

BJA FY 2026 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program—Local Formula

Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number: O-BJA-2026-172705

Application Deadlines in Eastern Time (ET):

1. Complete SF-424 and submit in Grants.gov: **October 9, 2026, by 11:59 p.m. ET**
 2. Submit full application in JustGrants: **October 16, 2026, by 8:59 p.m. ET**
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1. BASIC INFORMATION

Purpose of the Funding

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) is committed to advancing work that furthers the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) mission to keep our country safe and secure and uphold the rule of law and protect the rights of American citizens. 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.

This is a notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) for the **BJA FY 2026 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program—Local Formula**. This opportunity will provide formula funding to eligible units of local government to, in general, support hiring additional personnel and/or purchase equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance, and information systems for criminal justice or civil proceedings, including for any one or more of the following program areas:

1. Law enforcement programs.
2. Prosecution and court programs.
3. Prevention and education programs.
4. Corrections and community corrections programs.
5. Drug treatment and enforcement programs.
6. Planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs.
7. Crime victim and witness programs (other than compensation).
8. Mental health programs and related law enforcement and corrections programs, including behavioral programs and crisis intervention teams.
9. Implementation of state crisis intervention court proceedings and related programs or initiatives, including but not limited to mental health courts, drug courts, veterans courts, and extreme risk protection order programs.
10. Programs to purchase and operate unmanned aircraft systems (as defined in section 44801 of title 49, United States Code) to benefit public safety.
11. Programs to purchase and operate counter-UAS systems (as defined in section 44801 of title 49, United States Code) included on the list of technologies established by subsection (d)(2)(A)(iii) section 210G of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124n(d)(2)(A)(iii)) to exercise the authority granted under subsection (a)(2) of such section.

Additionally, JAG funds awarded under this NOFO may be used for any purpose indicated here: [Purposes for Which Funds Awarded Under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants \(JAG\) Program May Be Used](#).

See the [Eligible Applicants](#) section for eligibility details.

Funding Details

Announcement Type	Initial
Assistance Listing Number	16.738
Statutory Authority	Pub. L. No. 90-351, Title I, Part E, subpart 1 (codified at 34 U.S.C. 10151 - 10158); see also 28 U.S.C. 530C(a)
Grants.gov Opportunity Number	O-BJA-2026-172705
Expected Total Amount of Funding	Up to \$96,518,469
Anticipated Number of Awards	1,190
Award Type(s)	Grants
Anticipated Award Amount	Up to \$4,964,030
Expected Award Period(s)	24 months (awards less than \$25,000) or 48 months (awards \$25,000 or more) starting on October 1, 2025

Key Dates and Times

NOFO Release Date	August 25, 2026
SAM.gov Registration/Renewal	Begin the process by September 1, 2026, and no later than September 9, 2026
Step 1: Grants.gov Deadline	11:59 p.m. ET on October 9, 2026
Step 2: JustGrants Deadline	8:59 p.m. ET on October 16, 2026

See [Questions?](#) at the end of this NOFO for agency contact information.

2. ELIGIBILITY

Eligible Applicants

The types of entities that are eligible to apply are:

Government Entities

- County governments
- City or township governments
- Special district governments
- Native American tribal governments (federally recognized)

Other

- Other units of local government

“Other” Entities Definition:

- By law, for purposes of the JAG Program, the term “units of local government” includes a town, township, village, parish, city, county, borough, or other general-purpose political subdivision of a state, or it may be a federally recognized American Indian tribal government that performs law enforcement functions (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior). A unit of local government also may be any law enforcement district or judicial enforcement district established under applicable state law with authority to independently establish a budget and impose taxes; for example, in Louisiana, a unit of local government means a district attorney or parish sheriff.

Prior to starting an application to this NOFO, all prospective unit of local government applicants should check the [JAG Allocations page](#) and the link to their relevant state to determine if they are eligible for a direct award from BJA.

- Only one eligible unit of local government that is a member of a disparate group may apply for funding as the fiscal agent for the other members of the group.
- Applications from ineligible units of local government (*i.e.*, not listed in the allocation charts) will not be accepted for funding.

Cost Sharing (Match) Requirement: This NOFO does **not** require cost sharing (match).

3. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Statutory Authority

Pub. L. No. 90-351, Title I, Part E, subpart 1 (codified at 34 U.S.C. 10151-10158); see also 28 U.S.C. 530C(a)

Agency Funding Priorities

In order to advance public safety and help meet its mission, OJP’s priorities include:

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

Areas of Emphasis

BJA recognizes that many state and local criminal justice systems currently face challenging fiscal environments and that an important, cost-effective way to relieve those pressures is to share or leverage resources through cooperation among federal,

state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement. BJA encourages state and local recipients of FY 2026 JAG funding to join federal law enforcement agencies in addressing the following challenges.

