

NIJ FY25 Research and Evaluation on Human Trafficking

Total Amount To Be Awarded Under This Funding
Opportunity: \$4,000,000

Anticipated Award: Up to \$3,000,000 (Category 1) and
\$1,000,000 (Category 2) for up to 60 months

Funding Opportunity Number: O-NIJ-2025-172606

Deadline to submit SF-424 in Grants.gov: **June 08, 2026, by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time**
Deadline to submit application in JustGrants: **June 15, 2026, by 8:59 p.m. Eastern Time**



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1. WHAT IS THIS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ABOUT?

(Basic Information)

The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [National Institute of Justice](#) (NIJ) is accepting applications for funding in response to this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO).

Agency Name	U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs National Institute of Justice
NOFO Title	NIJ FY25 Research and Evaluation on Human Trafficking
Announcement Type	Initial
Funding Opportunity Number	O-NIJ-2025-172606
Assistance Listing Number	16.560

OJP is piloting a new, streamlined format for this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO). Please share your feedback on the design and content at ojpsolicitationfeedback@ojp.usdoj.gov.

Overview

This NOFO is released by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) in partnership with the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC). The funding opportunity seeks to build upon past research and evaluation efforts by focusing on emerging evidence needs and remaining gaps to combat human trafficking and protect children, with a particular focus on trafficking at the Southern Border.

Applicants should propose projects that will have a clear effect on U.S. criminal justice policy and practice. This NOFO calls for applications in two categories:

- **Category 1: Justice System Responses to Trafficking (Anticipated Award Amount: \$3,000,000)**

This category seeks applications for research and evaluation projects on strategies to improve trafficking investigations, prosecutions, and disruption of human trafficking networks, particularly along the Southern border; and evaluations of well-developed direct service programs to help American child and adult victims of labor and sex trafficking.

- **Category 2: Technology and Trafficking (Anticipated Award Amount: \$1,000,000)**

This category seeks applications for research and evaluation at the intersection of technology and trafficking, especially relating to technology used by traffickers and technologies used to investigate and build cases.

OJP is committed to advancing work that furthers DOJ's mission to uphold the rule of law, to keep our country safe, and to protect civil rights. OJP provides federal leadership, funding, and other critical resources to directly support law enforcement, combat violent crime, protect American children, provide services to American crime victims, and address public safety challenges, including human trafficking and the opioid crisis. OJP supports DOJ's commitment to [Gold Standard Science](#) and [scientific integrity](#).

Key Dates and Times

NOFO Release Date	May 04, 2026
SAM.gov Registration/Renewal	Recommend beginning process by May 08, 2026, and no later than May 29, 2026.
Step 1: Grants.gov Application Deadline	11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on June 08, 2026
Step 2: JustGrants Application Deadline	8:59 p.m. Eastern Time on June 15, 2026

Funding Details

Total Amount To Be Awarded Under This Funding Opportunity: \$4,000,000

- **C-NIJ-2025-00009-PROD, Category 1: Justice System Responses to Trafficking**
 - Anticipated Number of Awards: To be determined by the number and technical merit of the applications received, up to 4.
 - Anticipated Award Amount: To be determined by the requirements of the research, up to \$3,000,000.
 - Anticipated Project Period Start Date: January 1, 2027.
 - Anticipated Project Period Duration: To be determined by the requirements of the research, up to 60 months.
- **C-NIJ-2025-00010-PROD, Category 2: Technology and Trafficking**
 - Anticipated Number of Awards: To be determined by the number and technical merit of the applications received, up to 1.
 - Anticipated Award Amount: To be determined by the requirements of the research, up to \$1,000,000.
 - Anticipated Project Period Start Date: January 1, 2027.
 - Anticipated Project Period Duration: To be determined by the requirements of the research, up to 60 months.

Note: Applicants may propose a budget that is less than the anticipated award ceiling amount. The budget should be reasonable to conduct the proposed project and be within the applicant's capacity to manage.

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, 235); 22 U.S.C. 7105(b)(2); 28 U.S.C. 530C.

Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this funding opportunity:

OJP Response Center

Phone: 800-851-3420 or 202-353-5556 (TTY for hearing-impaired callers only)

Email: OJP.ResponseCenter@usdoj.gov

Hours of operation: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) Monday–Friday.

For assistance with **SAM.gov** (registration/renewal):

SAM.gov Help Desk

Web: [SAM.gov Help Desk \(Federal Service Desk\)](#)

Hours of operation: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET Monday–Friday, except on federal holidays.

For assistance with **Grants.gov** (registration, submission of the Application for Federal Assistance SF-424):

Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline

Phone: 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035

Email: support@grants.gov

Web: [Grants.gov Customer Support](#)

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

For assistance with **JustGrants** (registration, submission of full application):

JustGrants Service Desk

Phone: 833-872-5175

Email: JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov

Hours of operation: 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET Monday–Friday and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET on Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays.

For procedures related to unforeseen technical issues beyond the control of the applicant that impact submission by the deadlines, see [Experiencing Technical Issues Preventing Submission of an Application \(Technical Waivers\)](#).

Resources for Applying

[OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#): Provides guidance to help you, the applicant, prepare and submit your application; referred to in this NOFO as the Application Resource Guide.

Note: If NOFO requirements are different from what's listed in the [Application Resource Guide](#), follow the instructions in this NOFO.

[JustGrants Application Submission Training Webpage](#): Offers helpful information and resources on the entire funding application process.



2. WHO CAN APPLY? (Eligibility)

Eligible Applicants

The following types of entities are eligible to apply for this funding opportunity:

- **Government Entities**
 - State governments
 - County governments
 - City or township governments
 - Special district governments
 - Native American Tribal governments (federally recognized)
 - Native American Tribal governments (other than federally recognized)
- **Educational Organizations**
 - Independent school districts
 - Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education
 - Private institutions of higher education
- **Nonprofit Organizations**
 - Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), other than institutions of higher education
- **For-Profit Organizations**
 - Small businesses
 - Organizations other than small businesses

State Government Entities: For the purposes of this NOFO, “state” means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Small Businesses: Small business grants may be awarded to companies meeting the size standards established by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) for most industries in the economy.

Limit on Number of Applications

You may submit more than one application for this funding opportunity if each application proposes a different project.

