BJA FY25 Invited to Apply – Regional Information Sharing Systems

Total Amount To Be Awarded Under This Funding Opportunity: \$38,756,249

Anticipated Award Ceiling: Up to \$10,000,000

Anticipated Period of Performance Duration: 12 months

Funding Opportunity Number: O-BJA-2025-172437

Deadline to submit SF-424 in Grants.gov: **September 2, 2025, by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time**

Deadline to submit application in JustGrants: **September 3, 2025, by 8:59 p.m. Eastern Time**



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BASIC INFORMATION

The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)</u> 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 Bureau of Justice Assistance
NOFO Title	Invited to Apply - Regional Information Sharing Systems
Announcement Type	Initial
Funding Opportunity Number	O-BJA-2025-172437
Assistance Listing Number	16.610

Executive Summary

This funding opportunity seeks applications from the six Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS) Centers who received invitation letters with instructions on how to apply to this NOFO. RISS Centers provide investigative support to federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial criminal justice agencies and practitioners by facilitating secure information sharing and intelligence collaboration across jurisdictional lines.

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.

Please see the Eligible Applicants section for the eligibility criteria.

Key Dates

Funding Opportunity Release Date	August 25, 2025
SAM.gov Registration/Renewal	Recommend beginning process by August 25, 2025, and no later than August 29, 2025
Step 1: Grants.gov Application Deadline	11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on September 2, 2025
Step 2: JustGrants Application Deadline	8:59 p.m. Eastern Time on September 3, 2025
Award Notification Date	Generally by September 30

Application Application Deadlines & **Basic** Eligibility Program Award Post-Award Other Information Description Contents Review **Notices** Requirements Information Checklist

Funding Details

Total Amount To Be Awarded Under This Funding Opportunity: \$38,756,249

Anticipated Number of Awards: 6

Anticipated Award Ceiling: \$10,000,000 (most awards will be less than ceiling)

Anticipated Period of Performance Start Date: Varies by grantee

Anticipated Period of Performance Duration: 12 months

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, and does not, 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.

Statutory Authority

Pub. L. No. 90-351, Title I, Sec. 1301 (codified at 34 U.S.C. 10321); Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2025 (Pub. L. No. 119-4, Div. A, Sec. 1101(a)(2), 139 Stat. 9, 10-11; see Pub. L. No. 118-42, 138 Stat. 25, 152, para. 1)

Agency 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 Phone: 866-606-8220

Web: SAM.gov Help Desk (Federal Service Desk)

Hours of operation: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET Monday-Friday

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 the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> section on "Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues."

Resources for Applying

<u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>: Referred to as the Application Resource Guide throughout the NOFO, this resource provides guidance to help applicants for OJP funding prepare and submit their applications.

<u>JustGrants Application Submission Training Webpage</u>: Offers helpful information and resources on the grant application process.

Note: If this NOFO requires something different from any guidance provided in the <u>Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u>, the difference will be noted in this NOFO and the applicant should follow the guidance in this NOFO.



ELIGIBILITY

Eligible Applicants

The types of entities that are eligible to apply for this funding opportunity are listed below:

Only applicants that received an official invitation letter from BJA concerning RISS are eligible to apply. Applications will only be accepted from the following:

- Middle Atlantic-Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network (MAGLOCLEN)
- Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center (MOCIC)
- New England State Police Information Network (NESPIN)
- Regional Organized Crime Information Center (ROCIC)
- Rocky Mountain Information Network (RMIN)
- Western States Information Network (WSIN)

Cost Sharing/Match Requirement

This NOFO does **not** require cost sharing/match.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

General Purpose of the Funding

The RISS Program provides grant funding to six regional RISS Centers that provide multi-jurisdictional information sharing and investigative support to federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement agencies. RISS helps agencies combat regional crime threats such as violent crime, gang activity, narcotics trafficking, and terrorism by facilitating intelligence sharing, analysis, and investigative support. The program enhances operational efficiency, promotes collaboration, and helps law enforcement agencies identify and dismantle criminal networks across jurisdictions.