Combating Violent Crime: JAG funds may be used to implement, enhance, or expand projects that combat violent crime. This should include directly supporting law enforcement operations.

Specific activities could include addressing human trafficking of American citizens; dismantling criminal gangs, street crews, and drug networks, including drug manufacturing, dealing, and trafficking; and cracking down on the open use of illegal drugs. State and local agencies are encouraged to coordinate with their United States Attorneys and Project Safe Neighborhoods grantees in order to leverage JAG funding for violent crime reduction projects, including the DOJ Operation Take Back America to eliminate cartels and transnational criminal organizations, and to coordinate their law enforcement activities with those of federal law enforcement agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI); the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF); the Drug Enforcement Administration; the United States Marshals Service; and the Department of Homeland Security. Further, state and local agencies may use JAG funds to protect the public, critical infrastructure, mass gathering events, and public facilities from threats posed by the careless or unlawful use of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), as well as to interrupt drug cartels' use of UAS for smuggling and surveilling law enforcement, to include purchase of UAS (see BJA's [UAS page](#) for prior approval requirements before using JAG funds for UAS or counter-UAS) or equipment or services for the detection, tracking, or identification of drones and drone signals.

Immigration Enforcement: State and local agencies may use JAG funds to partner with federal law enforcement on immigration enforcement operations (e.g., information sharing, entering into and fully participating in a 287(g) partnership and/or a Homeland Security Task Force, honoring detainers, protecting critical infrastructures, and information/intelligence problems).

Safe Communities: State and local agencies may use JAG funds to support services to American citizens and American victims of crime to create safe communities. JAG funds can be used to collaborate with federal law enforcement and task forces to address endemic vagrancy and encampments that create safe havens for drugs, crime, and human trafficking. Additionally, state and local agencies may use JAG funds to focus on improving public order and quality of life through enforcement and prosecution of nuisance abatement and blight including, among other things, petty larceny and criminal damage to property, as well as utilization of maximally flexible civil commitment, institutional treatment, and step-down treatment standards to address untreated mental health and substance use disorders. JAG funds may also be used to support American victims of trafficking and sexual assault.

Safe Houses of Worship: State and local agencies may use JAG funds to respond to and deter threats to houses of worship and other religious institutions, including religious schools. Religious institutions have recently been targeted for acts of violence and desecration. These organizations typically lack sufficient security resources to respond to heightened threats. State and local law enforcement support to houses of worship, religious schools, and other religious institutions is an effective way to combat such threats.

Unallowable Activities: 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.

Formula Allocations

The FY 2026 Local JAG Allocations are listed on the [JAG Allocations website](#), with separate lists for each state. According to the JAG Program statute, a “disparity” may exist between the funding eligibility of a county and its associated municipalities. See [34 U.S.C. § 10156\(d\)\(4\)](#). **Units of local government identified as disparate must select a fiscal agent that will submit an application for the total allocation that includes all disparate jurisdictions.** See the [JAG FAQs](#) for more information on the requirements for disparate groups.

The JAG statutory formula is fully described within the [JAG Technical Report](#).

Other JAG Statutory Requirements

Certification and Assurances: The JAG statute, at [34 U.S.C. § 10153 \(A\)\(1-5\)](#), details requirements related to governing body review and public comment of a JAG application, prohibition on supplanting, as well as other requirements for which JAG recipients must submit to BJA certification and assurances.

Prohibited Items: The JAG statute, at 34 U.S.C. § 10152, prohibits the use of JAG funds for certain items, and it prohibits the use of JAG funds for other items unless BJA grants a waiver. The [JAG Prohibited Expenditures Guidance](#) provides lists, details, definitions, and procedures for prohibited expenditures under the BJA JAG Program.

Administrative Costs: The JAG statute, at [34 U.S.C. § 10152](#), requires that not more than 10 percent of a JAG grant may be used for costs incurred to administer such grant.

Trust Fund: The JAG statute, at 34 U.S.C. § 10158, requires that a state or unit of local government that elects to draw down JAG funds in advance must establish a trust fund in which to deposit amounts. The trust fund must be in an interest-bearing account, unless one of the exceptions in [2 C.F.R. § 200.305\(b\)\(11\)](#) apply.

Goals and Objectives of This Funding Opportunity

Goal: Improve the administration of the criminal justice system.

- **Objective 1:** Provide units of local government with additional personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance, and information systems.
- **Objective 2:** Assist units of local government with their criminal justice needs.

