#### **U.S. Department of Justice** Office of Justice Programs Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention



Solicitation Title: OJJDP FY24 Building Local Continuums of Care to Support Youth Success Assistance Listing Number: 16.548 Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-OJJDP-2024-172146 Solicitation Release Date: May 22, 2024 Step 1: Application Grants.gov Deadline: 11:59 p.m. eastern time on July 8, 2024 Step 2: Application JustGrants Deadline: 8:59 p.m. eastern time on July 24, 2024

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# **Synopsis**

# Program Description Overview

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</u> (OJJDP) is seeking applications for funding.

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

With this solicitation, OJJDP seeks applications for funding to assist jurisdictions in planning and assessing promising and evidence-based prevention and intervention services that will inform the development of a community-based continuum of care for youth at risk of becoming or already involved in the juvenile justice system. The long-term goal of this effort is to support sustainable, research-based, and data-informed recidivism-reduction policies, practices, and programming, and the strategic reinvestment of cost savings realized through accompanying reforms into effective prevention and intervention programs for our nation's youth.

This program furthers DOJ's mission to uphold the rule of law, keep our country safe, and protect civil rights.

# **Funding Category**

Competition ID	Competition Title (Category Name)	Expected Number of Awards	Dollar Amount for Award	Performance Start Date	Performance Duration (Months)
C-OJJDP-2024- 00034-PROD	Category 1: State Agency Planning and Assessment Sites	5	Up to \$800,000	10/1/2024	18
C-OJJDP-2024- 00035-PROD	Category 2: Local Planning and Assessment Sites	8	Up to \$425,000	10/1/2024	18

# Eligibility

# Category 1: State Agency Planning and Assessment Sites

• State governments

# **Category 2: Local Planning and Assessment Sites**

- Special district governments
- City or township governments
- County governments
- Other units of local government (such as towns, boroughs, parishes, villages, or other general purpose political subdivisions of a state)

An applicant may submit more than one application, if each application proposes a different project in response to the solicitation. Also, an entity may be proposed as a subrecipient (subgrantee) in more than one application.

OJJDP will consider applications under which two or more entities (project partners) would carry out the federal award; however, only one entity may be the applicant for the solicitation. Any

others must be proposed as subrecipients (subgrantees). See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information on subawards.

OJJDP may choose to fund applications submitted under this fiscal year (FY) 2024 solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and the availability of appropriations.

## Agency Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, contact the OJP Response Center by phone at 800–851–3420 or 301–240–6310 (TTY for hearing-impaired callers only) or email at <u>grants@ncjrs.gov</u>. The OJP Response Center operates from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. eastern time (ET) Monday–Friday and from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET on the solicitation closing date.

For procedures related to unforeseen technical issues beyond the control of the applicant that impact submission by the deadlines, see the "How To Apply" section, <u>Experiencing Unforeseen</u> <u>Technical Issues</u>.

For assistance with submitting the <u>Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF-424)</u> and a <u>Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)</u> in Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800–18–4726, 606–545–5035, <u>Grants.gov Customer Support</u>, or <u>support@grants.gov</u>. The Grants.gov Support Hotline is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

For technical assistance with submitting the **full application** in JustGrants, contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833–872–5175 or <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u>. The JustGrants Service Desk operates from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET Monday–Friday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET on Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays.

## **Pre-Application Information Session**

OJJDP will hold a webinar on this solicitation on June 12, 2024, from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. ET. This call will provide a detailed overview of the solicitation and allow interested applicants to ask questions. Preregistration is required for all participants. Register by clicking on this link and following the instructions. To use the time most efficiently, OJJDP encourages participants to review this solicitation and submit any questions in advance and no later than June 5, 2024. Submit questions to <u>grants@ncjrs.gov</u> with the subject "Questions for OJJDP FY 2024 Building Local Continuums of Care to Support Youth Success Webinar." The session will be recorded and available <u>here</u>.

## **Application Submission Information**

## Registration

Before submitting an application, an applicant must have a registration in the <u>System for Award</u> <u>Management (SAM.gov)</u>.

## Submission

Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process that begins in Grants.gov and is completed in JustGrants. See the <u>Submission Dates and Time</u> section for the Grants.gov and JustGrants application deadlines.

**Step 1:** The applicant must register for this opportunity in Grants.gov at <a href="https://grants.gov/register">https://grants.gov/register</a> and submit by the Grants.gov deadline the required <u>Application for</u>

<u>Federal Assistance standard form (SF-424)</u> and a <u>Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)</u>. See the <u>Submission Dates and Time</u> section for application deadlines.

**Step 2:** The applicant must submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at <u>JustGrants.usdoj.gov</u> by the JustGrants application deadline. See the <u>Submission Dates and</u> <u>Time</u> section for application deadlines.

# **Program Description**

# **Program Description Overview**

The Building Local Continuums of Care to Support Youth Success initiative will provide planning and assessment funding to state and local jurisdictions that have high rates of youth incarceration to further develop a community-based continuum of care that includes a focus on positive youth development, prevention, diversion, and treatment services.

<u>OJJDP's</u> guiding philosophy is to enhance the welfare of America's youth and broaden their opportunities for a better future. To bring these goals to fruition, OJJDP is leading efforts to transform the juvenile justice system into one that will <u>Treat Children as Children</u>; <u>Serve</u> <u>Children at Home, With Their Families, in Their Communities</u>; and <u>Open Up Opportunities for</u> <u>System-Involved Youth</u>. OJJDP encourages all proposed applications that work with youth to highlight how the proposed program aligns with these priorities.

OJJDP envisions a juvenile justice system centered on the strengths, needs, and voices of youth and families. Young people and family members with lived experience are vital resources for understanding and reaching persons involved or at risk of involvement with youth-serving systems. OJJDP asks stakeholders to join us in sustainably integrating bold, transformative youth and family partnership strategies into our daily work. OJJDP believes in achieving positive outcomes for youth, families, and communities through meaningful engagement and active partnerships, ensuring they play a central role in collaboratively developing solutions.