Applicants should refer to <u>Application Contents</u>, <u>Submission Requirements</u>, <u>and Deadlines</u>: <u>Budget Detail Form</u> for information on allowable and unallowable costs that may inform the development of their project design.

Unallowable Use 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. 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

The RISS Program is designed to strengthen public safety by empowering law enforcement agencies to operate more effectively across jurisdictional boundaries. Rooted in support for frontline personnel, the program focuses on advancing secure information sharing, enabling targeted investigations, and promoting officer safety. The following goals and objectives reflect the program's core mission and the federal government's intent to deliver meaningful, measurable outcomes through strategic investment in multi-jurisdictional collaboration.

Goal 1: Strengthen multi-jurisdictional collaboration and criminal intelligence sharing across federal, state, local, territorial and tribal (FSLTT) agencies.

Basic

Information

- Objective 1.1: Expand access to secure, federated criminal intelligence platforms and tools for law enforcement nationwide.
- Objective 1.2: Promote event deconfliction protocols to prevent operational overlap and ensure officer safety.

Goal 2: Enhance investigative capacity to combat violent crime and dismantle regional criminal networks.

- Objective 2.1: Provide specialized equipment loans, analytical support, and investigative resources to frontline agencies.
- Objective 2.2: Offer ongoing field-based technical assistance and subject matter expertise to investigators and task forces.

Goal 3: Increase officer readiness and safety through information, training, and collaboration tools.

- Objective 3.1: Deliver training and develop briefings on high-risk threats including domestic terrorism, gun violence, and trafficking crimes.
- Objective 3.2: Operate systems that promote officer situational awareness, wellness, and secure communications.

How Awards Will Contribute to Program Goals/Objectives

RISS Centers will serve as regional hubs for the delivery of specialized support to FSLTT law enforcement partners. Funded activities are expected to include:

- Providing real-time investigative support and technical assistance to agencies confronting violent, gang-related, drug, and terrorism-related crime.
- Delivering training, briefings, and analytical resources that improve the ability of agencies to address emerging threats.
- Managing and expanding access to secure systems such as RISSIntel, RISSafe, RISSLeads, and other national platforms.
- Facilitating use of equipment loan programs and subject-matter expertise to support criminal investigations.
- Supporting national event deconfliction and maintaining interoperability with systems like Case Explorer and SAFETNet.
- Ensuring secure operation of all information-sharing systems and compliance with federal standards and certifications.
- Providing tailored, field-based assistance through RISS field services staff embedded in the regions.
- Participating in coordination meetings, reporting activities, and strategic planning sessions convened by BJA.

Application Deadlines & Basic Eligibility **Program** Award Post-Award Other Application Information Description Contents Review **Notices** Requirements Information Checklist

These activities are expected to enhance regional investigative capacity and improve officer safety outcomes nationwide.

Expected Outcomes: Deliverables and Performance Measures

To achieve the goals and objectives of this funding opportunity, OJP has identified expected deliverables that must be produced by a recipient. OJP has also identified performance measures (pieces of data) that will indicate how a recipient is achieving the performance goals and objectives identified above. Recipients will need to collect and report this performance measure data to OJP.

Deliverables

Recipients under this funding opportunity do not need to submit any deliverables other than the standard <u>Post-Award Requirements and Administration</u>.

Performance Measures

OJP will require each award recipient to submit regular performance reports that communicate progress toward achieving the goals and objectives identified in Program Goals and Objectives. Applicants can visit OJP's performance measurement page at Ojp.gov/performance for more information on performance measurement activities.

A list of performance measure questions for this funding opportunity can be found in <u>BJA</u> Performance Measures.

Funding Instrument

OJP expects to make awards under this funding opportunity as grants. See the "<u>Administrative</u>, <u>National Policy</u>, <u>and Other Legal Requirements</u>" section of the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for a brief discussion of important statutes, regulations, and award conditions that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP awards.



APPLICATION CONTENTS, SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS, AND DEADLINES

How To Request Application Materials

This NOFO contains all the information needed to apply for this funding opportunity. The application for this funding opportunity is submitted through web-based forms and attachments in Grants.gov and JustGrants. For questions about the requirements of this funding opportunity, please refer to Basic Information: Agency Contact Information.