For a description of how awards under this NOFO will contribute to achieving these goals and objectives, see the [Performance Reports](#) section below.

Expected Outcomes

OJP expects recipients to submit deliverables and performance reports, as described below. Read the [Application Resource Guide](#) for more information. OJP 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

Recipients do not need to submit any deliverables other than the standard items in the [Post-Award Requirements and Administration](#) section.

Performance Reports

OJP requires recipients to submit regular performance reports that communicate progress toward achieving [Program Goals and Objectives](#). Read information on [performance reporting](#).

Award recipients will receive further guidance on post award reporting requirements.

4. APPLICATION CONTENTS AND FORMAT

Application Contents List

The table below lists the contents for your application. Refer to the [DOJ Grant Application Submission Checklist](#) for application instructions.

Application Item	Submission Type
Step 1: Grants.gov	
Application for Federal Assistance: SF-424	Online Form
Step 2: JustGrants	
Standard Applicant Information	Online Form
Proposal Abstract	Text Box
Data Requested With Application - Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (including Applicant Disclosure of High-Risk Status) - JAG Survey	Online Form
Proposal Narrative	Attachment
Budget	Attachment
Other Budget/Financial Attachments - Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) - Consultant Rate (if applicable)	Attachment
Additional Application Components - Certifications and Assurances by the Chief Executive of the Applicant Government - BWC Policy Certification (if applicable) - Body Armor Mandatory Wear Certification (if applicable) - Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) Certification (if applicable) - Prohibited Expenditure Waiver Request (if applicable) - Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Certification (if applicable) - Counter-UAS Certification (if applicable)	Attachment

Standard Applicant Information

Review and edit as needed the information imported from the SF-424 submitted in Grants.gov. Add ZIP codes for areas affected by the project.

Proposal Abstract

In JustGrants, enter a proposal abstract (limited to 2,000 characters) summarizing the proposed project. As abstracts for funded projects are public, do not include any personally identifying information (e.g., staff names). Examples of brief Proposal Abstracts are included below.

JAG Abstract Examples

- The city of [insert] will use JAG funds for overtime for increased patrols to bolster the security of at-risk religious institutions, such as houses of worship and religious schools.
- The county of [insert] will use JAG funds to purchase police cruisers and officer personal protected equipment for increased law enforcement operations.

Disparate JAG Abstract Example

- The disparate jurisdictions of [insert] and [insert] will use JAG funds for technology improvements and law enforcement equipment. Specifically, the county of [insert] will use JAG funds to replace its records management system, and the city of [insert] will use JAG funds to purchase ruggedized laptops for officers.

Data Requested With Application

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

Review information on this [questionnaire](#).

JAG Survey

Applicants will be required to respond to JAG specific survey questions as part of the JustGrants application. Please refer to the steps below to help guide you through initiating, completing, modifying, and obtaining the status of the survey in the JustGrants system:

1. To initiate the survey, click on the survey title to open.
2. When you have completed the survey, click the “Finish” button in the lower right corner of the screen. The system will direct you to a review screen displaying your survey responses.
3. To go back to the main application screen, go to the “Actions” menu in the top right corner of the screen and select “Close” to exit the survey review screen.
4. The survey you just completed will still display an “Open” status. To confirm the completed status of your survey, go back to the “Actions” menu and select

“Refresh.” The status of your completed survey will change to “Resolved—Completed.”

5. To verify responses to a completed survey, click the survey title to reopen it and view your saved responses.
6. To change and/or update responses to a completed survey, click the “Reopen” option to update your saved responses.

Proposal Narrative

Format of the Proposal Narrative

Submit the narrative as an attachment in JustGrants.

Sections of the Proposal Narrative

The Proposal Narrative must include the three sections listed below.

1. Description of the Need: What critical issue or problem do you propose to address with this project? Please include:

- Identify the issues the unit(s) of local government intend(s) to address with JAG funds, to include gaps in the jurisdiction’s needed resources for criminal justice purposes.

2. Project Design and Implementation: How will you implement project activities that meet the project goals and objectives? Please include the following:

- Describe how JAG funds will be coordinated with state and related justice funds.
- Provide description of the programs to be funded over the grant period, to include any subawards.

3. Capabilities and Competencies: What administrative and technical capacity and expertise do you bring to successfully complete this project? Please include:

- Describe 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 Reports](#) for additional details on performance measures for this funding opportunity.

Project Evaluations: An applicant that proposes to use award funds to conduct project evaluations must follow the guidance on [project evaluations](#).

Budget and Associated Documentation

Budget

Use the Budget Detail Separate Attachment (attach file in JustGrants) to submit the budget. Read information on [budget preparation](#) and [JustGrants Application Submission Training](#).

