OJJDP FY 2022 Supporting Vulnerable At-Risk Youth and Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care

Overview
The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) seeks applications for funding under the fiscal year (FY) 2022 Supporting Vulnerable At-Risk Youth and Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care program. This program furthers the DOJ's mission by supporting treatment models for residential-based innovative care, treatment, and services to promote positive youth outcomes and public safety for at-risk adolescents and youth transitioning out of foster care.

This solicitation incorporates the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide by reference. The OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants to prepare and submit applications to OJP for funding. If this solicitation expressly modifies any provision in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation as to that provision.

Solicitation Categories

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Eligible Applicants:

This solicitation is composed of two categories. Applicants must clearly designate the category for which they are applying.

The following entities are eligible to apply:

**Category 1: Project Sites**
- State governments
- City or township governments
- Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education
- County governments
- Native American Tribal organizations (other than federally recognized Tribal governments)
- Native American Tribal governments (federally recognized)
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education
- For-profit organizations other than small businesses
- Independent school districts

**Category 2: Training and Technical Assistance**
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- For-profit organizations other than small businesses
- Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education

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

Eligible applicants can provide services to youth and young adults up to and including age 25.

All recipients and subrecipients (including any for-profit organization) must forgo any profit or management fee.

OJJDP will consider applications under which two or more entities would carry out the federal award; however, only one entity may be the applicant. Any others must be proposed as subrecipients (subgrantees). For additional information on subawards, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

OJJDP may elect to fund applications submitted under this FY 2021 solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and on the availability of appropriations.

**Contact Information**

For technical assistance with submitting the Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF)-424 and a Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form (SF-LLL) in Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-516-4726, 606-545-5035, Grants.gov Customer Support; or support@grants.gov. The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

For technical assistance with submitting the full application in DOJ's Justice Grants System (JustGrants), contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov. The JustGrants Service Desk operates 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. eastern time Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, and Federal holidays.

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact the OJP Response Center by telephone at
For information related to unforeseen technical issues beyond the control of the applicant impacting submission, see “How to Apply” section, Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues.

A solicitation webinar will be held on July 13, 2022 at 2:00 pm – 3:30 p.m. ET. This call will provide a detailed overview of the solicitation and allow an opportunity for interested applicants to ask questions. Preregistration is required for all participants. Register by clicking on this link and following the instructions. Due to the limited time, OJJDP encourages participants to review the solicitation and submit any questions they may have in advance and no later than July 6, 2022. Submit your questions to grants@ncjrs.gov with the subject as “Questions for OJJDP FY22 Supporting Vulnerable At-Risk Youth and Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care Webinar.”

**Submission Information**

Applications will be submitted to DOJ in two steps:

**Step 1:** The applicant must submit by the Grants.gov deadline the required Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF)-424 and a Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) form when they register in Grants.gov at [https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html](https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html). To register in Grants.gov, the applicant will need to ensure that its System for Award Management (SAM) registration is current.

**Step 2:** The applicant must then submit the full application, including attachments, in JustGrants at [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](https://justgrants.usdoj.gov). To be considered timely, the full application must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline. OJP encourages applicants to review the “How to Apply” section in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide and the JustGrants website for more information, resources, and training.
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Program Description

Overview

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. OJJDP envisions a nation where children are free from crime and violence. Youth contact with the justice system should be rare, fair, and beneficial to them.

The OJJDP FY 2022 Supporting Vulnerable At-Risk Youth and Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care solicitation supports the establishment of a pilot demonstration program to develop, implement, and build replicable treatment models for residential-based innovative care, treatment, and services. The primary population served by such pilot programs shall include adolescents and youth transitioning out of foster care who have experienced a history of foster care involvement, child poverty, child abuse or neglect, human trafficking, juvenile justice involvement, substance use or misuse, or gang involvement. Eligible applicants can provide services to youth and young adults up to and including age 25.

Consistent with the Family First Prevention Services Act of 2018 (Family First), OJJDP believes that children should be kept safely with their families to avoid the trauma that results when children are placed in out-of-home care. To increase the number of children who can remain safely at home with their families, Family First provides families with greater access to mental health services, substance use treatment, and/or improved parenting skills. This law significantly shifts how the country provides services for families and youth. In particular, it changed the role of community service providers, how courts advocate and make decisions for families, and the types of placements that youth placed in out-of-home care experience. Similar to Family First, the 2018 reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act also emphasizes the value of keeping youth in their homes and families, over out-of-home placements and incarceration. Other common values between the two Acts include: commitment to evidence-based and promising practices, increasing access to education and workforce development opportunities, and a focus on prevention. This solicitation recognizes the need to offer high quality services and treatment to help put youth who are transitioning from foster care on a track for success. Funding may not be used to expand the capacity of residential facilities through construction of additional units or bed capacity.