Applicants must describe how their proposed project/program will integrate and sustain meaningful youth and family partnerships into all sections of the proposal narrative — including the description of the issue, project design and implementation, capabilities and competencies, plan for collecting data — and the budget. Depending on the nature of an applicant's proposed project, youth and family partnership could consist of one or more of the following:

- Individual-level partnership in case planning and direct service delivery (before, during, and after contact with youth-serving systems).
- Agency-level partnership (e.g., in policy, practice, and program development, implementation, and evaluation; staffing; advisory bodies; budget development).
- System-level partnership (e.g., in strategic planning activities, system improvement initiatives, advocacy strategies, reform efforts).

## **Statutory Authority**

Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2024, Pub. L. No. 118-42; 138 Stat. 25, 150.

## **Specific Information**

Developing a continuum of care enhances communities' abilities to meet the needs of youth involved in or at risk of entering the juvenile justice system through community-based strategies and programs that are most effective at reducing delinquency and recidivism, thereby reducing reliance on deeper system involvement to access resources. Cost-savings realized through meeting youths' needs early and in the community rather than through deeper system involvement can be reinvested to address gaps identified across the continuum of care. The planning and assessment process supported under this solicitation is vital to helping communities identify and map out their available resources, as well as gaps that need to be filled, in order to address the problem of high youth incarceration and crime rates. This process

will inform the development of a community-based continuum of promising and evidence-based prevention and intervention services that will serve as a strong foundation for preventing youth from entering the juvenile justice system, diverting them from moving deeper into the system (i.e., detention and corrections), and ultimately providing them with the skills they need to lead productive, safe, healthy, and law-abiding lives.

Based on the outcome of planning and assessment activities, communities will be able to respond to gaps in their current service continuum and strategically reinvest any cost savings into the most effective recidivism reduction, prevention, and intervention programs.

There are two categories of funding available under this solicitation:

## Category 1: State Agency Planning and Assessment Sites Category 2: Local Planning and Assessment Sites

These categories support the efforts of eligible applicants to conduct a planning and assessment process that will identify gaps and assist in achieving cost savings by meeting youths' needs early and in the community rather than through deeper system involvement. These savings can be reinvested in the development and implementation of promising practices and evidence-based prevention and intervention strategies as part of a community-based continuum of care for youth at risk of or already involved in the juvenile justice system.

OJJDP is committed to investing in a community-based continuum of promising practices and evidence-based prevention and intervention programs that serve as a strong foundation for preventing youth from entering the juvenile justice system, diverting them from moving deeper into the system (i.e., detention and corrections), and ultimately providing them with the skills they need to lead productive, safe, healthy, and law-abiding lives. This support system is critical for youth success.

The development of a community-based continuum of care that is responsive to youth at risk of entering the juvenile justice system will take a data-informed and coordinated approach. Funding will support applicants in convening a group of stakeholders to engage in a planning process that will inform the development of the continuum. This stakeholder group should include representatives from community-based organizations, business groups, local law enforcement, the juvenile justice system, the school system, court services, social services, health and mental health providers, advocacy groups, and other public and private community and faith-based organizations to assess the problems and costs the community incurs as a result of crime committed by youth. In addition, OJJDP values the role of directly impacted youth and families in informing this plan and applicants must include them in the required stakeholder group.

This planning process will identify those programs and interventions that have demonstrated effective results, those that are promising, and those that have not been effective. Specifically, the data collected as part of the planning process should explore areas where cost savings could occur for the jurisdiction (i.e., reduced incarceration costs, governmental cost savings, etc.) by implementing the identified effective programs and interventions while also producing a drop in crime. In addition, planning efforts should include an intentional focus on sustainability beyond any federal grant funding support such that any savings realized would be reinvested in the continuum of care.

The initiative is supported by several OJJDP training and technical assistance providers to assist successful applicants during the planning process, help to identify evidence-based practices and strategies, develop economic impact strategies that result in cost savings, and identify how those cost savings can be reinvested into the larger continuum of care. Successful applicants under Categories 1 and 2 are expected to work with the training and technical assistance providers throughout the length of their cooperative agreement. Funded sites are expected to include their community partners and stakeholders in the collaborative learning process that the training and technical assistance providers will establish.

Applicants are encouraged to include local training and technical assistance as part of their project design to include:

- Utilization of a local university to gather and analyze pertinent data.
- Asset mapping supports.
- Enhanced partnerships with youth and families.
- Creation of a written product that identifies assets, gaps, resources, and cost savings.

Local training and technical assistance should be coordinated with the OJJDP Continuum of Care training and technical assistance providers, when appropriate.

## **Solicitation Goals and Objectives**

## Goals

The primary goal of the initiative is to support better outcomes for youth and families by investing more resources in prevention and intervention programming across a community-based continuum of care in neighborhoods disproportionately impacted by incarceration. By lifting up community-based alternatives and supporting systems integration, better outcomes for all youth can be achieved.

A well-resourced continuum should include a range of supports and opportunities that build on youth and family strengths and assets to promote healthy development, improve family functioning, meet essential needs, and strengthen neighborhoods. Ideally, youth and families would have access to a rich variety of supports and services outside the juvenile justice system so that it is not the only entry point for access, and participation can continue beyond a youth's involvement in the justice system. Services should be culturally appropriate, effective, and responsive to the evolving needs of youth and families.

## **Objectives**

The objective of this initiative is to support interested jurisdictions to conduct a planning process that will identify available resources and existing gaps in prevention and intervention services for youth at risk of involvement or already involved in the juvenile justice system. Creating alternative pathways to deeper system involvement and incarceration for justice-involved youth is central to the initiative; investing in supportive and effective youth-serving systems, no matter where a youth sits on the continuum, in a non-siloed manner, is good practice. This planning process must be comprehensive, collaborative, and focused on cost savings that allow for the identification, development, and sustainability of promising and evidence-based strategies for youth. Specific program objectives include:

• Identify strategies that support promising and evidence-based approaches that advance the long-term well-being and success of youth and their families.