- List each cost needed to implement the project under the appropriate cost category.

- Clearly name and describe each cost.
- Show the computation of each cost (e.g., cost per unit, number of units, and total cost).
- Enter narrative, as needed, to explain the cost calculations and connection to your project goals, objectives, and activities.
- Include only costs that are reasonable, allocable, and necessary to implement the project. They must be allowable under the funding statute and agency requirements.¹

The following information specific to this funding opportunity will help you develop your project budget:

- In addition to the instructions above, Local JAG applicants must include in the budget worksheet the following:
- If using funds for administering the grant, provide clear designation for any cost line items that are JAG administrative costs within each budget category and project year. For example, in the line-item description or explained in the narrative section.
- For applications for disparate groups, the preference is for the applicant to include a single budget worksheet and narrative that lists each jurisdiction's proposed costs by category, labeled to distinguish the use between partner agencies. Alternatively, separate budget attachments for each partner of unit of local government are acceptable.
- Funding restrictions—JAG funds may not be used to supplant state or local funds but must be used to increase the amounts of such funds that would, in the absence of federal funds, be made available.

Additional restrictions apply to certain costs or activities, to include but not limited to:

- Administrative costs
- Prohibited items per 34 U.S.C. § 10152, absent a waiver
- UAS and C-UAS
- Body Armor
- Body Worn Cameras
- ERPO activities
- DNA Testing of Evidentiary Materials

Please refer to the [JAG Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information.

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. Read information about [indirect costs](#).
- **Consultant Rate (if applicable):** Read information on [limits to consultant rates](#) and

¹ See [2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E](#) and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#). Read information on [unallowable costs](#) that apply to all funding opportunities.

whether you need to request approval to exceed those limits.

Additional Application Components

Attach these in JustGrants:

- **Certifications and Assurances by the Chief Executive of the Applicant Government:** Found at: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/jag/certifications-assurances>. This certification contains assurances that the governing body notification and public comment requirements, which are required under the JAG statute (at 34 U.S.C. § 10153(a)(2)).
- **Body-Worn Camera (BWC) Policy Certification (if applicable):** Only required if the direct recipient will be using JAG funds for a BWC project.
- **Body Armor Mandatory Wear Certification (if applicable):** Only required if the direct recipient will be using JAG funds for body armor.
- **Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) Certification (if applicable):** Only required if JAG funds will be used for an ERPO program.
- **Prohibited Expenditure Waiver Request (if applicable):** Only required if a JAG applicant would like to request a pre-award waiver to purchase a specific prohibited expenditure request.
- **Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Certification (if applicable):** Only required if a JAG application will include costs for UAS in the budget.
- **Counter-UAS Certification (if applicable):** Only required if a JAG application will include costs for C-UAS in the budget.

Refer to the [JAG Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information on these attachments. If a required attachment is missing from an eligible JAG application, OJP will issue an award agreement, but funds may be withheld until it is provided.

Disclosures and Assurances

Read the [disclosures and assurances](#) and complete them in JustGrants:

- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities
- Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (if applicable)
- DOJ Certified Standard Assurances
- DOJ Certifications
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification—DOJ High-Risk Grantees (if applicable)

5. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES

The [DOJ Grant Application Submission Checklist](#) provides instructions for how to submit your application by the [deadlines](#). [Executive Order \(E.O.\) 12372](#) (Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs) does apply to this funding opportunity: read the [Application Resource Guide](#) for details. Read OJP's policy for applicants to [request late submission](#) due to technical difficulties, severe weather, or natural or manmade disasters.

6. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

OJP will review applications to ensure the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, achievable, and consistent with the goals of the funding opportunity. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on the application review process for formula grants, including risk review, and the deciding official.

7. AWARD NOTICES

Read about the [award notification](#) process.

8. POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS & ADMINISTRATION

Read the [Application Resource Guide](#) for more information about: standard award terms and conditions, administrative and national policy requirements, and post-award reporting requirements.

9. QUESTIONS?

NOFO Contact	Name: OJP Response Center Phone: 800-851-3420 or 202-353-5556 (TTY for hearing-impaired callers only) Email: OJP.ResponseCenter@usdoj.gov Hours: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. ET, Monday–Friday
SAM.gov Help Desk	Website: sam.gov/help Hours: 8 a.m.–8 p.m. ET, Monday–Friday (closed federal holidays)
Grants.gov Help Desk	Phone: 800-518-4726 Email: support@grants.gov Website: grants.gov/support Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (closed federal holidays)
JustGrants Help Desk	Phone: 833-872-5175 Email: JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov Hours: 7:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m. ET, Monday–Friday and 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. ET on Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays.