# OJJDP FY25 Emergency Planning for Juvenile Justice Residential Facilities

Total Amount To Be Awarded Under This Funding Opportunity: \$400,000

Anticipated Award: Up to \$200,000 over 24 months

Funding Opportunity Number: O-OJJDP-2025-172450

Deadline to submit SF-424 in Grants.gov: October 27, 2025, by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time Deadline to submit application in JustGrants: November 3, 2025, by 8:59 p.m. Eastern Time



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The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>Office of Juvenile</u> <u>Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)</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 Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)
NOFO Title	OJJDP FY25 Emergency Planning for Juvenile Justice Residential Facilities
Announcement Type	Initial
Funding Opportunity Number	O-OJJDP-2025-172450
Assistance Listing Number	16.823

OJP is piloting a new, streamlined format for this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO). Please share your feedback on the design and content at <a href="mailto:OJPSolicitationFeedback@usdoj.gov">OJPSolicitationFeedback@usdoj.gov</a>.

#### **Overview**

This NOFO will support the development, implementation and improvement of emergency planning activities for state, Tribal, county, and local juvenile justice residential facilities. Funding will help ensure that facilities are prepared to prioritize the safety and well-being of youth and staff, keep families informed, continue operations, and reduce risk to the facility during and after an emergency. Please see the <u>Eligible Applicants</u> section for the eligibility criteria.

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.

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## **Key Dates and Times**

NOFO Release Date	September 17, 2025
SAM.gov Registration/Renewal	Begin process by September 26, 2025, and no later than October 10, 2025
Step 1: Grants.gov Application Deadline	11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on October 27, 2025
Step 2: JustGrants Application Deadline	8:59 p.m. Eastern Time on November 3, 2025

# **Funding Details**

**Total Amount To Be Awarded Under This Funding Opportunity:** \$400,000

**Anticipated Number of Awards: 2-4** 

**Anticipated Award Amount:** Up to \$200,000

Note: You may propose a budget that is less than the anticipated award amount above. The proposed budget should cover the entire project period, be reasonable to conduct the proposed project, and be within your capacity to manage.

**Anticipated Project Period Start Date:** October 1, 2025

**Anticipated Project Period Duration: 24 months** 

# **Statutory Authority**

34 U.S.C. § 11131; Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2025, Pub. L. No. 119-4, 139 Stat. 9, 40; see Pub. L. No. 118-42, 138 Stat. 25, 150.

#### **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 Experiencing Technical Issues Preventing Submission of an Application (Technical Waivers).

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# **Resources for Applying**

<u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>: 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 is listed in the <u>Application Resource Guide</u>, follow the instructions in this NOFO.

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

Application

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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)

#### 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
- Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions
  of higher education

#### For-Profit Organizations

- Small businesses
- Organizations other than small businesses

#### Other

Tribal institutions of higher education are also eligible to apply

#### **Limit on Number of Applications**

You may submit only one application in response to this NOFO. That application can apply to only one category of the NOFO.

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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information on subawards.

# **Cost Sharing/Match Requirement**

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



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

# **Purpose of the Funding**

This program will support the development, improvement, and/or implementation of emergency planning activities for state, Tribal, county, and local juvenile justice residential facilities. Funding will help ensure that facilities are prepared to prioritize the safety and well-being of youth and staff, keep families informed, continue operations, and reduce risk to the facility during and after an emergency. The goal of the program is to help facilities improve their ability to respond to and recover from these incidents. For the purposes of this program, emergency is defined as an incident—natural, technological, or nonnatural—that requires a response to protect life, property, or the environment.

Funds may be used to restore essential services and operations. In general, funds may be used to cover costs that:

- Ensure safety and well-being for youth and staff during emergencies.
- Maintain efficient continuation of facility operations to prevent disruptions and reduce risk to the facility.

Additional examples can be found in the OJJDP <u>Emergency Planning for Juvenile Justice</u> <u>Residential Facilities</u> guide. While these examples provide ideas, applicants are encouraged to propose other relevant activities focused on safety and emergency preparedness.

Refer to <u>How Do We Apply: Budget Detail Form</u> 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, OJP 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 OJP 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 <u>DOJ Grants Financial Guide</u>, 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: Improve emergency planning for state, Tribal, county, and local juvenile justice residential facilities.

**Objective 1:** Ensure the safety and well-being of youth and staff.

**Objective 2:** Strengthen facility preparedness to maintain the efficient continuation of operations and reduce risk to the physical structure.