Category 1: Project Sites. Funding under this category will support the efforts of eligible applicant organizations to develop or enhance their capacity to support at-risk and vulnerable youth transitioning out of foster care by funding implementation of replicable models for residential-based innovative care, treatment, and services. Funds may not be used for construction of new units or increased bed capacity for youth.

Category 2: Training and Technical Assistance. Funding under this category will support a training and technical assistance provider to support the Category 1 project sites and increase awareness of innovative treatment models for vulnerable and at-risk youth transitioning out of foster care for other interested communities.

Statutory Authority


Specific Information

OJJDP has a long history of supporting programs and strategies to address risk and build protective factors for youth who are most likely to end up in the juvenile justice system. Risk factors are personal traits; characteristics of the environment; or conditions in the family, school, or community that are linked to youth’s likelihood of engaging in delinquency and other problem behaviors (https://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/litreviews/Risk%20Factors.pdf). In particular, at-risk and high-risk youth are those youth who may have experienced prior involvement in the foster care or juvenile justice systems, child poverty, child abuse or neglect, human trafficking, substance use or misuse, or gang involvement. As a result of these risk factors, these at-risk youth are particularly vulnerable and oftentimes experience mental health, behavioral health, or substance use concerns that require specialized treatment and care in an out-of-home residential setting.

These out-of-home residential settings can range from foster care/group homes/residential treatment centers to youth correctional facilities to emergency shelters. Since fiscal year (FY) 2015, more than 250,000 young people per year have entered foster care in the United States. During the same timeframe, more than 200,000 have exited foster care and in FY 2019 approximately 30% were between the ages of 13 and 20 (Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) FY 2019 data, https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb). These older youth—whether they are called “youth in transition,” “youth aging out,” or other terms—experience challenges on their path to a successful adulthood. They often leave the system at age 18, on their own and especially vulnerable, without familial or other adult support.

To best support these older youth and position them for success after leaving out-of-home placement or when
experiencing a crisis that requires a residential placement, it is the intent of this solicitation to support pilot program sites
to develop, implement, and build replicable treatment models for residential-based innovative care, treatment, and
services. These models should focus on the specific needs of these older youth, which may include but are not limited to
crisis stabilization, substance use or misuse treatment, mental health/behavioral health treatment, employment/career
development, education needs, and healthcare needs. The development of these models will help to serve as a
foundation for ensuring that adolescents and youth transitioning out of foster care have the skills and treatment they need
as part of a continuum of care. Funding may not be used for construction of new units or increased bed capacity that
would ultimately increase the number of youth in out-of-home care.

Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

Goals
The goal of the program is to promote positive youth outcomes and public safety for at-risk adolescents and youth
transitioning from foster care.

Objectives
Category 1: Project Sites. Funded sites under this initiative will work to accomplish the following objectives:

- Develop, implement, and build replicable treatment models for residential-based innovative care, treatment,
  and services for youth.
- Increase protective factors to ensure vulnerable and at-risk youth, and youth transitioning from foster care
  have the skills they need to prevent any further victimization and/or involvement in the child welfare or
  juvenile justice systems.

Category 2: Training and Technical Assistance. The objectives for applicants under this category are as follows:

- Develop and expand the skills of program providers and other stakeholders working with the target
  population of vulnerable and at-risk youth, and youth transitioning out of foster care.
- Increase awareness of innovative treatment models for vulnerable at-risk youth and youth transitioning out
  of foster care by making training and technical assistance available to other interested communities beyond
  this funded under Category 1. This may include, but is not limited to, webinars, publications/toolkits, etc.

Deliverables
Category 1: Project Sites
Project sites are expected to use funding to develop, implement, and build replicable treatment models for residential-based
innovative care, treatment, and services targeted to vulnerable and at-risk youth, and youth transitioning out of
foster care, which could include:

- Providing crisis stabilization services.
- Supporting educational, literacy, and vocational services.
- Providing substance use or misuse treatment and services.
- Accessing and managing health and mental health care.
- Securing safe, stable, and affordable permanent housing.
- Promoting prosocial activities.
- Developing additional life skills.

Community-based programs providing crisis stabilization, emergency shelter, and addiction treatment for adolescents and
transitional age residential programs with reputable outcomes will receive priority consideration. All services should
consider utilizing a trauma-informed approach and, when appropriate, should discuss how the treatment models will help
to engage involved staff from local or state departments of social services that may contribute to sustainability and a
continuum of care for the targeted youth that helps to address any barriers to access service.

In addition, OJJDP is interested in supporting applications from organizations that provide services to youth in rural areas.
For the purposes of this solicitation, “rural” encompasses all population, housing, and territory not included within an urban
area or a federally recognized Tribe. To receive priority consideration under the rural priority, applicants must describe
what makes the geographic service area rural (using U.S. Census or other appropriate government data), how isolated
the area is from needed services, and how they will address specific challenges in rural communities.

OJJDP expects project sites to work closely with the selected training and technical assistance provider for this initiative
and include their community partners and stakeholders in the collaborative learning process that the training and technical
assistance provider will establish. Successful applicants are also expected to participate in one cross-site grantee meeting during the project.

**Category 2: Training and Technical Assistance**

OJJDP is seeking an experienced organization to provide training and technical assistance services to project sites funded under this solicitation. Technical assistance needs may vary greatly by project site. Applicants must address the following deliverables in their application as part of their project design and implementation:

- Develop technical assistance plans for each site within the first 4 months of the project.
- Provide targeted content training to project site staff to increase their capacity to implement strategies to address issues related to vulnerable at-risk youth and youth transitioning out of foster care.
- Establish tools and techniques for working across different disciplines to facilitate information sharing, communication, and coordination. Facilitate peer-to-peer information sharing and learning communities between the sites to promote problem solving and innovation through the exchange of information and ideas (i.e., monthly cohort calls).
- Plan and coordinate, in conjunction with OJJDP, annual cross-site meetings of project site grantees, including providing logistical support, developing meeting agendas, and identifying faculty and/or consultants.
- Develop and deliver general training activities on residential-based innovative care, treatment, and services for communities not funded through this project who may be interested in learning more about these activities.
- Develop and disseminate resources on best practices and lessons learned from the project sites.
- The awardee will produce written synopses or summaries of all meetings, onsite visits, conference calls, and trainings, and will provide them to OJJDP.

The Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables are directly related to the performance measures that show the completed work's results, as discussed in the “Application and Submission Information” section.

**Evidence-Based Programs or Practices**

OJP strongly encourages the use of data and evidence in policymaking and program development for criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. For additional information and resources on evidence-based programs or practices, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](https://www.ojjdp.gov/applications/planning/how-to-guides.html).

Additional resources include:

- [OJJDP Model Programs Guide](https://www.ojjdp.gov/applications/planning/tools.html) contains information about evidence-based juvenile justice and youth prevention, intervention, and reentry programs. It is a resource for practitioners and communities about what works, what is promising, and what does not work in youth justice, delinquency prevention, and child protection and safety.
- [OJP CrimeSolutions.gov](https://crimesolutions.gov) uses rigorous research to inform practitioners and policymakers about what works in criminal justice, youth justice, and crime victim services.
- [Youth.gov](https://www.youth.gov) provides interactive tools and other resources to help youth-serving organizations and community partnerships plan, implement, and participate in effective programs for youth.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families Resources
  - [Supporting Youth Transitioning out of Foster Care – Issue Brief 1: Education Programs](https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/laws-policies/federal/family-first/)
  - [Supporting Youth Transitioning out of Foster Care – Issue Brief 2: Financial Literacy and Asset Building Programs](https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/laws-policies/federal/family-first/)
  - [Supporting Youth Transitioning out of Foster Care – Issue Brief 3: Employment Programs](https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/laws-policies/federal/family-first/)
- U.S. Department of Education’s [Foster Care Transition Toolkit](https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/laws-policies/federal/family-first/)
OJP Priority Areas

The Department of Justice is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community.

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

Consistent with this Executive Order, the term “underserved community” refers to a population sharing a particular characteristic, as well as a geographic community, that has been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life or whose members have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality. Such communities include, among others, Black people, Hispanics and Latino/a/e people, Native American and other Indigenous peoples of North America (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts), Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders.

In support of Executive Order 13985, OJP will:

A. Give priority consideration to applications that include project(s) that will promote racial equity and the removal of barriers to access and opportunity for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality, when making award decisions.

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

B. Give priority consideration to applicants that can demonstrate that their capabilities and competencies for implementing their proposed project(s) are enhanced because the applicant (or at least one proposed subrecipient that will receive at least 30% of the requested award funding, as demonstrated in the Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative) identifies as a culturally specific organization.

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

Culturally specific organizations are defined, for purposes of this solicitation, as private nonprofit or Tribal organizations whose primary purpose as a whole is to provide culturally specific services to, among others, Black people, Hispanics and Latino/a/e people, Native American and other Indigenous peoples of North America (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts), Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and/or Pacific Islanders.

2. Priority Considerations for Underserved Rural Communities

Group homes or residential treatment centers that serve youth in rural communities present a unique challenge in terms of availability, accessibility, and acceptability of services. As challenging as transitioning may be for youth returning to metropolitan settings, youth returning to rural settings need to be prepared to creatively access transitional services. Youth transitioning from a group setting where instrumental support (medical, dental, food, clothing, shelter) and psychosocial support (academic, recreational, mental health) are provided, to a rural community that offers few if any of those services is quite difficult. Services that address needs for rural environments to support transitional youth will receive priority consideration.

To receive this consideration, the applicant must describe how the proposed project(s) will address potential barriers and/or contribute to greater access to services for rural populations. See previous definition of “rural.”

3. Priority Consideration for Programs with Reputable Outcomes

Community-based programs providing crisis stabilization, emergency shelter, and addiction treatment for adolescents and transitional age residential programs with reputable outcomes will receive priority consideration.

OJJDP is interested in supporting programs and strategies with demonstrated effectiveness that can be expanded or enhanced. To receive this consideration, the applicant must include details of any internal or external evaluations of their program models/strategies as a separate attachment labeled “Program Effectiveness” in Just Grants as part of the application.

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 is not a guarantee of an award.

Federal Award Information

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Awards, Amounts and Durations

Period of Performance Start Date: 10/1/22 12:00 AM
Period of Performance Duration (Months): 36

Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation: $4,425,000.00

Continuation Funding Intent

OJJDP may, in certain cases, provide additional funding in FYs 2023 and 2024 to awards made under Category 2 in this solicitation through continuation awards. OJP will consider, among other factors, OJP’s strategic priorities, a recipient’s overall management of the award, and the award-funded work’s progress when making continuation award decisions.

Availability of Funds

This solicitation, and awards (if any are made) under this solicitation, are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by the agency or by law. In addition, nothing in this solicitation is intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

Types of Awards

OJJDP expects to make awards under Category 1 of this solicitation as grants. See the “Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements” section of the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for a brief discussion of important statutes, regulations, and award conditions that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP grants.

OJJDP expects to make an award under Category 2 of this solicitation as a cooperative agreement, which provides for OJP to have substantial involvement in carrying out award activities. See the “Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements” section of the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.
Financial Management and System of Internal Controls

Award recipients and subrecipients (including recipients or subrecipients that are pass-through entities) must, as described in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.303, comply with standards for financial and program management. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

This solicitation does not require a match.

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

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide information on Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs).

Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide information on the Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver.

Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs.

Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on Costs Associated with Language Assistance.

Eligibility Information

For eligibility information, see the solicitation cover page.

To advance Executive Order 13929 Safe Policing for Safe Communities, the Attorney General determined that all state, local, and university or college law enforcement agencies must be certified by an approved independent credentialing body or have started the certification process to be eligible for FY 2022 DOJ discretionary grant funding. To become certified, the law enforcement agency must meet two mandatory conditions: (1) the agency’s use-of-force policies adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and (2) the agency’s use-of-force policies prohibit chokeholds except in situations where use of deadly force is allowed by law. The certification requirement also applies to law enforcement agencies receiving DOJ discretionary grant funding through a subaward. For detailed information on this certification requirement, please visit https://cops.usdoj.gov/SafePolicingEO to access the Standards for Certification on Safe Policing for Safe Communities, the Implementation Fact Sheet, and the List of Designated Independent Credentialing Bodies.

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

Application and Submission Information

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

- Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form) (The web-based form includes the budget details and the budget narrative.)
See the “Application Elements and Formatting Instructions” section of the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on what happens to an application that does not contain all the specified elements or is nonresponsive to the scope of the solicitation.

Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

The SF-424 must be submitted in Grants.gov. The SF-424 is a required standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications, applications, and related information. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information on completing the SF-424.

In Section 8F. of the SF-424, please include the name and contact information of the individual who will complete the application in JustGrants. JustGrants will use this information (email address) to assign the application to this user in JustGrants.

Intergovernmental Review: This solicitation (“funding opportunity”) is not subject to Executive Order 12372. (In completing the SF-424, an applicant is to answer question 19 by selecting the response that the “Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.”)

Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)

The Standard Applicant Information section of the JustGrants application is pre-populated with the SF-424 data submitted in Grants.gov. The applicant will need to review the Standard Applicant Information in JustGrants and make edits as needed. Within this section, the applicant will need to: add ZIP Codes for areas affected by the project; confirm its Authorized Representative; and verify and confirm the organization’s unique entity identifier, legal name, and address.

Proposal Abstract

A proposal abstract (no more than 400 words) summarizing the proposed project, including the purpose of the project, primary activities, expected outcomes, the service area, intended beneficiaries and subrecipients (if known), will be completed in the JustGrants web-based form. This abstract should be written in the third person and will be made publicly available on the OJP website if the project is awarded.

Proposal Narrative

The proposal narrative should be submitted as an attachment in JustGrants. The attached document should be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point font; have no less than 1-inch margins; and should not exceed 30 pages. Pages should be numbered and submitted as an attachment. If the proposal narrative fails to comply with these length restrictions, OJJDP may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decision.

The following sections must be included as part of the proposal narrative:

a. Description of the Issue

Applicants should briefly describe the nature and scope of the problem that the proposed program will address (e.g., needs of vulnerable at-risk youth in residential settings, and youth transitioning out of foster care). The applicant should use data to provide evidence that the problem exists, demonstrate the size and scope of the problem, and document the effects of the problem on the target population and the larger community. Any data or research referenced in the narrative should include information about the source of the data and/or a citation. Applicants should describe the target population and any previous or current attempts to address the problem. Applicants should describe any research or evaluation studies that relate to the problem and contribute to their understanding of its causes and potential solutions. While OJJDP expects applicants to review the research literature for relevant studies, they should also explore whether unpublished local sources of research or evaluation data are available.

Category 2 applicants must present a clear understanding of issues pertaining to developing and implementing multifaceted intervention programs that serve the target populations identified in the solicitation and detail how targeted training and technical assistance can address these issues.

b. Project Design and Implementation

Applicants should detail how the project will operate throughout the funding period and describe the strategies that they will use to achieve the goals and objectives identified in the previous section. Applicants should describe how they will...
complete the deliverables stated in the Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables section. OJJDP encourages applicants to select evidence-based practices for their programs. This section should also include details regarding any leveraged resources (cash or in-kind) from local sources to support the project and discuss plans for sustainability beyond the grant period.

Completely describe the strategy to address the needs identified in the Description of the Issue section. Applicants should be specific when listing the proposed project activities and describe how they relate to the stated objective. Activities are the specific actions to be undertaken to fulfill the program objective and reach the program goal and should not be vague generalities. Provide a detailed description of the method(s) to be used to carry out each activity and include a description of all individuals/groups involved in the project and that will be served by the project.

The applicant must clearly outline the different residential placement(s) where the project will be implemented. Include a description of why these facilities were selected. The applicant should describe how grant funding will address the strategy proposed and the benefits. The applicant should include how the proposed project fits into the overall safety strategy of the child welfare agency and how the project will ensure compliance with all applicable privacy and civil rights laws.

**Timeline.** Applicants should submit a realistic timeline or milestone chart that indicates major tasks associated with the goals and objectives of the project, assigns responsibility for each, and plots completion of each task by month or quarter for the duration of the award, using “Year 1,” “Month 1,” “Quarter 1,” etc., not calendar dates (see “Sample Project Timelines” here). Applicants should submit the timeline as a separate attachment, as stipulated in Additional Application Components. On receipt of an award, the recipient may revise the timeline, based on training and technical assistance that OJJDP will provide. While the Project Design and Implementation should discuss the project timelines, applicants may also include a timeline chart as a separate attachment that will not count toward the 15-page limit.

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

c. **Capabilities and Competencies**

This section should describe the experience and capability of the applicant organization and any contractors or subgrantees that the applicant will use to implement and manage this effort and its associated federal funding, highlighting any previous experience implementing projects of similar design or magnitude. Applicants should highlight their experience/capability/capacity to manage subawards, including details on their system for fiscal accountability. Management and staffing patterns should be clearly connected to the project design described in the previous section. Applicants should describe the roles and responsibilities of project staff and explain the program’s organizational structure and operations. Applicants should include a copy of an organizational chart showing how the organization operates, including who manages the finances; how the organization manages subawards, if there are any; and the management of any previous experience implementing projects of similar design or magnitude. Applicants should highlight their experience/capability/capacity to manage subawards, including details on their system for fiscal accountability. Applicants should describe how the proposed project fits into the overall safety strategy of the child welfare agency and how the project will ensure compliance with all applicable privacy and civil rights laws.