Applications under which two or more entities (project partners) would carry out the federal award will be considered. However, only one entity may be the applicant for the NOFO; any others must be proposed as subrecipients. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on subawards.

You may be proposed as a subrecipient in more than one application.

Cost Sharing/Match Requirement

See the “Cofunding” paragraph under the “Program Description” section.



3. WHAT WILL AWARD RECIPIENTS DO? (Program Description)

Purpose of the Funding

This NOFO is released by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) in partnership with the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC). The funding opportunity seeks to build upon past research and evaluation efforts by focusing on emerging needs and remaining gaps to combat human trafficking and protect children, especially studies that focus on trafficking at the Southern Border.

NIJ has invested in human trafficking research since 1999. Since then, NIJ-funded work has contributed strongly to the evidence base to understand, respond to, and prevent trafficking in the United States.

This NOFO calls for applications in two categories to build upon prior research and evaluation efforts to prevent trafficking in the United States.

CATEGORY 1: JUSTICE SYSTEM RESPONSES TO TRAFFICKING

Topic Area 1: Improving Trafficking Investigation, Network Disruption, and Prosecution Outcomes. The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (2000 and reauthorizations) specifies a “3P’s” approach to countering human trafficking: Prosecution, Protection, and Prevention. NIJ seeks research and evaluation projects on strategies to improve outcomes in trafficking investigations, prosecutions, and disruption of human trafficking networks. NIJ will prioritize applications for research and evaluation projects in these three areas that focus on trafficking at the Southern border.

Investigations:

- Validated victim identification tools, screenings, trainings, and tactics, especially for labor trafficking.
- Strategies to increase law enforcement agency leadership, manpower, and resource support for investigating sex and labor trafficking.
- Investigative case building strategies to increase clearance rates and prosecutorial success.
- Industry-specific investigative strategies, partnerships, and approaches. These may include law enforcement partnerships with private and public partners, such as industry associations and departments of labor, health and human services, or child welfare.

Prosecution:

- Innovative prosecutorial case building and trial strategies, particularly successful strategies that rely less on victim testimony to minimize re-traumatization such as maximizing the collection and use of digital and forensic financial evidence, model protocols, and/or prosecutor and judge training.
- Services, level of services, and outcomes of victim services provided by prosecutorial offices, including their impact on case outcomes.

Disrupting Trafficking Networks:

- Typology of organized crime networks engaging in trafficking in different areas of the United States, flows, and practical investigative and disruption strategies.
- Collaboration and data linkage across multiple agencies to track crime networks.
- Use of technology, internet, and AI to track crime networks.
- Victim and trafficker recruitment methods used by different types of trafficking networks.
- Interventions to prevent continued victim control by incarcerated network members.

Topic Area 2: Evaluations of Victim Services. There have been few rigorous evaluations of programs, models, or interventions providing services to support victims of human trafficking. Therefore, NIJ seeks proposals for thorough evaluations of well-developed direct service programs to help American child and adult victims of labor and sex trafficking. NIJ will prioritize applications that focus on evaluations of the following:

- Trafficking victim services, which may include, but are not limited to, case management; housing; physical, mental, and behavioral health services; employment services; and legal services. Special consideration will be given to proposals that evaluate programs funded under OVC's Services for Victims of Human Trafficking programmatic NOFO and that partner with organizations applying for or receiving these funds.
- Service models such as rapid rehousing, direct cash assistance,¹ peer support, clinical interventions for post-traumatic stress disorder, and holistic, wrap-around services.
- Services for labor trafficking victims.

For further information, see "Evaluation Research" below. Note that applications for formative evaluations and/or evaluability assessments alone will not be considered.

CATEGORY 2: TECHNOLOGY AND TRAFFICKING

The role of information technology is increasingly important in matters related to human trafficking of American adults and children, especially as it relates to understanding perpetration, improving investigations, and supporting victims. NIJ seeks proposals for research and evaluation on the intersection of technology and trafficking for these purposes. Topics of interest under this category include:

1. Understanding technology used by traffickers.
2. Evaluating technologies used to investigate and build cases.

Note that applications for funds to develop new technology will not be eligible for funding under this research NOFO.

Applicants should discuss potential risks and harms to individuals or groups associated with the use or misuse of the technology being studied or evaluated. Applicants should also discuss any ethical concerns or possible unintended consequences related to use of the technology. Applicants should also know all relevant laws, regulations, and/or established case law related to the technology's use.

Evaluation Research

¹ Note that OVC funds cannot support direct cash assistance programs. Evaluations proposed for these would be for programs funded by other sources. See: [OVC Human Trafficking Program FAQs | Human Trafficking | \(ojp.gov\)](#).

Evaluation research projects may look at how effective an intervention is. When choosing an evaluation project's design, applicants should consider intervention strategies, setting, other factors, and resources.

If your proposal includes evaluation research, you should propose the most rigorous evaluation design to answer the research questions. Evaluations should include implementation evaluation to ensure that implementation fidelity metrics are collected and analyzed. We encourage you to propose research methodologies that periodically allow such feedback so program providers can make ongoing program improvements. If you are proposing evaluation research, your proposal should discuss independence and protecting integrity. If the evaluation involves program staff, the proposal must show research/evaluation independence. It must also describe and justify program staff's roles as distinct from evaluation activities; discuss potential risks to independence and scientific integrity; and describe protections to ensure research independence.

If your proposal includes evaluation research, the applicant must include cost/benefit and cost effectiveness analyses.

If you are considering proposing a project that includes evaluation research, please review the guidance on this topic on [NIJ's website](#).

a. Formative or Process Evaluations

Formative evaluations will not be funded under this NOFO.

b. Outcome/Impact Evaluations

If a program has achieved a suitable level of development, NIJ encourages applicants to propose rigorous outcome or impact evaluations. Applicants are encouraged to use randomized evaluation designs where it is possible and appropriate to do so. If randomization is not possible or appropriate, applicants should propose the most rigorous and appropriate design available and explain why a randomized design is not appropriate. 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. Those may include copies or links to logic models, program guides and materials, policies and procedures, manuals, prior evaluation findings, program staffing, and funding information.

In accordance with Gold Standard Science (GSS) as described in [Executive Order 14303](#), the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy [Memorandum](#) providing guidance on implementing GSS, and the Department of Justice's [GSS webpage](#), applicants for NIJ funding should include within their application a clear statement of commitment to complying with the principles and tenets of GSS.

Refer to [How Do We Apply: Budget Detail Form](#) in this NOFO for information on allowable and unallowable costs that may inform the project design.

Agency Funding Priorities

In order to advance public safety and help meet its mission, NIJ will provide priority consideration to applicants that propose (as applicable within the scope of this funding opportunity) projects designed to advance the goals listed below. Applicants seeking priority

consideration should specify in the proposal narrative (and in the budget detail form, if applicable) which of the following goal(s) the project is intended to advance and how it will do so:

- a) Directly supporting law enforcement operations (including immigration law enforcement operations);
- b) Combatting violent crime;
- c) Supporting services to American citizens;
- d) Protecting American children; and
- e) Supporting American victims of trafficking and sexual assault.

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 a funding award.

Unallowable Uses of Funds

The following are certain unallowable costs and certain activities that are out of the program scope and will not be funded.

1. Out of program scope is any program or activity, at any tier that, directly or indirectly, violates (or promotes or facilitates the violation of) federal immigration law (including 8 U.S.C. § 1373) or impedes or hinders the enforcement of federal immigration law — including by failing to comply with 8 U.S.C. § 1373, give access to DHS agents, or honor DHS requests and provide requested notice to DHS agents.
2. Out of program scope is any program or activity, at any tier that violates any applicable Federal civil rights or nondiscrimination law. This includes violations that – (1) indirectly violate the law, including by promoting or facilitating violations; or (2) unlawfully favor individuals in any race or protected group, including on a majority or minority, or privileged or unprivileged, basis, within a given area, population, or sector.
3. As specified in the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#), in Chapter 3.13 “Unallowable Costs” (“Legal Services for Aliens”), any obligations of funds, at any tier, under this award to provide (or to support the provision of) legal services to any removable alien or any alien otherwise unlawfully present in the United States shall be unallowable costs for purposes any award made under this notice, but the foregoing shall not be understood to apply — (1) to legal services to obtain protection orders for victims of crime; or (2) to immigration-related legal services that may be expressly authorized or required by any law, or any judicial ruling, governing or applicable to the award.

Program Goals and Objectives

Goal: The goal of this NOFO is to build upon past research and evaluation efforts by focusing on emerging needs and remaining gaps to combat human trafficking and protect children, especially studies that focus on trafficking at the Southern Border. Findings are intended to provide federal, state, local, and tribal stakeholders with knowledge and tools to address human trafficking more effectively.

Objective 1: To generate strong empirical evidence on what works to improve trafficking investigations, prosecutions, and disruption of human trafficking networks, especially strategies that focus on trafficking at the Southern border.

Objective 2: To thoroughly evaluate the effectiveness of direct service programs to help American child and adult victims of labor and sex trafficking.

Objective 3: To develop new knowledge about how to counter the technology used by traffickers and to take advantage of its potential to combat trafficking and support survivors.

How Awards Will Contribute to Program Goals/Objectives

Awards will support research and evaluation projects to develop and disseminate new knowledge and tools informing development of policies and practices to better prevent and respond to human trafficking in the United States. NIJ expects to fund evaluations of investigation and prosecution strategies as well as direct services programs for American child and adult victims of labor and sex trafficking. It also expects to fund research on the role of technology in trafficking.

Expected Outcomes: Deliverables and Performance Measures

For any applicants that receive funding, NIJ expects to require the recipient to submit the following deliverables and performance measures. (See the Application Resource Guide for the definitions of “deliverable” and “performance measure.”)

NIJ will measure success by reviewing a recipient's submission of performance reports and data and the extent to which project implementation reflects progress toward the goals and objectives of this NOFO.

Deliverables

Award recipients will be expected to develop and submit the following deliverables:

- **Interim Research Report.** This report to NIJ, due halfway through the project period of performance, should include early or short-term project results that can be disseminated to the field while the rest of the study is still underway.
- **Scholarly Products.** These may take the form of published peer-reviewed, scientific journal articles. They may also take the form of law review journal articles, book chapter(s) or book(s) in the academic press. They could also take the form of technology prototypes, patented inventions, or similar scientific products.

NIJ expects the dissemination of such products throughout the period of performance, to the extent possible. Development and delivery of interim products should be built into the Project Management Plan and Timeline.

NIJ expects recipients to deposit author accepted manuscripts for peer reviewed publications that are derived from research funded by the award in a publication repository chosen by NIJ.

- **Products to Translated Evidence into Actionable Information.** The aim of NIJ's research investments is to promote change in the field. NIJ expects recipients to invest an equal effort to developing dissemination products to make their research findings accessible to practitioners and policymakers as they do to developing scholarly products.

- **Data Sets and Associated Files and Documentation.** NIJ requires recipients to archive each data set resulting (in whole or in part) from their research. This ensures the preservation, availability, and transparency of data collected through NIJ's grant funded research projects. It also supports the discovery, reuse, reproduction, replication, and extension of funded studies.

At the end of the award period, recipients must archive data according to the Data Management, Sharing, and Archiving Plan (DMSAP) approved by NIJ in a manner that is consistent with the applicable human subjects protection and privacy regulations. Archiving data derived from an NIJ funded grant is mandatory. That requirement may not be unilaterally modified or waived. Recipients are strongly encouraged to provide data sets to NIJ no later than 90 days prior to the end of the award period. For interim publications, the subset of data used to create the findings must be deposited in a suitable repository at the time of publication.

NIJ's principal data repository is the [National Archive of Criminal Justice Data](#) (NACJD). Data from research in the natural sciences and engineering may not be suitable in file type or field of study for archiving at NACJD. To fulfill their data archiving requirement and maximize the visibility of this data, NIJ encourages recipients of such awards to archive their data at a repository suitable for that field of study. Regardless of the primary data repository used, study-level information from all NIJ-funded projects must be provided to NACJD. That information will include a project abstract and link to the publicly accessible data location. More information on NIJ's data archiving requirements is found here: [Data Archiving](#).

- **Final Research Report.** NIJ requires recipients to deliver a Final Research Report by the end of the award period. NIJ also requires that recipients deliver a draft of the report no later than 90 days prior to the end of the award period. Additional information on NIJ's final research report requirements is found here: [Post-Award Requirements for Research, Development, and Evaluation Grants](#).