# **How Awards Will Contribute to Program Goals/Objectives**

The successful applicant will prioritize the safety of youth and staff during emergencies, maintain operations to prevent disruptions, and reduce risks to the facility's infrastructure.

Examples of strong applications include but are not limited to:

- Plans addressing all types of emergencies (natural, technological, or nonnatural).
- Proposals using funds to enhance safety, communication, and emergency preparedness.

## **Expected Outcomes: Deliverables and Performance Measures**

For any applicants that receive funding, OJP 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.")

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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**

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

 Juvenile justice facility emergency preparedness plans that address the principles outlined in the OJJDP Emergency Planning for Juvenile Justice Residential Facilities guide.

#### **Performance Measures**

Recipients will be required to submit regular performance reports that show their progress toward achieving the goals and objectives identified in <a href="Program Goals and Objectives">Program Goals and Objectives</a>. See <a href="Performance Measure Reporting">Performance Measure Reporting</a> in this NOFO for details.

A list of performance measure questions for this funding opportunity can be found <a href="here">here</a>. OJJDP will provide further guidance on performance measures and the post-award submission process to successful awardees.

#### **Funding Instrument**

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



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 <a href="Basic Information">Basic Information</a>: Agency Contact Information.



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

To submit a funding application, your entity 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 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 <u>SAM.gov</u> for details and resources for first-time registration or renewing an existing registration. <u>Small businesses</u> and <u>individual</u> 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 <u>Basic Information: Key Dates and Times</u> for the Grants.gov and JustGrants application deadlines.

- **Step 1:** Submit the required <u>Application for Federal Assistance SF-424</u> by the Grants.gov deadline.
- **Step 2:** Submit the full application, including attachments, at <u>JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov</u> by the JustGrants deadline.



# **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 subject to <a href="Executive">Executive</a>
Order (E.O.) 12372 (Intergovernmental Review). States that participate in the Intergovernmental Review process have an opportunity to review your submission.

Find the names and addresses of current state Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) for Intergovernmental Review at <a href="https://www.ojp.gov/IntergovernmentalReviewSPOCList.pdf">https://www.ojp.gov/IntergovernmentalReviewSPOCList.pdf</a>.

If your state appears on the SPOC list:

- Contact the state SPOC for information and follow the state's process under E.O. 12372.
- On the SF-424, make the appropriate selection for question 19 once you have complied with your state E.O. 12372 process.

If your state does not appear on the SPOC list:

• Answer question 19 by selecting "Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the state for review."

**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.

# **Application Submission Step 2: JustGrants**

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

Other

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#### **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:

- 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 <a href="DOJ Grant Application">DOJ Grant Application</a> 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 prepopulated 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 \*REQUIRED ELEMENT\*

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:

- Name of the proposed project.
- 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).
- What activities will be carried out to complete the project (see Purpose of the Funding).
- Subrecipient(s)/partner organizations or entities, if known.
- Deliverables and expected outcomes (*i.e.*, what the project will achieve; see Expected Outcomes: Deliverables and Performance Measures).

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.

If you are applying as an "individual," you do not need to complete this form.

See the <u>Application Resource Guide: Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (including Applicant Disclosure of High-Risk Status)</u> 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 <u>Agency Funding Priorities</u> section, and if so, which priority(ies) their project will address.

#### **Project Description \*REQUIRED ELEMENT\***

You have the choice of two formats to submit the Project Description:

- Attaching a narrative document in JustGrants OR
- 2. Submitting answers to a set of questions in JustGrants.

You will need to indicate which of the two formats will be used in the "Project Description" question set (labeled "ProjDescJJFY25EmerPlan") in JustGrants.

If you choose to attach a narrative document, you do not need to answer any other questions in the question set. Instead, you will attach the document under Proposal Narrative in the application.

If you choose to complete the question set, then you will proceed through the other questions. You do not need to also attach a document under Proposal Narrative.

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# **Formatting Guidance**

#### Attached document format uploaded under Proposal Narrative (if selected):

- File type: PDF or Word document
- Spacing: Double-spaced
- Font size: 12 pt. Tables, charts, and graphs should not be smaller than 12 point
- Margins: 1-inch margins or larger
- Page limit: 30 pages; include consecutive page numbers. Tables, charts, and graphs will count toward the page limit

If the narrative exceeds these limits, only the text within the limits will be considered for the review.

#### Question and answer format (if selected):

- Respond to all questions in the Project Description questionnaire in JustGrants. Do not attach any files under Proposal Narrative.
- Do not exceed 90,000 total characters across all responses (90,000 total characters is approximately 30 pages of double-spaced text).

If responses to any of the questions exceed the text limit, only the text within the limits will be considered.

Content of the Project Description: Regardless of the format chosen, the Project Description must include the four sections listed below. If you seek priority consideration, the Project Description must state which priority goal(s) the applicant's project will advance and describe how (see section Agency Funding Priorities under Program Description).

- 1. Description of the Need: What critical issue or problem related to the purpose of this funding opportunity are you proposing to address with this project? How do you know the problem exists? Please answer the following:
  - What is the need, gap, or issue to be addressed by the proposed project?
  - How does supporting information, data, and/or evidence demonstrate the need's existence, size, and impact on the target population and community?
  - How does this problem relate to the purpose of the funding opportunity?
- 2. Project Goals and Objectives: How closely will the proposed project address the identified need and purpose of this funding opportunity (see Program Goals and Objectives). Please answer the following:
  - What are the project goals? (Goals are broad, visionary statements on what you hope to accomplish.)

- What are the project objectives? (Objectives are specific outcomes you plan to achieve through project activities.)
- How do the project goals and objectives address the identified need?
- How do the project goals and objectives relate to the purpose of this funding opportunity?
- **3. Project Design and Implementation:** What is your plan to implement project activities that are likely to meet the goals and objectives of the proposed project? Please answer the following:
  - What activities will you conduct to achieve the proposed goals and objectives?
  - Why do you believe these activities will be effective? (For example, are they based on your organization's previous experience, were they used in a similar program conducted elsewhere, or are they drawn from research or evidence?)
  - How will you deliver or complete the activities?
  - When will the activities take place?
  - Who in your organization will conduct 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 subrecipients will help conduct the project, please name them (if they are known) or describe how they will be identified. What will their role be in conducting project activities?
- **4. Capabilities and Competencies:** How will you bring administrative and technical capacity and expertise to successfully complete this project? Please answer the following:
  - What demonstrates your capacity to deliver the proposed project and meet the requirements of the award?
  - How do the skills and composition of the project staff demonstrate their ability to deliver the proposed project and meet the requirements of the award?
  - How does your experience conducting related projects or activities (either in the past or currently) demonstrate your ability to undertake the proposed project activities?
  - How does the relevant experience of team members with key responsibilities support the implementation of the project?
  - Do you have the capacity to collect and report the required performance measure data?
     Who will be responsible for this task? How will you collect the data? Refer to
     Performance Measure Reporting in this NOFO for additional details.

**Project Evaluations:** If you propose to use award funds to conduct project evaluations, you must follow the guidance in the "<u>Note on Project Evaluations</u>" section in the <u>Application</u>

<u>Resource Guide</u>. Costs for data- and evaluation-related activities are allowable grant costs.<sup>1</sup>

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

Complete the budget detail form.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See <u>2 C.F.R. § 200.455</u>.

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- 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 <u>2 C.F.R. Part</u> <u>200, Subpart E</u> and the <u>DOJ Grants Financial Guide</u>.
- Enter additional narrative, as needed, to fully describe the cost calculations and connection to your project goals and objectives.

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 <a href="Budget Preparation and Submission Information">Budget Preparation and Submission Information</a> and the technical steps to complete the budget form in the <a href="Complete the Application in JustGrants: Budget">Complete training</a>.

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 <a href="DOJ Grants Financial Guide">DOJ Grants Financial Guide</a> 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 <u>maximum salary number</u>.

To request a waiver from this requirement, submit the appropriate form. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> 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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for information.

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#### Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (if applicable)

For each named partner involved in the project (whether as a subrecipient that will receive federal funds to carry out part of the federal award, or otherwise), include a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or a letter of intent that confirms the partner's agreement to support the project through commitments of staff time, space, services, or other project needs. See the Application Resource Guide for the definitions of "Memorandum of Understanding" and "letter of intent."

Each MOU should include the following:

- Names of the organizations involved in the agreement.
- What service(s) and other work will be performed under the agreement by which organization.
- Duration of the agreement.

Submit all MOUs together as one attachment to the application.

Unsigned draft MOUs may be submitted with the application, but you should describe in a cover page to the attachment why they are unsigned.