Describe completely the capabilities and competencies of the individuals who will be assigned to the project to accomplish the goal and objective of the program. Résumés should be included as separate attachments and will not count against the 30-page limit.

In addition, Category 2 applicants should demonstrate their expertise and experience in providing training and technical assistance for communities implementing strategic approaches for transitioning youth out of foster care to a wide range of communities, agencies, and disciplines.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1(B), it should describe within this section how being a culturally specific organization (or funding a culturally specific subrecipient organization at a minimum of 30% of the project budget) will enhance its ability to implement the proposed project(s) and should also specify which culturally specific populations are intended or expected to be served or have their needs addressed under the proposed project(s).

**Letters of Support:** If submitting a joint application, as described under Eligibility, applicants should provide signed and dated letters of support or memoranda of understanding for all key partners that include the following:

- Expression of support for the program and a statement of willingness to participate and collaborate with it.
- Description of the partner’s current role and responsibilities in the planning process and expected responsibilities when the program is operational.
- Estimate of the percentage of time that the partner will devote to the planning and operation of the project.

d. **Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation’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: Applicants are not required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included as an alert that successful applicants will be required to submit performance data as part of each award’s reporting requirements.

OJP will require each successful applicant to submit regular performance data that show the completed work’s results. The performance data directly relate to the goals, objectives, and deliverables identified in the “Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables” discussion. Applicants can visit OJP’s performance measurement page at www.ojp.gov/performance for an overview of performance measurement activities at OJP.

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found at https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/funding/grant-performance-measurement/progress-reporting-questions-2021.pdf.

OJJDP will require award recipients to submit performance measure data and performance reports in JustGrants. OJJDP will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process, if selected for award.

**Note on Project Evaluations**

An applicant that proposes to use award funds through this solicitation to conduct project evaluations must follow the guidance in the “Note on Project Evaluations” section in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

**Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline**

The applicant will submit the FY 2022 Supporting Vulnerable At-Risk Youth and Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care Program goals, objectives, deliverables, and timelines in the JustGrants web-based form.

**Budget and Associated Documentation**

Successful applicants under Category 1 are expected to participate in a 2-day peer learning collaborative meeting in the first year of the project and also in each subsequent year of the project, which they should include in their budget. Applicants should budget approximately $2,000 per person (up to 3 people) to attend the meetings and record this as part of the travel line item in the budget. The Office of the Chief Financial Officer requires cost calculations for all line items in your budget, including this required travel. The cost breakdown should include airfare, per diem rate, lodging, number of travelers, number of days, etc. (for example, 3 people x airline ticket ($500) = $1,500, 3 people x 2 days per diem ($76/day) = $456, 2 people x lodging ($251) x 2 nights = $1,506). Use U.S. General Services Administration per diem rates.

**Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)**

The applicant will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1(B) based on the identification of at least one proposed subrecipient as a culturally specific organization, the proposed funding for the subrecipient in the web-based budget form must be a minimum of 30% of award funding.

The budget narrative must also describe how the activities that will be funded with the (minimum) 30% of award funding provided to the subrecipient specifically relate to the priority consideration requested under Priority 1(B) and described in the Capabilities and Competencies section of the application.

**Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)**

The applicant will submit its indirect cost rate agreement by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

**Financial Management Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)**

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

**Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation**
If applicable, the applicant will submit a description of the process used to determine executive compensation by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants. See the “Application Attachments” section of the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information.

Additional Application Components

Curriculum Vitae or Resumes

Applicants should submit this documentation for any key positions supporting the project design by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants.

Tribal Authorizing Resolution

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of tribal authorizing documentation as an attachment. If applicable, the applicant will submit the Tribal authorizing documentation by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on tribal authorizing resolutions.

Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement

If an application proposes research (including research and development) and/or evaluation, the applicant must demonstrate research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, before it may receive award funds. The applicant will submit documentation of its research and evaluation independence and integrity by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. For additional information, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

Documentation of Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government (if applicable)

OJP will give priority consideration in award decisions to applications that specify how the project(s) will address potential inequities and barriers to equal opportunity, and/or contribute to greater access to services for underserved and historically marginalized populations. Applicants will submit the narrative by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

Documentation of Supporting Underserved Rural Communities (if applicable)

OJP will give priority consideration in award decisions to applications that specify how the project will support transitional services for youth in rural environments. Applicants will submit the narrative by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

Disclosures and Assurances

The applicant will address the following disclosures and assurances.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Complete and submit the SF-LLL in Grants.gov. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

DOJ Certified Standard Assurances

Review and accept the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items

Complete the JustGrants web-based Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.
DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

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

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 grantee is an award recipient that has received a DOJ high-risk designation based on a documented history of unsatisfactory performance, financial instability, management system or other internal control deficiencies, or noncompliance with award terms and conditions on prior awards, or is otherwise not responsible. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

How to Apply


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

For additional information, see the “How to Apply” section in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide and the DOJ Application Submission Checklist.

Submission Dates and Time

The SF-424 and the SF-LLL must be submitted in Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on August 15, 2022. The full application must be submitted in JustGrants by 8:59 p.m. eastern time on August 29, 2022.

OJP urges applicants to submit their Grants.gov and JustGrants submissions prior to the due dates to allow sufficient time to correct errors and resubmit by the submission deadlines if a rejection notification is received. To be considered timely, the full application must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline.

Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues

An applicant that experiences unforeseen SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants technical issues beyond its control that prevent application submission by the deadline must demonstrate all efforts in requesting technical support in order to submit an application by the deadline. Technical support is available via phone and email to the applicable SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants support centers or service desks in which an applicant received a ticket number for resolution. If an applicant misses a deadline due to unforeseen technical difficulties, the applicant may request a waiver to submit an application after the deadline. Note: If an applicant does not submit all of the required Grants.gov forms by the Grants.gov deadline, the applicant will not be able to proceed to the JustGrants portion of the application process.

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

- Grants.gov - contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline
- SAM.gov - contact the SAM Help Desk (Federal Service Desk)
- JustGrants - contact the JustGrants Support Desk at JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or 833–872–5175

Applicants requesting a waiver to submit a late application must document their request for technical assistance in an email to the OJP Response Center at grants@ncjrs.gov within 24 hours after the application deadline to request approval to submit its application after the deadline. If an applicant has technical issues with Grants.gov, the applicant must contact the Response Center within 24 hours of the Grants.gov deadline to request approval to submit after the
deadline. Waiver requests to submit after the submission deadline must:

- Describe the technical difficulties experienced.
- Include a timeline of the applicant's submission efforts (e.g., what date and time did the error occur, what date and time was action taken to resolve the issue and resubmit, and what date and time did support representatives respond).
- Include an attachment(s) of the complete grant application and all required documentation and material.
- Include the applicant's Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and any applicable SAM.gov tracking number(s), Grants.gov Help Desk ticket numbers, and JustGrants Support Desk ticket numbers.

OJP will review each request for late submission and required supporting documentation and notify the applicant whether the request has been approved or denied. For more details on the waiver process, OJP encourages applicants to review the “Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues” section in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

Application Review Information

Review Criteria

a. Merit Review Criteria

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

1. Description of the Issue (20%) - evaluate the applicant's understanding of the program/issue to be addressed.
2. Project Design and Implementation (35%) - evaluate the adequacy of the proposal, including the goals, objectives, timelines, milestones, and deliverables.
3. Capabilities and Competencies (30%) - evaluate the administrative and technical capacity of the applicant to successfully accomplish the goals and objectives.
4. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation’s Performance Measures (5%) - evaluate the applicant’s understanding of the performance data reporting requirements and the plan for collecting the required data.
5. Budget (10%) - evaluate for completeness, cost effectiveness, and allowability (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

b. Other Review Criteria/Factors

Other important considerations for OJJDP include geographic diversity, strategic priorities (specifically including, but not limited to, those priority areas already mentioned), available funding, past performance, and the extent to which the Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form) accurately explain project costs that are reasonable, necessary, and otherwise allowable under federal law and applicable federal cost principles.

Review Process

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

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

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

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

In addition, if OJP anticipates that an award will exceed $250,000 in federal funds, OJP also must review and consider any information about the applicant that appears in the non-public segment of the integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently, the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System, FAPIIS).