- Develop economic impact strategies that result in cost savings, and identify how those cost savings can be reinvested into the larger continuum of care.
- Establish a sustainable framework that supports the decarceration of youth and the diversion of children identified as being at risk of involvement in the criminal justice system through a coordinated, collaborative strategy that also promotes safe communities.

For information about what the applicant needs to submit regarding Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables, please see the <u>How to Apply section on the Application Goals, Objectives,</u> <u>Deliverables, and Timeline Web-Based Form.</u>

## **Priority Areas**

In order to further OJP's mission, OJP will provide priority consideration when making award decisions to the following:

**1A.** Applications that propose project(s) that are designed to meaningfully advance equity and remove barriers to accessing services and opportunities for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization.

To receive this consideration, the applicant must describe how the proposed project(s) will address identified inequities **and** contribute to greater access to services and opportunities for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization. Project activities under this consideration may include, but are not limited to, the following: improving victim services, justice responses, prevention initiatives, reentry services, and other parts of an organization's or community's efforts to advance public safety. Applicants should propose activities that address the cultural (and linguistic, if appropriate) needs of communities, outline how the proposed activities will be informed by these communities, and implement culturally responsive and inclusive outreach and engagement.

**1B.** Applicants that demonstrate that their capabilities and competencies for implementing their proposed project(s) are enhanced because they (or at least one proposed subrecipient that will receive **at least 40 percent** of the requested award funding, as demonstrated in the Budget web-based form) are a *population-specific organization* that serves communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization.

For purposes of this solicitation, population-specific organizations are nonprofit, nongovernmental, or Tribal organizations that primarily serve members of a specific underserved population and have demonstrated experience and expertise providing targeted services to members of that specific underserved population.

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

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 an award.

## **Federal Award Information**

# Awards, Amounts, and Durations

Anticipated Number of Awards: Category 1: 5 Category 2: 8 Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount per Award: Category 1: up to \$800,000\* Category 2: up to \$425,000 Period of Performance Start Date: 10/01/2024 Period of Performance Duration (Months): 18 months Anticipated Total Amount To Be Awarded Under This Solicitation: \$7,400,000

Additional Information: While the maximum allowable funding amount is \$800,000 under Category 1 and \$425,000 under Category 2, OJP encourages applicants, including those that are new or that have never before received a federal award, to submit a proposed budget that best supports their project objectives and organizational capabilities, even if the proposed budget is at a lower amount than the maximum allowable funding level.

\*State agencies should consider the number of jurisdictions targeted when determining the requested funding amounts, and those state agencies requesting the full amount of \$800,000 should demonstrate broad reach in terms of number of jurisdictions targeted.

## **Continuation Funding Intent**

OJP may, in certain cases, provide additional funding in future years to awards made under this funding opportunity through continuation awards. 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, when making continuation award decisions.

## **Availability of Funds**

This funding opportunity, and awards under this funding opportunity, are subject to the availability of funding and to any changes 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.

## Type of Award

OJJDP expects to make awards under this funding opportunity as cooperative agreements, which provide for OJP to have substantial involvement in carrying out award activities. See the "<u>Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements</u>" section of the <u>Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

## **Cost Sharing or Match Requirement**

This funding opportunity does not require a match.

## **Eligibility Information**

For eligibility information, see the Synopsis section.

For the purposes of this notice of funding opportunity, "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.

For the purposes of this notice of funding opportunity, other units of local government include towns, boroughs, parishes, villages, or other general purpose political subdivisions of a state.

# How To Apply

# Application Resources

When preparing and submitting an application, the following resources may aid prospective applicants:

- 1. Grants.gov "How to Apply for Grants"
- 2. OJP <u>"How To Apply</u>" section in the <u>Application Resource Guide</u>
- 3. JustGrants Application Submission Training

This solicitation (notice of funding opportunity) incorporates guidance provided in the <u>OJP Grant</u> <u>Application Resource Guide</u> (Application Resource Guide), which provides additional information for applicants to prepare and submit applications to OJP for funding. If this solicitation requires something different from any guidance provided in the <u>Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u>, the difference will be noted in this solicitation and the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation, rather than the guidance in the <u>Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u> that is in conflict.

## How To Apply

## Registration

Before submitting an application, all applicants must register with the System for Award Management (SAM.gov). An applicant must renew their registration every 12 months. If an applicant does not renew their SAM.gov registration, it will expire. An expired registration can delay or prevent application submission in Grants.gov and JustGrants. Applicants are encouraged to start the SAM.gov registration process at least 30 days prior to the application deadlines. Applicants who fail to begin the registration or renewal process at least 10 business days prior to the Grants.gov deadline may not be able to complete the process in time and will not be considered for late submission.

## Submission

Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process that begins in Grants.gov and is completed in JustGrants.

**Step 1:** After registering with SAM.gov, the applicant must submit the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL** in Grants.gov at <u>https://grants.gov/register</u> by the Grants.gov deadline. **To allow time to address any technical issues that may arise, an applicant should submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL as early as possible and no later than 48 hours before the Grants.gov deadline (recommended). If an applicant fails to submit in Grants.gov by the deadline, they will be unable to apply in JustGrants. Applicants can confirm Grants.gov submission by verifying their application status shows as "submitted" or "agency tracking number assigned."** 

**Step 2:** The applicant must then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at <u>JustGrants.usdoj.gov</u> by the JustGrants deadline.

OJP recommends that applicants submit the complete application package in JustGrants at least 48 hours prior to the JustGrants deadline. Some of the required sections of the application will be entered directly into JustGrants, and other sections will require documents to be uploaded and attached. Therefore, applicants should allow enough time before the JustGrants deadline to prepare all the requirements of the application. Applicants may save their progress

in the system and add to or change the application as needed prior to hitting the "Submit" button at the end of the application in JustGrants.

An applicant will receive email notifications when successfully submitting in Grants.gov and JustGrants, and should maintain all emails and other confirmations received from the SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants systems.