#### **Additional Application Components**

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

- Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable): An application in response to this NOFO
  may require inclusion of Tribal authorizing documentation as an attachment. If
  applicable, the applicant will upload the Tribal authorizing documentation as an
  attachment in JustGrants. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for information on Tribal
  authorizing resolutions.
- **Timeline:** Provide a timeline listing key activities and milestones, and the months during which they will take place.

#### **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.<sup>2</sup> Note: Most applicants do not engage in activities that trigger this disclosure requirement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See 31 U.S.C. § 1352; 28 C.F.R. Part 69.

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If you are not required by law<sup>3</sup> 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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

**DOJ Certified Standard Assurances:** Review and accept the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> 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> Sign the certification document. 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 form. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> 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 <u>JustGrants Application Submission Job Aid Reference Guide</u> for step-by-step guidance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Law referenced is 31 U.S.C. § 1352.

Eligibility

# **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 <a href="OJP.ResponseCenter@usdoj.gov">OJP.ResponseCenter@usdoj.gov</a>. Follow these steps:

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

See <u>Basic Information</u>: <u>Contact Information</u> 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 <a href="OJP.ResponseCenter@usdoj.gov">OJP.ResponseCenter@usdoj.gov</a> 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.

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2. If you have technical issues with JustGrants that prevent application submission by the deadline, you must contact the OJP Response Center at <a href="OJP.ResponseCenter@usdoj.gov">OJP.ResponseCenter@usdoj.gov</a> 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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.



# **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 <u>Funding Details</u>.)
- The proposed project is responsive to program goals, objectives, and purpose. (See <u>What Will Award Recipients Do?</u>)

#### All \*REQUIRED ELEMENTS\* are included:

- Standard Applicant Information (which auto-populates from the SF-424 started in Grants.gov)
- Proposal Abstract (JustGrants)
- Project Description (JustGrants)
- Budget Detail Form, which includes the budget items, their calculations, and explanations (JustGrants)

If your application fails to meet the BMR, you will receive notice (including appeal instructions) 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/Description of the Issue (15%): What critical issue or problem related to the purpose of this funding opportunity is the applicant proposing to address? How does the applicant know the problem exists?
- **Project Goals and Objectives (15%):** How closely will the proposed project address the need identified? How closely does it address the purpose of the funding opportunity?
- Project Design and Implementation (40%): Does the applicant propose a feasible plan
  to implement project activities that are likely to meet the goals and objectives of the
  proposed project? Does the applicant provide credible rationale that the activities will be
  effective?
- Capabilities and Competencies (20%): How will the applicant bring administrative and technical capacity and expertise to successfully complete this project?
- Budget (10%): Completeness and cost effectiveness.

#### **Programmatic and Financial Review Criteria**

After the peer review, applications undergo additional programmatic and financial reviews. OJP staff may reach out to you during the programmatic or financial review if a submitted form is

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incomplete or needs to be updated. Note that OJP staff are not 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 OJP 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.<sup>4</sup> 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 nonpublic 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**

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 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 <u>Application Resource</u> <u>Guide</u>.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See 2 C.F.R. § 200.206.

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#### **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. OJP also provides unsuccessful applicants with a summary of peer reviewer comments.

# **Future Funding Opportunities**

OJP 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, OJP will consider, among other factors, OJP's 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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> 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**

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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> 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.<sup>5</sup> See the "Civil Rights Requirements" section on the <u>Legal Overview—FY 2025 Awards</u> webpage. Additional resources are available from the <u>OJP Office for Civil Rights</u>.

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

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 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.

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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**

All award recipients and subrecipients must comply with standards for financial and program management.<sup>6</sup> See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> 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**

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 <u>2 C.F.R. § 180.335</u>. Recipients must comply with requirements in 2 C.F.R. Part 180<sup>7</sup> related to governmentwide 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.<sup>8</sup> See the <u>Reporting Requirements page</u> for more information.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See requirements described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.303.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> As implemented by DOJ in 2 C.F.R. Part 2867.

<sup>8</sup> See 2 C.F.R. § 200.113.

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



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 grant costs. For additional information on what should be included in the application, see the <a href="Application Resource Guide">Application Resource Guide</a> 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.<sup>10</sup>

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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See 2 C.F.R. § 200.455.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See 5 U.S.C. §§ 552 and 552a.



- □ Register or Renew in <u>SAM.gov</u>
   □ Register or Renew in <u>Grants.gov</u>
   □ Search <u>Grants.gov</u> 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
  - 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 (See <u>justicegrants.usdoj.gov</u>)
  - 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, contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833–872–5175 or <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u> regarding technical difficulties. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.