Unique Entity Identifiers (UEIs) and SAM.gov Registration

To submit an application, an applicant must have an active registration in the <u>System for Award Management (SAM.gov)</u>. SAM.gov assigns entities a unique entity identifier (UEI) that is required for the entity to apply for federal funding. Applicants will enter their UEI with their application. Award recipients must then maintain an active UEI for the duration of their award's period of performance.

First-time Registration: Entities registering in SAM.gov for the first time will submit information about their entity type and structure, financial information (such as dates of the fiscal year, banking information, and executive compensation), entity points of contact, and other information. The information is reviewed and verified by SAM.gov, and then a UEI is issued. This process may take several weeks, so entities considering applying for funding should begin the registration process as soon as possible.

Renewing an Existing Registration: Entities must renew their SAM.gov registration every 12 months to keep it active. If an entity does not renew their SAM.gov registration, it will expire. An expired registration can delay or prevent the submission of an application for funding in Grants.gov and JustGrants.

Applicants are encouraged to start the SAM.gov registration or renewal process at least 30 days prior to the application's Grants.gov deadline. Applicants who fail to 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 <u>Basic Information: Key Dates</u> for the Grants.gov and JustGrants application deadlines.

- **Step 1:** The applicant must submit the required <u>Application for Federal Assistance SF-424</u> by the Grants.gov deadline.
- **Step 2:** The applicant must submit the full application, including attachments, through JustGrants by the deadline (see <u>JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov</u>).

Submission Step 1: Grants.gov Submission of SF-424 Access/Registration

If the applicant does not already have a Grants.gov account, they will need to register for this opportunity in Grants.gov. Applicants should 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

Applicants will begin the application process in Grants.gov with the submission of the SF-424, which collects the applicant's name, address, and UEI; the funding opportunity number; and proposed project title, among other information. The SF-424 must be signed by the Grants.gov Authorized Organizational Representative for the applicant.

See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information on completing the SF-424.

Section 8F – Applicant Point of Contact: Please include the name and contact information of the individual **who will complete the application in JustGrants.** JustGrants will use this information (*i.e.*, email address) to assign the application to this user in JustGrants.

Section 19 – Intergovernmental Review

This funding opportunity is not subject to <u>Executive Order (E.O.) 12372</u> (Intergovernmental Review). Applicants should answer section 19 by selecting, "Program is not covered by E.O. 12372."

An applicant should submit the SF-424 as early as possible and recommended not later than 48 hours before the Grants.gov deadline. If an applicant fails to submit the SF-424 in Grants.gov by the deadline, they will be unable to submit their application in JustGrants.

Once the first part of the application has been successfully submitted in Grants.gov, the Grants.gov Workspace status will change from "In Progress" to "Submitted." Applicants will also receive a series of four Grants.gov email notifications. Refer to the DOJ Application Submission Checklist for additional details.

If an applicant needs to update information in the SF-424 after it is submitted in Grants.gov, they can update the information as part of their JustGrants submission (see <u>Application Contents</u>, <u>Submission Requirements</u>, and <u>Deadlines</u>: <u>Standard Applicant Information</u>). They do not need to submit an update in Grants.gov.

Submission Step 2: JustGrants Submission of Full Application

Access/Registration

For first-time JustGrants applicants, once the application is received from Grants.gov, DOJ will send an email (from DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov) to the email address 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.

Creating and setting up a JustGrants account consists of three steps:

- 1. Follow the instructions in the email to first confirm who will be the Entity Administrator (the person who manages which staff can access JustGrants on behalf of the applicant).
- 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 the applicant to register for JustGrants.

These steps should be completed in JustGrants as early as possible and recommended not later than 48 hours before the JustGrants deadline. Once registered in JustGrants, the Application Submitter will receive a link in an email to complete the rest of the application in JustGrants. Applicants can find additional information on JustGrants registration in the DOJ Grant Application Submission Checklist.

Preparing for Submission

Some of the required sections of the application will be entered directly into JustGrants, and other sections will require documents to be uploaded and attached. Therefore, applicants should allow enough time before the JustGrants deadline to prepare, enter, and upload all the requirements of the application.

Applicants may save their application in the system and add to or change the application as needed prior to hitting the "Submit" button at the end of the application in JustGrants. Once the application is submitted, no changes or additions can be made to the application. **OJP** recommends that applicants submit the complete application package in JustGrants at least 48 hours prior to the JustGrants deadline.

For additional information, including file name and type requirements, see the "How To Apply" section in the <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.

Standard Applicant 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 can make whatever edits are needed. Within this section, the applicant will need to add ZIP codes for areas affected by the project; confirm their Authorized Representative; and confirm the organization's unique entity identifier, legal name, and address.

Proposal Abstract

A proposal abstract (no more than 2,000 characters) summarizing the proposed project must be completed in the JustGrants web-based form. The text from abstracts will be made publicly available on the OJP.gov and USASpending.gov websites if the project is awarded, so this section of the application should not contain any personally identifiable information (*e.g.*, the name of the project director).

The abstract should be in paragraph form without bullets or tables and written in the third person (e.g., they, the community, their, themselves, rather than I or we). The abstract should include the following information:

- The name of the applicant's proposed project.
- The purpose of the proposed project (i.e., what the project will do and why it is necessary).
- Where the project will take place (*i.e.*, the service area, if applicable).
- Who will be served by the project (*i.e.*, who will be helped or have their needs addressed by the project).
- What activities will be carried out to complete the project.

- The subrecipient(s)/partner organizations or entities, if known.
- Deliverables and expected outcomes (i.e., what the project will achieve).

See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for an <u>example</u> of a proposal abstract.

Data Requested With Application

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

The Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire helps OJP assess what financial management and internal control systems the applicant has in place, whether these systems would be sufficient to maintain a funding award, and the associated potential risks of an applicant as part of the pre-award risk assessment process. Every OJP applicant (other than an individual applying in their personal capacity, not representing an applicant organization) is required to complete the web-based form in JustGrants. 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.

Proposal Narrative

Format of the Proposal Narrative: The Proposal Narrative will be submitted as an attachment in JustGrants. The attached document should be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point size font; have no less than 1-inch margins; have numbered pages; and should not exceed 10 numbered pages. Tables, charts, timeline, resumes, letters of support, etc., can be submitted and are not considered to be part of the page limitation for the proposal narrative.

Sections of the Proposal Narrative: The Proposal Narrative must include all of the following sections

- **a. Description of the Need:** What critical issue or problem is the applicant proposing to address with this project? Please include:
 - A brief explanation of the need, gap, or issue to be addressed by the proposed project.
 - Supporting information, data, or evidence to demonstrate the need's existence, size, and impact on the target population and community.
 - How the need relates to the purpose of the NOFO.
- **b. Project Goals and Objectives:** How will the proposed project address the need identified and address the purpose of the NOFO? Please include:
 - Project goals (goals are broad, visionary statements on what the applicant hopes to accomplish).
 - Project objectives (objectives are specific outcomes the applicant plans to achieve through project activities).
 - How the applicant's goals and objectives relate to the goals and objectives of the NOFO.
- **c. Project Design and Implementation:** How will the applicant implement project activities that meet the goals and objectives? Please include:
 - What activities the applicant will conduct to achieve the proposed goals and objectives.
 - How the applicant will deliver or complete those activities.

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- When the activities will take place.
- Who in the applicant's organization will staff the activities, including key staff.
- Who will participate in and benefit from the activity.
- What deliverables, reports, and other items will be produced as part of the project.
- If the applicant plans to use subrecipients to help conduct the project, please name them (if they are known) or describe how the applicant will identify them. Please describe their role in conducting project activities.
- **d. Capabilities and Competencies:** What administrative and technical capacity and expertise does the applicant bring to successfully complete this project? Please include:
 - A short description of the applicant's capacity to deliver the proposed project and meet
 the requirements of the award, including collecting and reporting the required
 performance measure data. Who will be responsible for this task, and how will the
 applicant collect the data? Refer to Program Description: Performance Measures for
 additional details on performance measures for this funding opportunity.
 - A description of projects or activities the applicant organization has conducted, or is currently conducting, that demonstrate the applicant's ability to undertake the proposed project activities.
 - A summary of relevant experience of team members with key responsibilities for implementing the project.