For additional information, see the "How To Apply" section in the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> and the <u>DOJ Application Submission Checklist</u>.

## **Submission Dates and Time**

The **SF-424 and the SF-LLL** must be submitted in Grants.gov by 11:59 pm eastern time on July 8, 2024.

The full application must be submitted in JustGrants by 8:59 pm eastern time on July 24, 2024.

To be considered timely, the **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline. Failure to begin the SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants registration and application process in sufficient time (i.e., waiting until the due dates identified in this solicitation for those systems to begin the application steps) is not an acceptable reason to request a technical waiver.

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

OJP will only consider requests to submit an application after the deadline when the applicant can document that a technical issue with a government system prevented submission of the application on time.

If an applicant misses a deadline due to unforeseen technical issues with SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants, the applicant may request a waiver to submit an application after the deadline. However, the waiver request will not be considered unless it includes documentation of attempts to receive technical assistance to resolve the issue prior to the application deadline. A tracking number is the most typical documentation and is generated when the applicant contacts the applicable service desks to report technical difficulties. Tracking numbers are generated automatically when an applicant emails the applicable service desks; for this reason, experiencing long wait times for phone support does not relieve the applicant of the responsibility for getting a tracking number.

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

- SAM.gov: contact the <u>SAM.gov Help Desk (Federal Service Desk)</u> Monday–Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET at 866–606–8220.
- Grants.gov: contact the <u>Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline</u> 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays, at 800–518–4726, 606–545–5035, or <u>support@grants.gov</u>.
- JustGrants: contact the JustGrants Service Desk at <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u> or 833–872–5175, Monday–Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET and Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET.

If an applicant has technical issues with SAM.gov or Grants.gov, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center at <u>grants@ncjrs.gov</u> within **24 hours of the Grants.gov deadline** to request approval to submit after the deadline.

If an applicant has technical issues with JustGrants that prevent application submission by the deadline, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center at <u>grants@ncjrs.gov</u> within **24 hours of the JustGrants deadline** to request approval to submit after the deadline.

Waiver requests sent to the OJP Response Center must:

- Describe the technical difficulties experienced (provide screenshots if applicable).
- Include a timeline of the applicant's submission efforts (e.g., date and time the error occurred, date and time of actions taken to resolve the issue and resubmit, and date and time support representatives responded).
- Include an attachment of the complete grant application and all the required documentation and materials.
- Include the applicant's Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).
- Include any SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants Service Desk tracking numbers documenting the technical issue.

OJP will review each waiver request and the required supporting documentation and notify the applicant whether the request for late submission has been approved or denied. An applicant that does not provide documentation of a technical issue (including all information listed above), or that does not submit a waiver request within the required time period, will be denied.

For more details on the waiver process, OJP encourages applicants to review the "Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues" section in the <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.

## **Application and Submission Information**

## **Content of Application Submission and Available Surveys**

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:

- SF-424 and SF-LLL (in Grants.gov)
- Proposal Abstract (in JustGrants)
- Proposal Narrative (in JustGrants)
- Budget Web-Based Form, which includes the budget details and the budget narrative (in JustGrants)

If OJP determines that an application does not include these elements, it will not proceed to peer review and will not receive any further consideration.

## Content of the SF-424 in Grants.gov

The SF-424 must be submitted in Grants.gov. It is a required standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications, applications, and related information. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> 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 funding opportunity **is not** subject to <u>Executive Order (E.O.)</u> <u>12372</u>. In completing the SF-424, an applicant should answer question 19 by selecting "Program is not covered by E.O. 12372."

## Content of the JustGrants Application Submission

## Entity and User Verification (First-Time Applicant)

For first-time JustGrants applicants, once the application is received from Grants.gov, DOJ will send an email (from DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov) to the individual listed in Section 8F of the SF-424 with instructions on how to create a JustGrants account. The email should arrive within 24 hours after this individual receives confirmation from Grants.gov of their SF-424 and SF-LLL submissions. Register the Entity Administrator (the person who manages and who can access JustGrants on behalf of the applicant), Application Submitter, and Authorized Representative for the applicant with JustGrants as early as possible and (recommended) not later than 48–72 hours before the JustGrants deadline. Once registered in JustGrants, the Application Submitter will receive a link in an email to complete the rest of the application in JustGrants. Find additional information on JustGrants Application Submission in the <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.

## Standard Applicant Information

The "Standard Applicant Information" section of the JustGrants application is prepopulated 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 their 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 its purpose, primary activities, expected outcomes, the service area, intended beneficiaries, and subrecipients (if known)—must be completed in the JustGrants web-based form. This abstract should be in paragraph form without bullets or tables, written in the third person, and exclude personally identifiable information. Abstracts will be made publicly available on the OJP and USASpending.gov websites if the project is awarded. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for an <u>example</u> of a proposal abstract.

## Data Requested With Application

The following application elements should be submitted in the web-based forms in JustGrants.

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

The Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire helps OJP assess the financial management and internal control systems, and the associated potential risks of an applicant as part of the pre-award risk assessment process. Every OJP applicant (other than an individual applying in their personal capacity, not representing an applicant organization) is required to complete the web-based Questionnaire form in JustGrants. See the <u>Application</u> <u>Resource Guide: Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire</u> (including Applicant Disclosure of High Risk Status) for additional guidance on how to complete the questionnaire.

## **Brief Applicant Entity Questionnaire**

OJP is collecting the following information to help assess its efforts to attract a broader range of applicants. These questions apply to the applicant entity and its work and scope only, and not to the specific project(s) being proposed within the application. Responses to the questions will not be considered in the application review process. The questions included in the questionnaire are available in the <u>Standard Forms & Instructions: Brief Applicant Entity Questionnaire</u>.

## 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 size font; have no less than 1-inch margins; and should not exceed 30 numbered pages. If the proposal narrative fails to comply with these length restrictions, OJP may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions. Please note: Tables, charts, and graphs included in the proposal narrative can be created in a legible font smaller than 12 point and will count toward the page limit.

The proposal narrative must include the following sections:

a. Description of the Issue

Applicants should briefly describe the nature and scope of the problem that the program will address (e.g., high levels of youth incarceration, need for a continuum of 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 as well as how youth and family partnerships will help to address the need. 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, to include the age to be served and the specific community/communities to be targeted with funded interventions. This section should also discuss any previous or current attempts to address the problem as well as identify current gaps/barriers in programming/services. 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.

This planning process is vital to helping communities identify and map out their available resources, as well as gaps that need to be filled, in order to address the problem of high youth incarceration and crime rates and improve youth outcomes. Applicants under both Categories 1 and 2 should include information, along with supporting comparative documentation that identifies the communities within the state as highest need and readiness based on data, on the following for their jurisdiction:

- Juvenile arrests.
- Diversion.
- Juvenile detention.
- Juvenile secure correctional facilities.

Data provided may vary based on specific data and reports available, but should be able to illustrate a particular jurisdiction's capacity to embrace juvenile justice reform by demonstrating current reliance on incarceration and formal court processing for youth infractions, and should include:

- The number of juvenile arrests during a certain time period, as compared to the overall juvenile population.
- The number of youth entered into diversion, as compared to youth entering the formal juvenile justice system.
- Current state utilization of secure confinement, to include number of juvenile correctional facilities and total bed capacity.
- Current local utilization of secure confinement, to include number of juvenile detention facilities and total bed capacity.

Data provided should be for a minimum of a 6-month period and should include any relevant narrative that frames the current status of the state and/or local jurisdiction's efforts regarding implementation of diversion programming, to include current impediments to advance juvenile reform. Data should include information on the top three counties/jurisdictions in a state/territory that commit youth to a secure placement or should include information related to overutilization of detention (as some jurisdictions may have an overreliance on detention as opposed to commitments).

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 goals and objectives. 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.

Being able to leverage resources at the state and local levels is a critical selection factor for applicants to demonstrate. *Category 1 applicants* should demonstrate their commitment and ability to leverage federal and state resources under the state's direction (e.g., American Rescue Plan Act funds, pandemic relief funds such as through the Department of Education, infrastructure funding for information technology support to rural social services, etc.). Please refer to the Urban Institute tool entitled <u>How Can We</u> Fund a Continuum of Care and Opportunity? for more on leveraging resources. **See also** the Deliverables Expected by Successful Applicants section and include details regarding how deliverables will be achieved.

*Category 2 applicants* are encouraged to collaborate with state-level government agencies during the planning process. Applicants should discuss how they will leverage the existing state coordinating council or governance board to advance systems-level strategies, needs, and resources to support local continuum of care plans and implementation. Should there be challenges in gaining support from a state agency to engage in this work at the local level, the applicant must clearly articulate this in the program narrative. Details regarding efforts to gain this support, and state agency response to those efforts, should be described in the narrative.

As indicated in the **Program Description Overview** section, applicants should describe how their proposed project/program will integrate and sustain meaningful youth and family partnership into their proposed project. Applicants should address any corresponding budget implications in their application's budget detail and budget narrative, such as how youth and families who serve as experts on the project are compensated. For resources/guidance on effective youth and family partnership strategies and practices, click <u>here</u>.

If an applicant is seeking consideration under Priority 1A, it should explain in this section how the proposed project(s) will meaningfully address identified inequities **and** contribute to greater access to services and opportunities for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization. The applicant should also identify how the project design and implementation will specifically incorporate the input and/or participation of these communities.

## 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 the project proposed for funding. This section should also include applicant history, capabilities, and competencies of supporting youth and family partnerships.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1B, it should: (1) describe within this section how being a population-specific organization (or funding a population-specific subrecipient organization at a minimum of 40 percent of the project budget) will enhance its capabilities and competencies to implement the proposed project; (2) specify which populations are intended or expected to be served, have their needs addressed, and/or be affected by the proposed project; and (3) include information to confirm that the population-specific organization is specifically designed to serve communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization (examples of such information include, but are not limited to, the website address, charter, mission statement, or operating principles of the population-specific organization).

d. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for This Solicitation's Performance Measures

Describe the process for measuring project performance. Identify how you will utilize youth and family voices in deciding which data will be collected, who will collect the data, who is responsible for performance measurements, and how the information will be used

to guide and evaluate the project's impact. Describe the process to accurately report data.

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

OJP will require each award recipient to submit regular performance data that show the completed work's results. The performance data directly relate to the solicitation goals and objectives identified in the "Goals and Objectives" section. Applicants can visit OJP's performance measurement page at www.ojp.gov/performance for more information on performance measurement activities.

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found at <u>https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/funding/grant-performance-measurement/progress-reporting-</u><u>guestions.pdf</u>. Some measures are presented as examples, while others are the exact measures that every recipient will be expected to address.

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 the applicant is 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 "<u>Note on Project Evaluations</u>" section in the <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.

## Application Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline Web-Based Form

The applicant will submit the project's goals, objectives, deliverables, and timeline in the JustGrants web-based form. This is a summary of the goals, objectives, deliverables, and timeline that relate to the proposal narrative. The applicant will also enter the projected fiscal year and quarter that each objective and deliverable will be completed. Please refer to the <u>Application Submission Job Aid</u> for step-by-step directions.

- **Goals:** The applicant should describe the project's intent to change, reduce, or eliminate the problem noted in the proposal narrative.
- **Program Objectives and Timeline:** The applicant should how the program will accomplish its goals. Objectives are specific, measurable actions to reach the project's desired results. The included timelines should be clearly linked to the goal.
- **Deliverables and Timeline:** Project deliverables refer to outputs—tangible or intangible—that are submitted within the scope of a project.

## Deliverables Expected by Successful Applicants

For both Category 1: State Agency Planning and Assessment Sites and Category 2: Local Planning and Assessment Sites, applicant deliverables must include the following:

• Provide a 100 percent full-time-equivalent continuum coordinator to serve as facilitator and project director.