**Important note on FAPIIS:** An applicant may review and comment on any information about itself that currently appears in FAPIIS and was entered by a federal awarding agency. OJP will consider such comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in FAPIIS, in its assessment of the risk posed by the applicant.

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final award decisions will be made by the Assistant Attorney General, who may consider not only peer review ratings and OJJDP recommendations, but also other factors as indicated in this section.

**Federal Award Administration Information**

**Federal Award Notices**

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on award notifications and instructions.

**Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements**

If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the OJP-approved application, the recipient must comply with all award conditions and all applicable requirements of federal statutes and regulations, including the applicable requirements referred to in the assurances and certifications executed in connection with award acceptance. For additional information on these legal requirements, see the “Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements” section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

**Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses**

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

**General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements**

In addition to the deliverables described in the “Program Description” section, all award recipients under this solicitation will be required to submit certain reports and data.

**Required reports.** Award recipients typically must submit quarterly financial reports, semi-annual performance reports, final financial and performance reports, and, if applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with the Part 200 Uniform Requirements or specific award conditions. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent. (In appropriate cases, OJP may require additional reports.)

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measure data.

**Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)**

For OJP contact(s), see the solicitation cover page.

For contact information for Grants.gov, see the solicitation cover page.

For contact information for JustGrants, see the solicitation cover page.
Other Information


Provide Feedback to OJP

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on how to provide feedback to OJP.

Performance Measures

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found at https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/funding/grant-performance-measurement/progress-reporting-questions-2021.pdf.

Application Checklist

OJJDP FY 2022 Supporting Vulnerable At-Risk Youth and Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. The DOJ Application Submission Checklist is another resource.

What an Applicant Must Do:

Prior to registering in Grants.gov:

- Confirm your Entity’s System Award Management (SAM) Registration Information (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

To register in Grants.gov:

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

To find the funding opportunity:

- Search for the funding opportunity in Grants.gov using the opportunity number, Assistance Listing or keyword(s)
- Select the correct Competition ID
- Access the funding opportunity and application package (see Step 7 in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Sign up for Grants.gov email notifications (optional) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Read Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov
- Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting available at https://www.ojp.gov/funding/financialguidedoj/iii-postaward-requirements#6g3y8 (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements:

- Review the “Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2022 Awards” in the OJP Funding Resource Center.

Review Scope Requirement:

- The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of:
• Category 1: $600,000
• Category 2: $825,000

Review Eligibility Requirement:

Category 1: Project Sites

• State governments
• City or township governments
• Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education
• County governments
• Native American Tribal organizations (other than federally recognized Tribal governments)
• Native American Tribal governments (federally recognized)
• Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
• Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
• Private institutions of higher education
• For-profit organizations other than small businesses
• Independent school districts

Category 2: Training and Technical Assistance

• Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
• Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
• For-profit organizations other than small businesses
• Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education
• Private institutions of higher education

Prepare to submit the Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF)-424 and Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form (SF-LLL)

• Review Information to complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) in Grants.gov
• Complete Standard Applicant Information (SF-424 information from Grants.gov)
• Submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL in Grants.gov

After the SF-424 and SF-LLL submission in Grants.gov, receive Grants.gov email notifications that:

• Submission has been received in Grants.gov
• Submission has either been successfully validated or rejected with errors (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

If no Grants.gov receipt and validation, or if error notifications are received:

• Contact Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, Grants.gov customer support, or support@grants.gov regarding technical difficulties (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

Receive email notification to complete application in JustGrants:

• Proceed to complete application in JustGrants

Content of Application Submission: Critical Application Elements
The following items are critical application elements required to pass the basic minimum requirements review. If OJP determines that an application does not include the following elements, it will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.

• Proposal Abstract
• Proposal Narrative
• Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form)
Budget and Associated Documentation:

- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Disclosure of Process related to Executive Compensation [insert if applicable, consult with OGC] (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

Additional Application Components:

- Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable) [insert if applicable] (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity [insert if listed in the solicitation] (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Documentation of Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government (if applicable)
- Documentation of Supporting Underserved Rural Communities (if applicable)
- Curriculum Vitae or Resumes for key staff
- Letters of support
- Timeline

Disclosures and Assurances:

- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- DOJ Certified Standard Assurances (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

Submit application in JustGrants:

- Application has been successfully submitted in JustGrants

If no JustGrants application submission, validation, or if error notifications are received:

- Contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov regarding technical difficulties.
- If an applicant has technical issues with Grants.gov, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center within 24 hours of the Grants.gov deadline to request approval to submit after the deadline.