Performance Measures

Recipients will be required to submit regular performance reports that show their progress toward achieving the goals and objectives identified in [Program Goals and Objectives](#). See [Performance Measure Reporting](#) in this NOFO for details.

Funding Instrument

NIJ expects to make awards under this funding opportunity as grants. See the "[Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements](#)" section of the [Application Resource Guide](#) for a brief discussion of important statutes, regulations, and award conditions.

Cost Sharing/Match Requirements

The following paragraph modifies the "[Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement](#)" in the Application Resource Guide. Applicants are to follow the guidance in this paragraph instead of the guidance stated under the "Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement" heading in the Resource Guide.

Cofunding: An award made by NIJ under this NOFO may account for up to 100% of the cost of the project. However, the application should indicate whether it is feasible for the applicant to contribute cash, facilities, or services as non-federal support for the project. If feasible, the

application should identify the contributions. The proposed budget should indicate in detail which items will be supported with non-federal contributions. If an application that is selected for the award proposes a voluntary match, and the budget is approved, the match amount becomes mandatory and subject to audit.



4. HOW DO WE APPLY? (Application Contents, Submission Requirements, and Deadlines)

This NOFO contains all the information you need to apply for this funding opportunity.

You will submit your application through web-based forms and attachments in Grants.gov and JustGrants. For help with questions about the requirements of this funding opportunity, please refer to [Basic Information: Agency Contact Information](#).



First, Do This!

SAM.gov Registration and the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

To submit a funding application, your entity must have an active registration in the [System for Award Management \(SAM.gov\)](#). SAM.gov assigns entities a unique entity identifier (UEI) that you must include in the application. Award recipients must then maintain an active UEI for the duration of their award's period of performance.

Visit [SAM.gov](#) for details and resources for first-time registration or renewing an existing registration. [Small businesses](#) and [individual](#) applicants should refer to the Application Resource Guide for information specific to those types of applicants.

The registration or renewal process can take several weeks. Start the process **at least 30 days prior to the application's Grants.gov deadline**. Applicants who do not begin the registration or renewal process at least 10 business days prior to the Grants.gov deadline may not be able to complete the process in time and will not be considered for a technical waiver that allows for late submission.

Submission Instructions: Summary

Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a **two-step process** that begins in Grants.gov and is completed in JustGrants. See [Basic Information: Key Dates and Times](#) for the Grants.gov and JustGrants application deadlines.

- **Step 1:** Submit the required [Application for Federal Assistance SF-424](#) by the Grants.gov deadline.
- **Step 2:** Submit the full application, including attachments, at [JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov](#) by the JustGrants deadline.

 **Then, Do This!**

Application Submission Step 1: Grants.gov SF-424

Access/Registration

You will need an active Grants.gov account. Follow the Grants.gov [Quick Start Guide for Applicants](#) to register, create a workspace, assign roles, submit an application, and troubleshoot issues.

Submission of the SF-424

Begin the application process in Grants.gov with the submission of the SF-424. This form collects your name, address, and UEI; the funding opportunity number; and proposed project title, among other information. The SF-424 must be signed by your Grants.gov authorized organizational representative.

Section 8F—Applicant Point of Contact: Enter the name and contact information of the individual who will complete application materials in JustGrants. JustGrants will use this information (the email address) to assign the application to this user in JustGrants.

Section 19—Intergovernmental Review: This funding opportunity is not subject to [Executive Order \(E.O.\) 12372](#) (Intergovernmental Review). Answer section 19 by selecting, “Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.”

Submit the SF-424 as early as possible! If you fail to submit the SF-424 in Grants.gov by the deadline, you will be unable to submit your application in JustGrants.

Refer to the [DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#) for additional details.

 **Lastly, Do This!**

Application Submission Step 2: JustGrants

Each part of the full application is described below. NIJ will only consider applications for review that contain all required elements, which are marked with a ***REQUIRED ELEMENT*** indicator in JustGrants.

Access/Registration

First-time JustGrants applicants: Once the application is received from Grants.gov, DOJ will send an email (from DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov) to the contact listed in Section 8F of the SF-424 with instructions on how to create a JustGrants account. This email should arrive within 24 hours after confirmation from Grants.gov of the SF-424 submission.

To create and set up a JustGrants account:

1. Follow the instructions in the DIAMD email to first confirm who will be the Entity Administrator (the person who manages staff access to JustGrants on behalf of your entity).
2. Log in to JustGrants and confirm the information in the Entity Profile.

3. Invite other individuals who will serve as the Application Submitter and the Authorized Representative for your entity to register for JustGrants.

Complete registration in JustGrants as early as possible. Once registered in JustGrants, the Application Submitter will receive a link in an email to complete the rest of the application in JustGrants. Find additional information on JustGrants registration in the [DOJ Grant Application Submission Checklist](#).

For additional information on submission in JustGrants, including file name and type requirements, see the “How To Apply” section in the [Application Resource Guide](#).

Standard Applicant Information *REQUIRED ELEMENT*

The Standard Applicant Information section of the JustGrants application is pre-populated with the SF-424 data submitted in Grants.gov. Review the Standard Applicant Information in JustGrants and make whatever edits are needed. Add ZIP codes for areas affected by the project; confirm the Authorized Representative; and confirm the organization’s unique entity identifier, legal name, and address.

Proposal Abstract

Enter a proposal abstract (no more than 2,000 characters) summarizing the proposed project. Abstracts will be made publicly available on OJP.gov and USASpending.gov if the project is awarded, so the abstract should not contain any personally identifiable information (e.g., the name of the project director).

Write the abstract in paragraph form without bullets or tables and in the third person (e.g., they/their, the community rather than I/we).

Include the following information:

- Goals, objectives, and research questions to be addressed.
- Research design and methods.
- Work products to be produced and a plan for disseminating those products.

See the Application Resource Guide for an [example](#) of a proposal abstract.

Data Requested With Application

Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (including Applicant Disclosure of High-Risk Status)

Complete the Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire, which helps OJP assess:

- What financial management and internal control systems you have in place.
- Whether these systems would be sufficient to maintain a funding award.
- The associated potential risks of your entity as part of the pre-award risk assessment process.

See the [Application Resource Guide: Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire \(including Applicant Disclosure of High-Risk Status\)](#) for additional guidance on how to complete the questionnaire.

Agency Funding Priorities Inventory

Applicants should complete the Agency Funding Priorities Inventory to indicate whether they are seeking priority consideration based on any of the items listed in the [Agency Funding Priorities](#) section, and if so, which priority(ies) their project will address.

Principal Investigator Contact Information

To facilitate administrative processes associated with application review and post review activities, applicants are requested to enter the name of the Principal Investigator for the application project, as well as their contact information.

Proposal Narrative ***REQUIRED ELEMENT***

Attach the Proposal Narrative in JustGrants.

Formatting Guidance

Attached document format uploaded under Proposal Narrative:

- File type: PDF or Word Document
- Spacing: Double-spaced
- Font size: 12 pt. Tables, charts, and graphs can be created in legible font smaller than 12-point. They will count toward the 30-page limit if embedded in the text of the Proposal Narrative as opposed to being attached in an appendix. Applicants should carefully weigh the comparative benefit of embedding a table, chart, or graph in the narrative as opposed to attaching it as an appendix, in helping a reviewer understand the proposal.
- Margins: 1-inch margins or larger
- Page limit: 30 pages; include consecutive page numbers. The title page will not count toward the 30-page limit. Neither will the Table of Contents and Figures. Nor, if the application is a resubmission, will the two page Resubmit Response.
- If the narrative exceeds these limits, NIJ may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions.

Content of the Proposal Narrative:

The Proposal Narrative should include the sections listed below. If you seek priority consideration, the proposal narrative must state which priority goal(s) the applicant's project will advance and describe how (see section [Agency Funding Priorities](#) under Program Description).

a. Title Page (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, Researcher ID, Scopus Author ID), if available.
- Notes about the resubmit status of the proposal (if applicable)
- 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. Resubmit Response (if applicable) (not counted against the proposal narrative page limit.)

If your organization is resubmitting an application that was previously submitted to (but not funded by) NIJ, note this information on the title page. Provide a statement of no more than two pages. It should include the earlier application's title, submission date, and NIJ-assigned application number. You should also give a brief summary of revisions to the application, including responses to NIJ's feedback.

c. Table of Contents and Figures (not counted against the proposal narrative page limit)

d. Main Body

1. Statement of the Problem

The statement of the problem should address the need for research in this area. You should discuss current gaps in data, research, and knowledge. It should answer questions related to current policy and practice needs and public interests. It is common for multiple problems to exist simultaneously. You should discuss each problem clearly and justify the importance of the separate issues. This discussion should include a review of prior literature and discuss earlier research.

2. Project Design and Implementation

You should describe the plans to implement this research project and answer the research questions. Project design should reflect the research project's goals and objectives and address the NOFO's program-specific information. You should describe the research method and analysis plan in detail and show the validity and usefulness of the data collected. You should consider the rigor and soundness of the method and analytical and technical approaches. Be sure to describe the proposed project's feasibility and potential challenges with conducting it.

3. Potential Impact

You should describe the possible impact of the research. Explain how it may improve criminal or juvenile justice-related policy, practice, or theory in the United States. You should discuss the proposed plan to produce scholarly products and make information available to broader audiences, such as criminal justice practitioners or policymakers. This discussion should describe how you intend to disseminate information about interim findings and other knowledge products.

4. Capabilities and Competencies

This section should describe the experience and skills of your organization, key staff, and any proposed subgrantees (including consultants) who you will use to perform

the project and manage the award's federal funds. You should highlight any prior experience with projects of comparable size, design, and importance. You should describe:

- Experience working with data sources during similar research projects.
- Experience designing and performing rigorous research and data analysis projects.
- Experience producing and disseminating information about important research results.

You should also outline a management plan and organization that connects to the project's goals and objectives. The outline should describe the expected level of effort of key personnel. (You must upload a detailed plan as part of the application.)

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

- A list of the entities (people or organizations) your organization proposes to contract with. This list should include any proposed non-competitive agreements that may be considered procurement "contracts" that meet federal grants administrative requirements.
- A list of other agencies, organizations, or funding sources to which this application has been presented (if applicable).
- Any table/charts/graphs supporting the program narrative.

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

Note: You are **not** required to submit performance data with the application.

NIJ requires award recipients to provide performance measure data in quarterly financial reports, semi-annual performance reports, and a final report. For more information on NIJ post award reporting requirements, please see [Post-Award Requirements for Research, Development, and Evaluation Grants](#).

Budget and Associated Documentation: Budget Detail Form *REQUIRED ELEMENT*

Complete the budget detail form.

- List each individual cost needed to implement your proposed project under the appropriate cost category.
- Make sure the name/description of each cost is clear. Provide the detailed calculation (e.g., cost per unit and number of units) for the total cost.
- Consider if the costs are reasonable, allocable to, and necessary for the performance of the project, and if they will comply with the funding statute and agency requirements. This includes the conditions of the award and the cost principles set out in [2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E](#) and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#).

- Enter additional narrative, as needed, to fully describe the cost calculations and connection to your project goals and objectives (including, if applicable, describing connections to NIJ priority goals).

Review the Application Resource Guide for additional information on budgeting costs associated with conferences/meetings/trainings and costs associated with language assistance and access. For additional information on how to prepare a budget, see the Application Resource Guide section on [Budget Preparation and Submission Information](#) and the technical steps to complete the budget form in the [Complete the Application in JustGrants: Budget](#) training.

Budget and Associated Documentation: Budget/Financial Attachments

Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable): If the budget includes indirect costs calculated using a current, federally approved indirect cost rate, upload your indirect cost rate agreement, if available. See the Application Resource Guide for the definition of “indirect cost.”

Consultant Rate (if applicable): If the budget includes rates for consultants that are higher than OJP’s established maximum rates, submit a document requesting approval for the higher rate. The request must include justification for why the proposed rate is higher than the established maximum rate, such as why the rate is reasonable and consistent with rates paid for similar services in the marketplace. Recipients cannot incur costs at the higher rate without prior approval. See the “Listing of Costs Requiring Prior Approval” section of the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#) for more information.

Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards Over

\$250,000; Waiver (if applicable): If you propose to hire employees with federal award funds AND the award is for more than \$250,000, you may not use federal funds to pay total cash compensation (salary plus cash bonuses) to any of your employee at a rate that exceeds 110 percent of the maximum annual salary payable to a member of the federal government’s Senior Executive Service (SES) at an agency with a Certified SES Performance Appraisal System for that year. See the Office of Personnel Management website for the [maximum salary number](#).