- Convene a planning council composed of a variety of community stakeholders, including system-impacted youth and family representatives, law enforcement, juvenile justice agency staff, school system staff, court services, social services, health and mental health providers, advocacy groups, the business community, and other public and private community and faith-based organizations, that will engage in a planning process to develop a continuum of care designed to reduce rates of delinquency and incarceration through effective prevention, intervention, diversion, and reentry services for youth so that youth may receive services and opportunities.
- Convene the planning council on a regular basis to fully support the planning process.
- Develop and conduct a planning process that, at a minimum, includes the following activities:
  - Asset mapping within the designated jurisdictions to identify leveraged resources and policy/practice strategies for implementation.
  - Gap analysis to identify areas of need in the community.
  - Identification of the key data points for tracking and monitoring progress to meet youth needs, reduce youth incarceration rates outlined in the solicitation, and assess what practices work best to improve youth well-being and prevent juvenile crime, especially in communities where there is a high need and high crime rates.
  - Identification of cost savings through reforms than can be reinvested in promising practices and evidence-based prevention and intervention strategies that will reduce juvenile crime and recidivism.
- Deliver a comprehensive community plan for accessing, delivering, and sustaining a community-based continuum of care utilizing evidence-based prevention and intervention programs and best practices. This plan should include a timeline and interim benchmarks for the following sequenced parts for OJJDP coordination and support:
  - Asset map and gap analysis.
  - Continuum of care plan with implementation timeline.
  - Implementation plan by year.

Program objectives and deliverables should be included in one timeline.

## Budget and Associated Documentation

Applicants should budget funds to support as many as three staff to travel to participate in a 3day in-person cross-site meeting, as OJJDP directs. Applicants should budget approximately 2,000 per person 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 travel days x per diem ( $75\% \times 76/day$ ) = 342, 3 people x 2 full days x per diem (76/day) = 456, 3 people x lodging (251) x 3 nights = 2,259). Use U.S. General Services Administration per diem rates found at www.gsa.gov.

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

## Budget Detail and Narrative Web-Based Form

The applicant will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form, which includes both detailed calculations and budget narrative sections.

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

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1A and has proposed activities to incorporate the input and participation of communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization, financial support for the identified activities and participation must be reflected in the web-based budget form.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1B based on the identification of a proposed subrecipient as a population-specific organization, the proposed funding for the subrecipient must **reflect a minimum of 40 percent of the total award funding** within the web-based budget form. The budget narrative must also describe how the **activities that will be funded** with the (minimum) 40 percent of award funding provided to the subrecipient **specifically relate to the proposed project** that will meaningfully address identified inequities and contribute to greater access to services and opportunities for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization.

The budget narrative **must clearly describe how the project is fiscally supporting youth and family partnerships**. This could include compensating them for their expertise, providing transportation, etc.

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

OJP strongly encourages every applicant that proposes to use award funds for any conference-, meeting-, or training-related activity (or similar event) to review carefully—before submitting an application—the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for information on prior approval, planning, and reporting of conference/meeting/training costs.

## Costs Associated With Language Assistance (if applicable)

If an applicant proposes a program or activity that would deliver services or benefits to individuals, the costs of taking reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to those services or benefits for individuals with limited English proficiency may be allowable. See the <u>Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u> for information on costs associated with language assistance.

## **Budget/Financial Attachments**

## Pre-Agreement (Pre-Award) Costs (if applicable)

Pre-agreement costs are defined as costs requiring approval incurred by the applicant prior to the start date of the period of performance of the federal award. OJP does not typically approve pre-agreement costs. If a successful applicant, in anticipation of the federal award but before the start date of the period of performance, incurs costs that are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the funded project, those costs may not be charged to the award. See the "Costs Requiring Prior Approval" section in the <u>DOJ Grants Financial Guide Post-Award Requirements</u> for more information.

## Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

Indirect costs are costs of an organization that are not readily assignable to a particular project, but are necessary to the operation of the organization and the performance of the project.

Examples of costs usually treated as indirect include those incurred for facility operation and maintenance, depreciation, and administrative salaries. The requirements for the development and submission of indirect cost proposals and cost allocation plans are listed in Appendices III– VII of 2 C.F.R. Part 200. A nonfederal applicant should follow the guidelines applicable to its type of organization. If applicable, an applicant with a current federally approved indirect cost rate agreement will upload it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the <u>DOJ Financial Guide</u> for additional information on <u>Indirect Cost Rate Agreement</u>.

#### Consultant Rate (if applicable)

Costs for consultant services require prior approval from OJP. If the proposed project expects to fund consultant services, compensation for individual consultant services is to be reasonable and consistent with that paid for similar services in the marketplace. See the <u>DOJ Grants</u> <u>Financial Guide</u> for information on the consultant rates, which require prior approval from OJP.

# Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards Over \$250,000; Waiver (if applicable)

If an applicant proposes to hire employees with federal award funds, for any award of more than \$250,000 made under a funding opportunity, an award recipient may not use federal funds to pay total cash compensation (salary plus cash bonuses) to any employee of the recipient 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 <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)

This notice of funding opportunity expressly modifies the Application Resource Guide by not incorporating its "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation" provisions. Applicants to this funding opportunity are not required to provide this disclosure.

## **Additional Application Components**

The applicant will attach the additional requested documentation in JustGrants.

## Curriculum Vitae or Resumes

Provide resumes of key personnel who will work on the proposed project.

#### **Position descriptions**

## Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable)

An application in response to this solicitation 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.

Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and Other Supportive Documents (if applicable) Applicants should include, for each named partner, a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Letter of Intent, or subcontract that confirms the partner's agreement to support the project through commitments of staff time, space, services, or other project needs. For applications submitted from two or more entities, applicants are encouraged to develop and submit signed MOUs or signed Letters of Intent that provide a detailed description of how the agencies will work together to meet project requirements.

Each MOU should include the following: (1) names of the organizations involved in the agreement, (2) what service(s) and other work will be performed under the agreement by what organization, and (3) duration of the agreement.