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

- Describe the process for measuring project performance.
- Identify who will collect the data, who is responsible for performance measurements, and how the information will be used to guide and evaluate the project's impact. Describe the process to accurately report data.

Note: An applicant is not required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included to provide notice that award recipients will be required to submit performance data as part of each award's reporting requirements.

Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Attachment)

The applicant will complete the budget worksheet attachment and submit it by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

For additional information about how to prepare a budget for federal funding, see the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> section on "<u>Budget Preparation and Submission Information</u>." For details on the technical steps to complete the budget attachment and upload it in JustGrants, see the <u>Complete the Application in JustGrants: Budget</u> training.

Costs Associated With a Conference/Meeting/Training: An applicant that proposes to use award funds for activities related to a conference, meeting, training, or similar event should review the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for information on prior approval, planning, and reporting costs for a conference/meeting/training.

Costs Associated With Language Assistance and Access: If an applicant proposes a program or activity that would deliver services or benefits to individuals, the costs of taking

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reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to those services or benefits for individuals with limited English proficiency may be allowable in specific grant programs. Costs to provide reasonable accommodation and facilitate language access for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may also be allowable in specific grant programs. See the Application Resource Guide for information on costs associated with language assistance.

For additional information about how to prepare a budget for federal funding, see the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> section on "<u>Budget Preparation and Submission Information"</u> and the technical steps to complete the budget form in JustGrants in the <u>Complete the Application in JustGrants:</u> <u>Budget</u> training.

Budget and Associated Documentation: Budget/Financial Attachments

Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable): An applicant with a current, federally approved indirect cost rate agreement should upload it as an attachment in JustGrants.

Indirect costs are costs of an organization that are not readily assignable to a particular project but are necessary for the operation of the organization and the performance of the project. Examples of costs usually treated as indirect include those incurred for operation and maintenance of offices or workspaces and salaries of administrative or support staff. The requirements for the development and submission of indirect cost proposals and cost allocation plans are listed in Appendices III–VII of 2 C.F.R. Part 200. A non-federal applicant should follow the guidelines applicable to its type of organization. See the DOJ Grants Financial Guide and the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information on indirect cost rate agreements.

Consultant Rate (if applicable): OJP has established maximum rates for consultants; see the "Listing of Costs Requiring Prior Approval" section of the <u>DOJ Grants Financial Guide</u> for more information. If an applicant proposes a rate for a consultant on their project that is higher than the established maximum rate and receives an award, then the award recipient must submit a document requesting approval for the rate and cannot incur costs at the higher rate without prior OJP approval. The award recipient must provide justification for why the proposed rate is higher than the established maximum rate, such as why the rate is reasonable and consistent with that paid for similar services in the marketplace.

Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards Over \$250,000; Waiver (if applicable): This notice of funding opportunity expressly modifies the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide by not incorporating the "Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver" provisions in the "Financial Information" section of the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation (if applicable): An applicant that is a nonprofit organization may be required to make certain disclosures relating to the processes it uses to determine the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees, and key employees. If applicable, the applicant will upload a description of the process used to determine executive compensation as an attachment in JustGrants. See the Application Resource Guide for information.

Additional Application Components

The applicant will attach the additional requested documentation in JustGrants.

Timeline: Provide a timeline listing key activities and milestones, and the months/quarters. during which they will take place.

Disclosures and Assurances

The applicant will address the following disclosures and assurances.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities: JustGrants will prompt each applicant to indicate if it is required to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure under 31 U.S.C. § 1352.

The applicant is required by law to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure form (Standard Form/SF-LLL) if it has paid or will pay any person to lobby in connection with the award for which it is 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.

Lobbying means (for this requirement) 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. See 31 U.S.C. 1352; 28 C.F.R. part 69. Note: Most applicants do not engage in activities that trigger this disclosure requirement.

An applicant that is not required by law (31 U.S.C. 1352) to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure, should enter "No." By doing so, the applicant is affirmatively asserting (under applicable penalties) that it has 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: To ensure funding coordination across grantmaking agencies, and to avoid unnecessary or inappropriate duplication of grant funding, the applicant must disclose if it has 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. Complete the JustGrants Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> 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 <u>Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; <u>Coordination with Affected Agencies</u>. An applicant must review and sign the certification document in JustGrants. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for more information.</u>

Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High-Risk Grantees (if applicable): If applicable, submit the DOJ High-Risk Disclosure and Justification as an attachment in JustGrants. A DOJ high-risk recipient 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 that is otherwise not responsible. See the Application Resource Guide for additional information.

Application Application Checklist **Application** Other **Basic** Eligibility Program Award Post-Award Information Description Submission Review **Notices** Requirements Information

Submission Dates & Times

Refer to <u>Basic Information: Key Dates</u> for the submission dates and times.

Applicants should submit their applications as early as possible and recommended not later than 48 hours before the deadlines. To be considered timely, the full application must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline. Applicants will use the "Certify and Submit" feature in JustGrants to confirm that all required application components have been entered, which includes identifying the Authorized Representative for the applicant. Once the application is submitted, the Application Submitter, Authorized Representative, and Entity Administrator receive a confirmation email.

An applicant will receive emails after successfully submitting application components in Grants.gov and JustGrants and should retain all emails and other confirmations received from the SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants systems.

APPLICATION REVIEW

Review Process and Criteria

OJP will review applications to ensure the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, achievable, and consistent with the goals of the funding opportunity. In addition, OJP reviews invited applications for consistency with the invitation letter and invited applicant guidance. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on the application review process.

Risk Review

Pursuant to the Part 200 Uniform Requirements, before award decisions are made, OJP also reviews information related to applicant risk. OJP assesses whether an applicant with one or more prior federal awards has a satisfactory record of performance, integrity, and business ethics, including by (among other things) checking whether the applicant is listed in SAM.gov as excluded from receiving a federal award.

Depending on the severity and nature of the risk factors, the risk assessment may result in the removal of an applicant from consideration or selection for award, or it may result in additional post-award conditions and oversight for an awarded applicant.

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 that appears in the non-public segment of the integrity and performance system accessible through SAM.gov.

Important Note on Responsibility/Qualification Data (formerly FAPIIS): An applicant may review and comment on any information about its organization that currently appears in SAM.gov and was entered by a federal awarding agency. OJP will consider such comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in SAM.gov, in its assessment of the risk posed by the applicant.

Selection Process

All final award decisions will be made by the Assistant Attorney General, unless a statute explicitly authorizes award decisions by another official or there is written delegation of authority to another official. This official may consider not only program office recommendations, but also other factors as indicated in the "Application Review" section. For additional information on the application review process, see the Application Resource Guide.

Application Application Application **Basic** Eligibility Program **Award** Post-Award Other Checklist Information Description Submission Review **Notices** Requirements Information



Award notifications are usually sent by September 30 (the end of the current federal fiscal year). 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. The award package will include key information (such as funding amount and period of performance) as well as award conditions that must be followed. An Authorized Representative for the entity should accept or decline the award within 45 days of the notification. See the Application Resource Guide for information on award notifications and instructions.



POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND **ADMINISTRATION**

Reporting

Program

Description

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. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent (in appropriate cases, OJP may require additional reports).

Performance Measure Reporting

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 Award Conditions

OJP includes various conditions on its awards. These may include program-specific conditions. which typically apply to all recipients of a funding opportunity, and award-specific conditions, which are included to address recipient-specific issues (e.g., programmatic or financial risk). Recipients may view all conditions, and actions required to satisfy those conditions, in the award package in JustGrants.

Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements

If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the OJPapproved 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 Application Resource Guide.

Civil Rights Compliance

If a successful applicant accepts funding from OJP—as a recipient of OJP funding—that award recipient must comply with certain federal civil rights laws that prohibit the award recipient from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disability in how it delivers its program's services or benefits and in its employment practices. The civil rights laws that may be applicable to the award 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. These and other federal civil rights laws are discussed in greater detail on OJP's Legal Overview—FY 2025 Awards webpage under the

"Civil Rights Requirements" section. 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 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 <u>Partnerships with Faith-Based and Other Neighborhood Organizations webpage</u> for specific information for faith-based organizations applying under this NOFO.

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 set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.303, comply with standards for financial and program management. 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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for more information.

Other Reporting Requirements

Applicants and recipients are required to notify OJP if you know that you 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 180, as implemented by DOJ in 2 C.F.R. Part 2867, which, among other things, require recipients to check certain information sources and, in some cases, notify the federal awarding agency prior to the agency awarding federal funds via contracts or subawards.

If a recipient's award includes a federal share of more than \$500,000 over the period of performance of the award, then the award (per 2 C.F.R. 200.113) 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. See https://www.ojp.gov/funding/explore/legaloverview2025/otherrequirements for more information.



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. For additional information on what should be included in the application, see the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> section "Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities."

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for important information on the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. §§ 552 and 552a).

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

Provide Feedback to OJP

See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for information on how to provide feedback to OJP.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

BJA FY25 Invited to Apply – Regional Information Sharing Systems

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.

SAM.gov Registration/Renewal

Program

Description

 Confirm that your entity's registration in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) is active through the NOFO period. Submit a new or renewal registration in SAM.gov, if needed (see Application Resource Guide).

Grants.gov Registration

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

Grants.gov Opportunity Search

- 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 under "OJP Application Submission Steps" in the Application Resource Guide).
- Sign up for Grants.gov email notifications (optional) (see Application Resource Guide).

Funding Opportunity Review and Project Planning

- Review all sections of the NOFO.
- Confirm your entity is eligible to receive funding (see Eligibility: Eligible Applicants).
- Confirm your proposed budget is within the allowable limits (see Basic Information: Funding Details), includes only allowable costs (see Application Contents, Submission Requirements, and Deadlines: Budget Detail Form), and includes cost sharing if applicable (see Program Description: Cost Sharing/Match Requirements).
- Review the performance measures for this funding opportunity and confirm you will be prepared to collect and report on this data (see Program Description: Performance Measures).
- Review the "Legal Overview—FY 2025 Awards" in the OJP Funding Resource Center and confirm you are prepared to follow the requirements.
- Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting under "Listing of Costs Requiring Prior Approval" in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide or see the Application Resource Guide

Submission Step 1: Grants.gov

After registering with SAM.gov submit the SF-424 in Grants.gov.

- Complete and submit the SF-424 by the deadline.
- Confirm Section 8F of the SF-424 lists the name and contact information of the individual who will complete the application in JustGrants.

Application Basic Eligibility Program Application Award Post-Award Other Application Information Description Submission Review **Notices** Requirements Information Checklist

- Submit documents for Intergovernmental Review (if applicable).
- Confirm that, within 48 hours of your submission in Grants.gov, you 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 the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, or support@grants.gov regarding technical difficulties (see the Application Resource Guide section on "Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues").
- Confirm that, within 24 hours after receipt of confirmation emails from Grants.gov, the individual listed in Section 8F of the SF-424 receives an email from JustGrants with login instructions.

Submission Step 2: JustGrants

- Complete the following information:
 - Entity and User Verification (first-time applicants)
 - Standard Applicant Information
 - Proposal Abstract
 - Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)
- Upload the Proposal Narrative.
- Complete the budget detail form.
- Upload the other budget/financial attachments, as applicable.
- Upload additional application components, as applicable.
- Complete the required disclosures and assurances:
 - Disclosure of Lobbying Activities and submission of SF-LLL, if prompted by the system
 - Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items
 - DOJ Certified Standard Assurances
 - Applicant Disclosure and Justification DOJ High-Risk Grantees
- Complete the required DOJ Certification on Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Coordination with Affected Agencies.

JustGrants Review, Certification, and Application Submission

- Address any validation errors displayed on screen after attempted submission, then return to the "Certify and Submit" screen to submit the application.
- Note the confirmation message 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 an error notification is received, contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u> regarding technical difficulties. See the <u>Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u> for additional information.