To request a waiver from this requirement, submit the appropriate form. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on the “Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards over \$250,000; Waiver.”

Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation (if applicable): If your organization is a nonprofit, you may be required to make certain disclosures relating to the processes used to determine the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees, and key employees. If applicable, upload a description of the process used to determine executive compensation. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information.

Additional Application Components

The applicant should attach the additional requested documentation listed below in JustGrants.

Gold Standard Science: Applicants for NIJ funding should include within their application a clear statement of commitment to complying with the principles and tenets of Gold Standard Science (GSS) as described in [Executive Order 14303](#), the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy [Memorandum](#) providing guidance on implementing GSS, and the Department of Justice’s [GSS webpage](#).

Curriculum Vitae or Resumes: *REQUIRED ELEMENT* Provide resumes or curriculum vitae for all investigators regardless of status (i.e., PI, subaward PI, Co-PI, subaward Co-PI, co-investigator Co-I, subaward Co-I, I, and subaward-I) and project directors.

Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable): Upload the Tribal authorizing documentation for this application. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on Tribal authorizing resolutions.

Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement: If your application proposes research (including research and development) and/or evaluation, you must demonstrate research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, before you may receive award funds. Upload documentation of research and evaluation independence and integrity. For additional information, see the [Application Resource Guide](#).

Letters of Support (if applicable): Applications proposing research partnerships with practitioner organizations (such as criminal justice agencies and community organizations) should include a strong letter of support from them. (An appropriate organization decision-making authority should sign the letter.) It should acknowledge that de-identified data derived from an award funded by NIJ will be archived by the grant recipient at the award's end. This includes data derived from, provided to, or obtained through the award. (This includes qualitative data, for example derived from interviews, as well as quantitative data.) You and your organization's potential partners are encouraged to review [NIJ's data archiving guidance](#). If selected for an award, applicants will be expected to have a formal agreement in place with partnering agencies by January 1, 2027. That agreement must include a provision to meet the award's data archiving requirements.

Letters of support should be signed and submitted as a separate attachment.

Bibliography/References: You should include a complete bibliography of works cited in the project narrative and attachments/appendices.

Tools/Instruments, Questionnaires, Tables/Charts/Graphs, or Maps: Applications should include tools/instruments, questionnaires, tables/charts/graphs, or maps needed to supplement information in the main body of the narrative.

List of Individuals in the Application: Applications should include a list of the individuals named or otherwise identified anywhere in the application who will or may work (or advise or consult) on the proposed project. Applicants should use the "[Proposed Project Staff, Affiliation, and Roles](#)" form available on the NIJ webpage to prepare this list. (The list assists NIJ in assessing actual or apparent conflicts of interest.)

Human Subjects Protection: All recipients of NIJ funds are required to comply with Department of Justice regulations at 28 CFR Part 46 (Protection of Human Subjects). Applicants should submit the [Protection of Human Subjects Assurance form](#) (or IRB determination letter, if obtained) as a separate attachment. For further guidance, go to [Human Subjects Protection](#). Note: Final Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval is not required at the time an application is submitted.

Privacy Certificate: Applicants for NIJ funding must submit a Privacy Certificate regardless of whether the project involves the collection of identifiable data. It should be submitted as a

separate attachment. For further guidance, go to [Confidentiality and Privacy Protections](#) and [Privacy Certificate Guidance](#).

Request To Use Incentives or Stipends: Applicants proposing to use incentives, or stipend payments, as part of their research project design must submit an approval request as a separate attachment. The requirements are described at [Participant Support Costs and Incentives](#).

Project Management Plan and Timeline: Applications should include a project management plan and timeline listing key activities and milestones. It should:

- Include the project management structure, approach, and strategies.
- Be written in a way that clearly connects it with achieving the goals and objectives of the project.
- Describe the expected level of effort of key personnel.
- Document the timing for project tasks, management, milestones, and deliverables by quarter; addressing both interim and final deliverables.

Consortium/Contractual Agreements: These agreements should clearly explain the programmatic, fiscal, and administrative arrangements to be made.

Data Management, Sharing, and Archiving Plan (DMSAP): Applications should include a plan describing how they will comply with NIJ data archiving requirements. The plan should be no more than two pages in length. It should be attached as a separate attachment and labeled “Data Management, Sharing, and Archiving Plan (DMSAP)”.

The DMSAP should identify how the applicant will document and manage study data and prepare it for archiving. It should include the applicant’s approach to making the subset of data associated with interim scholarly products available at the time of publication. Additionally, it should describe the expected level of effort required to meet archiving requirements.

The plan should describe the:

- Types of data expected (both qualitative and quantitative); including any associated metadata and data standards to be used.
- Management of data during the project; including data security and integrity.
- Plans to prepare files and documentation necessary for others to use for secondary analysis and to review and reproduce the project’s findings after the project’s completion.
- Location where pertinent data files and documentation will be archived.

All plans must be consistent with OJP confidentiality and privacy requirements of 34 U.S.C. § 10231(a) and 28 CFR Part 22. See [Confidentiality and Privacy Protections](#).

Recipients are strongly encouraged to provide full-project data sets at least 90 days before the end of the performance period to NIJ through NACJD.

Disclosures and Assurances

Address the following disclosures and assurances.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities: JustGrants will prompt you to indicate whether you are required to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure under 31 U.S.C. § 1352.

You are required by law to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure form (Standard Form/SF-LLL) if you have paid or will pay any person to lobby in connection with the award for which you are applying AND this application is for an award in excess of \$100,000. This disclosure requirement is not applicable to such payments by an Indian Tribe, Tribal organization, or any other Indian organization that are permitted by other federal law.

For this requirement, lobbying means influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress.² Note: Most applicants do not engage in activities that trigger this disclosure requirement.

If you are not required by law³ to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure, enter “No.” By doing so, you are affirmatively asserting (under applicable penalties) that you have nothing to disclose under 31 U.S.C. § 1352 with regard to the application for the award at issue.

Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items: If you have any pending applications for federal funding, including pending applications for subawards of federal funds, for the same project and the same budget items included in this proposal, you must disclose this. Complete the JustGrants Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

DOJ Certified Standard Assurances: Review and accept the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

DOJ Certifications: Review the DOJ document [Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Coordination with Affected Agencies](#). Sign the certification document. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for more information.

Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High-Risk Grantees (if applicable): If applicable, submit the DOJ High-Risk Disclosure and Justification form. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for the definition of “high-risk recipient” and additional information.

Submission

Select Certify and Submit to confirm that all required application components have been entered. Once the application is submitted, the Application Submitter, Authorized Representative, and Entity Administrator will receive a confirmation email.

Prior to the JustGrants submission deadline, if you discover that you need to revise your application, you may recall, update, and resubmit your application. After the submission deadline, you may not. See the [JustGrants Application Submission Job Aid Reference Guide](#) for step-by-step guidance.

² See 31 U.S.C. § 1352; 28 C.F.R. Part 69.

³ Law referenced is 31 U.S.C. § 1352.

Experiencing Technical Issues That Prevent Submission of an Application (Technical Waivers)

If you miss a deadline due to unforeseen technical issues with SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants, you may request a waiver to submit an application after the deadline.

Waiver requests must be submitted within 24 hours after the relevant deadline!

OJP will only consider requests to submit an application via alternative methods or after the deadline when you can document that there was a technical issue with a government system that was beyond your control and which prevented the online submission of the application prior to the deadlines. Issues resulting from circumstances within your control, such as failure to begin the SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants registration and application process in sufficient time, will not be considered. OJP will review each waiver request and the required supporting documentation and notify you whether the request for late submission has been approved or denied.

Waiver requests and documentation of a technical issue must be sent to the OJP Response Center at OJP.ResponseCenter@usdoj.gov. Follow these steps:

- 1. Contact the relevant help desk by phone or email to report the issue and receive a tracking number.**

See [Basic Information: Contact Information](#) for the contact information and operating hours of the SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants help desks. Reports of technical issues to the help desk must occur **before** the application deadline.

If you have technical issues with SAM.gov or Grants.gov, you must contact the OJP Response Center at OJP.ResponseCenter@usdoj.gov within 24 hours after the Grants.gov deadline to request approval to submit after the deadline. Your waiver request must include:

- A description of the technical difficulties experienced (provide screenshots if applicable).
- A timeline of your submission efforts.
- An attachment of the complete grant application and all the required documentation and materials (this serves as a “manual” submission of the application).
- Your entity’s unique entity identifier (UEI).
- A SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and/or JustGrants (if contacted) Service Desk tracking/ticket numbers documenting the technical issue.

- 2. If you have technical issues with JustGrants that prevent application submission by the deadline, you must contact the OJP Response Center at OJP.ResponseCenter@usdoj.gov within 24 hours after the JustGrants deadline to request approval to submit after the deadline. Include the same materials in your waiver request as listed for SAM.gov and Grants.gov.**

For more details on the waiver process, review the “Experiencing Technical Issues” section in the [Application Resource Guide](#).



5. HOW WILL OJP REVIEW PROPOSALS? (Application Review)

Responsiveness (Basic Minimum Requirements) Review

OJP screens applications to ensure they meet the basic minimum requirements (BMR) prior to conducting a merit review. If OJP determines that an application does not include these requirements, the application will not proceed to merit review or receive any further consideration. The BMR elements are:

- The applicant is eligible to receive funding. (See [Who Can Apply?](#))
- The requested award amount does not exceed the anticipated award amount. (See [Funding Details.](#))
- The proposed project is responsive to program goals, objectives, and purpose. (See [What Will Award Recipients Do?](#))
- All ***REQUIRED ELEMENTS*** are included:
 - Standard Applicant Information (which auto-populates from the SF-424 started in Grants.gov).
 - Proposal Narrative (JustGrants).
 - Budget Detail Form, which includes the budget items, their calculations, and explanations (JustGrants).
 - Curriculum Vitae or Resumes for all investigators regardless of status (i.e., PI, subaward PI, Co-PI, subaward Co-PI, co-investigator Co-I, subaward Co-I, I, and subaward-I) and project directors.

If your application fails to meet the BMR, you will receive notice (including an appropriate point of contact for questions) within a few weeks after the submission due date.

Merit Review Criteria

Peer Review Criteria

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

- **Statement of the Problem (5%):** The applicant should clearly articulate the research problem, its significance to the criminal justice field, and demonstrate a thorough understanding of existing knowledge gaps. The statement should establish why this research is needed now and how it addresses a critical issue.
- **Project Design and Implementation (40%):** The strength of how the applicant will implement activities, including the soundness of the project design and how the activities align to the stated goals and objectives. The proposal should present a rigorous research methodology, realistic timeline, and clear connection between proposed activities and expected outcomes.
- **Capabilities and Competencies (15%):** The applicant's administrative and scientific technical capacity to successfully complete this project. The proposal should

demonstrate the research team's relevant expertise, institutional resources, and track record of completing similar projects successfully.

- **Potential Impact (25%):** The applicant should describe how the research findings will provide actionable knowledge to criminal justice practitioners and policymakers. The proposal should articulate clear dissemination strategies and explain how the research will advance the field or inform practice and policy.
- **Budget (15%):** Completeness and cost effectiveness. The budget should be detailed, reasonable, and clearly justified, with all costs directly supporting the proposed research activities and demonstrating efficient use of federal funds.

Programmatic and Financial Review Criteria

After the peer review, applications undergo additional programmatic and financial reviews. NIJ and other OJP staff may reach out to you during the programmatic or financial review if a submitted form is incomplete or needs to be updated. Note that neither NIJ nor other OJP staff are authorized to provide information on peer review or comment on programmatic, risk, or budget/financial reviews while the merit review is in progress.

In addition to BMR and peer review criteria, other important considerations for NIJ include:

- Geographic coverage.
- Strategic priorities (including, but not limited to, the priority areas already mentioned, if applicable).
- Available funding.
- Past performance.
- The extent to which the budget detail form accurately explains project costs.

If cost sharing/match is not required for this opportunity, you will not receive higher consideration by proposing a voluntary match contribution in their budget.

Risk Review

OJP also reviews information related to applicant risk.⁴ OJP assesses whether an applicant with one or more prior federal awards has a satisfactory record of performance, integrity, and business ethics. OJP does this by checking whether the applicant is listed in SAM.gov as excluded from receiving a federal award, among other things.

If OJP anticipates that an award will exceed \$250,000 in federal funds, OJP also must review and consider any information about your organization that appears in the non-public segment of the integrity and performance system accessible through SAM.gov. You may review and comment on any information about your organization that currently appears in SAM.gov and was entered by a federal awarding agency. OJP will consider your comments, in addition to the other information in SAM.gov, in its assessment of the risk posed by your organization. Based on the risk findings, OJP may remove you from consideration or apply additional post award conditions for oversight of the award.

Selection Process

⁴ See 2 C.F.R. § 200.206.

All final award decisions will be made by the Director of the National Institute of Justice unless a statute explicitly authorizes award decisions by another official or there is written delegation of authority to another official. This official may consider peer review ratings, program office recommendations, and other factors as indicated in this section of the NOFO to make final award decisions.

For additional information on the application review process, see the [Application Resource Guide](#).



6. HOW WILL WE KNOW IF WE RECEIVE AN AWARD?

(Award Notices)

Federal Award Notices

For successful applicants, JustGrants will send a system-generated email to the Application Submitter, Authorized Representative, and Entity Administrator with information on accessing their official award package in JustGrants.

Applicants not selected for an award will receive notification after all award recipients have been notified. NIJ also provides unsuccessful applicants with a summary of peer reviewer comments.

Future Funding Opportunities

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

Applications submitted under this FY 2025 NOFO may be funded in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and the availability of funding.



7. WHAT WILL RECIPIENTS NEED TO DO? (Post-Award Requirements and Administration)

Reporting

All award recipients under this funding opportunity will be required to submit the following reports and data:

- Quarterly financial reports.
- Semi-annual performance reports.
- Final financial and performance reports.
- If applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with the Part 200 Uniform Requirements or specific award conditions.

See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measure data and the method for submitting reports in OJP's online systems.

Performance Measure Reporting

A list of performance measure questions for this funding opportunity can be found at <https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/performance-measures-award-recipients>.

Award recipients are required to submit performance measure data and performance reports in JustGrants on a semi-annual basis. Applicants selected for an award will receive further guidance on post-award reporting processes.

Program- and Award-Specific Conditions

OJP may include both program-specific and award-specific conditions on its awards. Recipients may view all conditions, and actions required to satisfy those conditions, in their award package in JustGrants.

Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements

Recipients must comply with all award conditions and all applicable requirements of federal statutes and regulations. See the “Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements” section in the [Application Resource Guide](#) for more information.

Civil Rights Compliance

OJP recipients may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency), sex, religion, or disability. Federal civil rights laws prohibit discrimination on these bases in both the delivery of program services or benefits and in employment practices.⁵ See the “Civil Rights Requirements” section on the [Legal Overview—FY 2025 Awards](#) webpage. Additional resources are available from the [OJP Office for Civil Rights](#).

Compliance with federal civil rights and nondiscrimination laws is material to the government's decision to make any award and payment under this program, including for purposes of the False Claims Act, and each recipient will be required to certify (in its acceptance of the

⁵ The federal civil rights laws that may apply include, but are not limited to, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the nondiscrimination provisions of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

conditions of the award) that it does not operate any programs (including any such programs having components relating to diversity, equity, and inclusion) that violate any applicable Federal civil rights or nondiscrimination laws.

See OJP's [Partnerships with Faith-Based and Other Neighborhood Organizations webpage](#) for specific information for faith-based organizations applying under this NOFO.

Financial Management and System of Internal Controls

All award recipients and subrecipients must comply with standards for financial and program management.⁶ See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Information Technology Security Clauses

An application in response to this NOFO may require inclusion of information related to information technology security. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for more information.

Other Reporting Requirements

You are required to notify OJP if you know that your organization or any of your organization's principals for the award transaction are presently excluded or disqualified (i.e., debarred or suspended) or otherwise meet any of the criteria in [2 C.F.R. § 180.335](#). Recipients must comply with requirements in 2 C.F.R. Part 180⁷ related to government-wide debarment and suspension.

If a recipient's award includes a federal share of more than \$500,000 over the period of performance of the award, the award will include a condition that may require the recipient to report and maintain certain information (relating to certain criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings) in SAM.gov.⁸ See the [Reporting Requirements page](#) for more information.

⁶ See requirements described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.303.

⁷ As implemented by DOJ in 2 C.F.R. Part 2867.

⁸ See 2 C.F.R. § 200.113.



8. OTHER INFORMATION

Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities

OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the projects and activities funded under this NOFO. Please note that expenses related to data and evaluation are allowable grants costs.⁹ For additional information on what should be included in the application, see the [Application Resource Guide](#) section “Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities.”

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for important information on the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act.¹⁰

You are advised not to include any unnecessary personally identifiable information, sensitive law enforcement information, or confidential financial information with the application.

Availability of Funds

This funding opportunity, and awards under this funding opportunity, are subject to the availability of funding and any changes or additional requirements that may be imposed by the agency or by law. In addition, nothing in this NOFO is intended to, nor does it, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States or its departments, agencies, entities, officers, employees, agents, or any other person.

⁹ See 2 C.F.R. § 200.455.

¹⁰ See 5 U.S.C. §§ 552 and 552a.



9. APPLICATION CHECKLIST

NIJ FY25 Research and Evaluation on Human Trafficking

- Register or Renew in [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov)**
- Register or Renew in [Grants.gov](https://grants.gov)**
- Search [Grants.gov](https://grants.gov) Opportunities**
- Review This Funding Opportunity and Whether it Matches Your Proposed Project**
 - Confirm the funding opportunity goals align with your proposed project.
 - Confirm your entity is eligible to apply.
 - Confirm your entity can develop, assemble, and submit all of the application's required elements.
 - Confirm your entity can meet all post-award requirements.
- Submit Application Step 1: [Grants.gov](https://grants.gov)**
 - Confirm that you receive Grants.gov email confirmations within 48 hours of submission.
 - Confirm that the individual listed in Section 8F of the SF-424 receives an email from DIAMD with JustGrants login instructions within 24 hours of Grants.gov validation.
- Submit Application Step 2: [JustGrants](https://justgrants.usdoj.gov)**
 - Ensure you have entered an Authorized Representative who has authority to enter into agreements with the government on behalf of your entity.
 - Ensure all ***REQUIRED ELEMENTS*** are attached or entered.
 - Confirm the application status updates to "Submitted."
 - If you do not receive a JustGrants application submission confirmation email or validation, or if you receive an error notification, please contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.