Subcontracts, MOUs, or Letters of Intent should be submitted as one separate attachment to the application.

## Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement (if applicable)

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 upload documentation of its research and evaluation independence and integrity as an attachment in JustGrants. For additional information, see the <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.

#### **Disclosures and Assurances**

The applicant will address the following disclosures and assurances.

#### Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

The SF-LLL attachment that was completed and submitted in Grants.gov is attached to this section.

## Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items

To ensure funding coordination across grant-making agencies, and to avoid unnecessary or inappropriate duplication among grant awards, the applicant will disclose if it has any pending applications for federal funding, including pending applications for subawards of federal funds. Complete the JustGrants web-based 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</u> <u>Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

#### DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing

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

#### Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High-Risk Grantees

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, noncompliance with award terms and conditions on prior awards, or is otherwise not responsible. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

# **Application Review Information**

## **Review Criteria**

## Basic Minimum Review Criteria

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 requirements for all OJP solicitations:

- The application must be submitted by an eligible type of applicant.
- The application must request funding within any stated programmatic funding limits or boundaries.
- The application must be responsive to the scope of the solicitation.
- The application must include all items necessary to meet the basic minimum requirements.

## Merit Review Criteria

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

- Description of the Issue (20%): evaluate the applicant's understanding of the program/issue to be addressed.
- Project Design and Implementation (35%): evaluate the strength of the proposal, including information provided in the goals, objectives, timelines, and deliverables webbased form.
- Capabilities and Competencies (25%): evaluate the applicant's administrative and technical capacity to successfully accomplish the goals and objectives.
- Plan for Collecting the Data Required for This Solicitation's Performance Measures (10%): evaluate the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements and the plan for collecting the required data.
- Budget (10%): evaluate for completeness, cost effectiveness, and allowability (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

## **Other Review Criteria/Factors**

Other important considerations for OJP include geographic diversity, strategic priorities (specifically including, but not limited to, those priority areas already mentioned, if applicable), available funding, past performance, and the extent to which the budget web-based form accurately explains project costs that are reasonable, necessary, and otherwise allowable under federal law and applicable federal cost principles. Costs are allowable when they are reasonable, allocable to, and necessary for the performance of the federal award, and when they comply with the funding statute and agency requirements (to include the conditions of the award), including the cost principles set out in the <u>Uniform Requirements 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E</u>.

## **Risk Criteria/Factors**

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 of performance, integrity, and business ethics, OJP checks whether the applicant is listed in SAM.gov 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.gov.

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

## **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. 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**

Generally, award notifications are made by the end of the current federal fiscal year, September 30. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for information on award notifications and instructions.

## **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 (programs or practices that have been evaluated as effective), see the <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.

## Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities

OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the projects and activities funded under this solicitation. For additional information on what should be included in the application, see the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> section entitled "Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities."

## Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements

If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the OJPapproved application, the recipient must comply with all award conditions and all applicable requirements of federal statutes and regulations, including the applicable requirements referred to in the assurances and certifications executed in connection with award acceptance. For additional information on these legal requirements, see the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section in the <u>Application Resource Guide</u>.

## **Civil Rights Compliance**

If a successful applicant accepts funding from OJP—as a recipient of OJP funding—that award recipient must comply with certain federal civil rights laws that prohibit it from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disability in how the recipient delivers its

program's services or benefits and in its employment practices. The civil rights laws that may be applicable to the award include Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), the nondiscrimination provisions of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (Safe Streets Act), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. These and other federal civil rights laws are discussed in greater detail here: "Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2024 Awards under the "Civil Rights Requirements" section, and additional resources are available from the OJP Office for Civil Rights.

Part of complying with civil rights laws that prohibit national origin discrimination includes recipients taking reasonable steps to ensure that people who are limited in their English proficiency (LEP) because of their national origin have meaningful access to a recipient's program and activity. An LEP person is one whose first language is not English and who has a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English. To help recipients meet this obligation to serve LEP persons, DOJ has published a number of resources, including a language access assessment and planning tool, which are available at https://www.lep.gov/language-access-planning. Additional resources are available at https://www.ojp.gov/program/civil-rights-office/limited-english-proficient-lep. If the award recipient proposes a program or activity that would deliver services or benefits to LEP individuals, the recipient may use grant funds to support the costs of taking reasonable steps (e.g., interpretation or translation services) to provide meaningful access. Similarly, recipients are responsible for ensuring that their programs and activities are readily accessible to qualified individuals with disabilities. Applicants for OJP funding must allocate grant funds or explain how other available resources will be used to ensure meaningful and full access to their programs. For example, grant funds can be used to support American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter services for deaf or hard-of-hearing individuals or the purchase of adaptive equipment for individuals with mobility or cognitive disabilities. For resources, see https://www.ada.gov/ or contact OJP.

## **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 <u>Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

# Information Technology Security Clauses

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of information related to information technology security. See the <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for more information.

## **General Information About Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements**

In addition to the deliverables described in the "<u>Program Description</u>" section, all award recipients under this solicitation will be required to submit certain reports and data.

Required reports. Award recipients 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 <u>Application Resource Guide</u> for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measure data.

## Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For OJP contact(s), contact information for Grants.gov, and contact information for JustGrants, see the solicitation Synopsis.

## Other Information

## Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. §§ 552 and 552a)

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

## **Provide Feedback to OJP**

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

## **Performance Measures**

https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/funding/grant-performance-measurement/progress-reporting-questions.pdf

# **Application Checklist**

# OJJDP FY24 Building Local Continuums of Care to Support Youth Success

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. For more information, refer to the OJP Application Submission Steps in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide and the DOJ Application Submission Checklist.

## **Pre-Application**

## Before Registering in Grants.gov

 Confirm your entity's registration in the <u>System Award Management (SAM.gov)</u> is active through the solicitation period; submit a new or renewal registration in SAM.gov if needed (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>).

