all co-principal investigators. 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 upload the tribal authorizing documentation 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 upload documentation of its research and evaluation independence and integrity 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 Proposal Narrative.

Any Tools/Instruments, Questionnaires, Tables/Charts/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), provide 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. Applicants should use the "Proposed Project Staff, Affiliation, and Roles" form available on the NIJ webpage to prepare this list.

Human Subjects Protection

Human Subjects Protection paperwork as a separate attachment (documentation and forms related to Institutional Review Board (IRB) review). See https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/human-subjects-protection . **Note**: Final IRB approval is not required at the time an application is submitted.

Privacy Certificate

Privacy Certificate as a separate file (for further guidance go to https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/ confidentiality-and-privacy-protections and https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/model-privacy-certificate).

Request to Use Incentives or Stipends

Applicants proposing to use incentives or stipend 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 at https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/participant-support-costs-and-incentives-social- science-research.

Documentation of "new investigator" status, if applicable

Documentation of "new investigator" status, if applicable.

Consortium/Contractual Arrangements

Explain the programmatic, fiscal, and administrative arrangements to be made between the applicant organization and the consortium organization(s).

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 https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/data-archiving.

Applications should include, as a separate file, 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. Once the applicant submits in Grants.gov, this information will pre-pend into JustGrants. 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; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing

Review and accept the DOJ Certified Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide 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 OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

How to Apply

Registration: Before submitting an application, all applicants must register with the System for Award

Management (SAM). You must renew and validate your registration every 12 months. If you do not renew your SAM registration, it will expire. An expired registration can delay or prevent application submission in Grants.gov and JustGrants. Registration and renewal can take up to 10 business days to complete.

Submission: Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process via Grants.gov and JustGrants.

Step 1: After registering with SAM, the applicant must submit the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL** in Grants.gov at https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html by the Grants.gov deadline. **Submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL as early as possible, but no later than 48 hours before the Grants.gov deadline**. If an applicant fails to submit in Grants.gov, they will be unable to apply in JustGrants.

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

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 DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov with instructions on how to create a JustGrants account. Register the Entity Administrator and the Application Submitter with JustGrants as early as possible but no later than 48-72 hours before the JustGrants deadline. Once registered in JustGrants, the Application Submitter will receive an emailed link to complete the rest of the application in JustGrants. The Entity Administrator also will need to log into JustGrants to review and invite the applicant's Authorized Representative(s) before an application can be submitted.

Submit the complete application package in JustGrants at least 24 – 48 hours prior to the JustGrants deadline. Some of the application components will be entered directly into JustGrants, and others will require uploading attached documents. Therefore, applicants will need to allow ample time before the JustGrants deadline to prepare each component. Applicants may save their progress in the system and revise the application as needed prior to hitting the Submit button at the end of the application in JustGrants.

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 April 24, 2023.

The **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by 8:59 p.m. eastern time on May 08, 2023.

OJP urges applicants to submit their Grants.gov and JustGrants submissions prior to the due dates with sufficient time to correct any 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. Failure to begin the SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants registration process in sufficient time (i.e., waiting until the date identified in this solicitation) is not an acceptable reason for late submission.

Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues Preventing Submission of an Application

OJP will only consider requests to submit an application after the deadline when the applicant can document that a technical issue with a government system prevented application submission.

If an applicant misses a deadline due to unforeseen technical issues with SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants, the applicant may request a waiver to submit an application after the deadline. However, the waiver request will not be considered unless it includes a tracking number generated when the applicant contacts the applicable service desks to report technical difficulties. Tracking numbers are generated automatically when an applicant emails the applicable service desks; and for this reason applicants are encouraged to email the appropriate service desk, even if they also intend to call the service desk for phone support. Experiencing wait times for phone support does not relieve the applicant of the responsibility of getting a tracking number.

An applicant experiencing technical difficulties must contact the associated service desk indicated below to report the technical issue and receive a tracking number:

- SAM.gov - contact the [SAM Help Desk (Federal Service Desk)](#), Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET at 866-606-8220.
- Grants.gov - contact the [Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline](#), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays, at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, or [support@grants.gov](#).
- JustGrants - contact the JustGrants Service Desk at [JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov](#) or 833-872-5175, <u>Monday – Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET and Saturday, Sunday, and Federal holidays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET</u>.

If an applicant has technical issues with SAM.gov or Grants.gov, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center at [grants@ncjrs.gov](#) within **24 hours of the Grants.gov deadline** to request approval to submit after the deadline.

If an applicant has technical issues with JustGrants that prevent application submission by the deadline, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center at [grants@ncjrs.gov](#) within **24 hours of the JustGrants deadline** to request approval to submit after the deadline.

Waiver requests sent to the OJP Response Center must -

- describe the technical difficulties experienced,
- include a timeline of the applicant's submission efforts (e.g., date and time the error occurred, date and time of actions taken to resolve the issue and resubmit; and date and time support representatives responded),
- include an attachment of the complete grant application and all the required documentation and materials,
- include the applicant's Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), and
- include any SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants Service Desk tracking numbers documenting the technical issue.

OJP will review each waiver request and the required supporting documentation and notify the applicant whether the request for late submission has been approved or denied. An applicant that does not provide documentation of a technical issue or that does not submit a waiver request within the required time period will be 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 Criteria

Merit Review Criteria

Applications that meet the basic minimum requirements will be evaluated by peer reviewers on how the proposed project/program addresses the following criteria:

Statement of the Problem (understanding of the problem) (15%)

- Demonstrated understanding of the problem.
- Demonstrated importance of research questions, goals and objectives, including alignment with the aims of the solicitation.
- Demonstrated awareness of the state of current research.

Project Design and Implementation (quality and technical merit) (45%)

- Feasibility of proposed project.
- Soundness of methods and analytic and technical approach to addressing the stated aim (s) of the proposed project.
- Awareness of potential pitfalls of proposed project design and feasibility of proposed actions to minimize and/or mitigate them.
- Feasibility of completing the deliverables noted in the solicitation.

Capabilities and Competencies (capabilities, demonstrated productivity, and experience of the applicant organization and proposed project staff) (15%)

- Qualifications and experience of proposed project staff (that is, the principal investigator, any and all co-principal investigators, and all other individuals (and organizations) identified in the application (regardless of "investigator" status) who will be significantly involved in substantive aspects of the proposed project).
- Demonstrated ability of the applicant organization to implement the proposed strategies and manage the effort.
- Relationship between the capabilities/competencies of the proposed project staff (including the applicant organization) and the scope and strategies of the proposed project.

Potential Impact (20%)

- Potential for a significant scientific or technical advance(s) that will improve criminal/juvenile justice in the United States.
- Potential for significantly improved understanding of the stated criminal/juvenile justice problem.
- Potential for innovative solution to address (all or a significant part of) the stated criminal/juvenile justice problem.
- Strength and feasibility of the proposed dissemination plan to produce scholarly products (such as published, peer-reviewed, scientific journal articles, book chapter(s) or book(s) in the academic press, technological prototypes, patented inventions, databases, standards or similar scientific products) as well as make summary information available to broader interested audiences, such as criminal justice practitioners or policymakers.

Budget (5%)

In addition, peer reviewers will consider and may comment on the following additional items in the context of scientific and technical merit.

- Alignment of the proposed budget with proposed project activities.
- Appropriateness of the budget relative to the level of effort.
- Use of existing resources to conserve costs.

Other Review Criteria/Factors

Other important considerations for NIJ include geographic diversity, strategic priorities (specifically including, but not limited to, those priority areas already mentioned, if applicable), available funding, past performance, and the extent to which the Budget Web-Based Form accurately explains project costs that are reasonable, necessary, and otherwise allowable under federal law and applicable federal cost principles.

Review Process

Applications submitted under this solicitation that meet the basic minimum requirements will be evaluated for technical merit by a peer review panel(s) in accordance with OJP peer review policy and procedures using the review criteria listed above.

OJP screens applications to ensure they meet the basic minimum requirements prior to conducting the peer review. Although specific requirements may vary, the following are common requirements applicable to all OJP solicitations:

- The application must be submitted by an eligible type of applicant.
- The application must request funding within programmatic funding constraints (if applicable).
- The application must be responsive to the scope of the solicitation.
- The application must include all items necessary to meet the basic minimum requirements.

Pursuant to the Part 200 Uniform Requirements, before award decisions are made, OJP also reviews information related to the degree of risk posed by the applicant entity. Among other things to help assess whether an applicant with one or more prior federal awards has a satisfactory record of performance, integrity, and business ethics, OJP checks whether the applicant entity is listed in SAM as excluded from receiving a federal award.

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 entity 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 may review and comment on any information about its organization 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 entity.

All final award decisions will be made by the Director of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), who may take into account not only peer review ratings and NIJ recommendations, but also other factors as indicated in this section.

Federal Award Administration Information

Federal Award Notices

Generally, award notifications are made by the end of the current Federal fiscal year, September 30th. 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 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 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 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 questions directed to the Federal Awarding Agency, see OJP Response Center contact information on cover page.

For OJP contact(s), contact information for Grants.gov, and contact information for 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 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
Conduct research in social and behavioral sciences having clear implications for criminal justice policy and practice in the United States.	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.	1. Quarterly financial reports, semi-annual and final performance reports, and products of the work performed under the NIJ award (including, at minimum, a final research report). If applicable, an annual audit report.
Conduct research in science, technology, engineering, and/ or mathematics having clear implications for criminal or juvenile justice policy and practice in the United States.	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.	2. List of citation(s) to all scholarly products that resulted in whole or in part from work funded under the NIJ award.
	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.	3. If applicable, each data set that resulted in whole or in part from work funded under the NIJ award.

Application Checklist

NIJ FY23 Research and Evaluation on Domestic Radicalization and Violent Extremism

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:

- Acquire or renew your Entity's System Award Management (SAM) Registration Information (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

Register in Grants.gov

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

Review the Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements

- Review the "Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2023 Awards" in the OJP Funding Resource Center.

Review the Scope Requirement

- The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of $5.5 million.

Review Eligibility Requirement:

- Review the Eligibility section on the cover page and Eligibility Information section in the solicitation.

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Application Step 1
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**

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 OJP Response Center at grants@ncjrs.gov or 800-851-3420 or TTY: 301-240-6310 (hearing impaired only)
  Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, Grants.gov customer support, or support@grants.gov regarding technical difficulties (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

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

- Standard Applicant information (SF-424 information from Grants.gov)
- Proposal Abstract
- **Proposal Narrative***

Budget and Associated Documentation

- **Budget Web-Based form***
- 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)
- **Curriculum Vitae or Resumes***
- Timeline Form Letters of Support Bibliography/reference
- Any tools/instruments, questionnaires, tables/chart/graphs, or maps
- List of Individuals
- Human Subjects
- Privacy Certificate

- Request to Use Incentives or Stipends

- New Investigator Status (if applicable)

- Consortium/Contractual Arrangements

- Data Archiving

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)

* *Note: Items designated with an asterisk must be submitted for an application to meet the basic minimum requirements review. If OJP determines that an application does not include the designated items, it will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.*

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 Application Submission Validation Errors Quick Reference Guide 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 JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov regarding technical difficulties. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

Standard Solicitation Resources

OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to assist OJP grant applicants in preparing and submitting applications for OJP funding.

DOJ Grants Financial Guide 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.

JustGrants Resources Website 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 JustGrants Update e-newsletter.

JustGrants Application Submission Training Page 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.

Virtual Q&A Sessions are advertised here and provide opportunities for users to receive topic-specific training, direct technical assistance and support on JustGrants system functionality.

Endnotes

[1] https://www.fbi.gov/investigate/terrorism.

[2] Link to Hate Crimes solicitation.

[3] Link to Firearms and Mass Shootings solicitation: https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/o-nij-2023-171566.

[4] https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/2020_10_06_homeland-threat-assessment.pdf.

[5] https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/National-Strategy-for-Countering-Domestic-Terrorism.pdf.

[6] https://www.dhs.gov/tvtpgrants.