## Register in Grants.gov

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

## Find the Funding Opportunity

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

## **Review the Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements**

• Review the "<u>Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and</u> <u>Cooperative Agreements - FY 2024 Awards</u>" in the <u>OJP Funding Resource Center</u>.

## **Review the Scope Requirement**

 The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of \$800,000 for Category 1 (State Planning and Assessment Sites), \$425,000 for Category 2 (Local Planning and Assessment Sites).

## **Review Eligibility Requirement**

• Review the "Eligibility" section on the in the Synopsis and "Eligibility Information" section in the solicitation.

## **Application Step 1**

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

• In Section 8F of the SF-424, include the name and contact information of the individual who will complete the application in JustGrants and the SF-LLL in Grants.gov.

Within 48 hours after the SF-424 and SF-LLL submission in Grants.gov, receive four Grants.gov email notifications:

- A submission receipt.
- A validation receipt.
- A grantor agency retrieval receipt.
- An agency tracking number assignment.

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

 Contact Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800–518–4726, 606–545–5035, <u>Grants.gov customer support</u>, or <u>support@grants.gov</u> regarding technical difficulties (see <u>"Application Resource Guide</u>" <u>section on Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues</u>).

Within 24 hours after receipt of confirmation emails from Grants.gov, the individual in Section 8F of the SF-424 will receive an email from JustGrants with login instructions.

• Proceed to Application Step 2 and complete application in JustGrants.

## Application Step 2

Submit the following information in JustGrants:

## **Application Components**

- Entity and User Verification (First-Time Applicant)
- Standard Applicant information (SF-424 information from Grants.gov)
- Proposal Abstract\*
- Proposal Narrative\*
- Application Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline web-based form

## Budget and Associated Documentation

- Budget Detail Narrative and Web-Based Form\*
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see <u>Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u>)
- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)

## **Additional Application Components**

- Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable) (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)
- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (if applicable) (see <u>Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u>)
- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)
- Memorandum of Understanding (if applicable)
- Resumes of key personnel

- Position descriptions
- Organizational chart

# **Disclosures and Assurances**

- <u>Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)</u> (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)
- Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)
- DOJ Certified Standard Assurances (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)
- DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing (see <u>Application Resource Guide</u>)
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification DOJ High-Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see Application Resource Guide)

## \*Note: Items designated with an asterisk must be submitted for an application to meet the basic minimum requirements review. If OJP determines that an application does not include the designated items, it will neither proceed to peer review nor receive further consideration.

# Review, Certify, and Submit Application in JustGrants

- Any validation errors will immediately display on screen after submission.
- Correct validation errors, if necessary, and then return to the "Certify and Submit" screen to submit the application. Access the <u>Application Submission Validation Errors Quick</u> Reference Guide for step-by-step instructions to resolve errors prior to submission.
- Once the application is submitted and validated, a confirmation message will appear at the top of the page. Users will also receive a notification in the "bell" alerts confirming submission.

If no JustGrants application submission confirmation email or validation is received, or if error notification is received —

 Contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833–872–5175 or <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u> regarding technical difficulties. See the <u>Application</u> <u>Resource Guide</u> for additional information.

## **Standard Solicitation Resources**

<u>Application Resource Guide</u> provides guidance to assist OJP grant applicants in preparing and submitting applications for OJP funding.

<u>DOJ Grants Financial Guide</u> serves as the primary reference manual to assist award recipients in fulfilling their fiduciary responsibility to safeguard grant funds and to ensure funds are used for the purposes for which they were awarded. It compiles a variety of laws, rules, and regulations that affect the financial and administrative management of DOJ awards. This guide serves as a starting point for all award recipients and subrecipients of DOJ grants and cooperative agreements in ensuring the effective day-to-day management of awards.

<u>JustGrants Resources Website</u> is an entryway into information about JustGrants and the grants management system itself. Through this portal, both award recipients and applicants can access training resource and user support options, find frequently asked questions, and sign up for the <u>JustGrants Update e-newsletter</u>.

<u>JustGrants Application Submission Training page</u> offers helpful information and resources on the application process. This training page includes e-learning videos, reference guides, checklists, and other resources to help applicants complete an application.

<u>Virtual Q&A Sessions</u> are advertised here and provide opportunities for users to receive topicspecific training, direct technical assistance, and support on JustGrants system functionality.

<u>Weekly Training Webinars</u> are advertised here and provide opportunities for users to receive topic-specific training, direct technical assistance, and support on JustGrants system functionality.

## **Solicitation-Specific Resources**

## **Asset Mapping Resources/Tools**

The <u>Place Matters Maine: Community Asset Mapping</u> project maps assets for transition-aged youth in local communities throughout the state of Maine and provides tools and resources to support local asset mapping.

<u>Participatory Asset Mapping</u> is an instructional toolkit for using and applying Participatory Asset Mapping to support strategic planning efforts by building on existing community strengths. See other similar resources, such as <u>Catalyst California</u> and <u>Community Science</u>.

The UCLA Center for Health Policy Research's <u>Performing a Community-Based</u> <u>Assessment.</u> See <u>Section 1: Asset Mapping</u> for a basic overview of community assets, asset mapping use cases, and asset mapping implementation.

The Rural Health Information Hub's Guide/Intro to Asset Mapping.

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges' <u>Targeted Resource Mapping</u> <u>Toolkit: Six Strategies to Fill Community Service Gaps</u> and <u>Mapping Resources Along a</u> <u>Continuum of Services to Address Substance Use Disorders.</u>

# **Community-Based Continuum of Care and Probation Reform Resources**

The Prevention Institute's <u>Adverse Community Experiences and Resilience: A Framework for</u> <u>Addressing and Preventing Community Trauma</u> report outlines specific strategies to address and prevent community trauma—and foster resilience—using techniques from those living in affected areas.

The Milken Institute School of Public Health's <u>Center for Community Resilience</u> provides technical assistance, facilitation, analysis, and policy guidance to help institutions, organizations, and collaboratives create measurable, lasting change to improve outcomes for children and families.

The Columbia Justice Lab's Process Matters: Reflections from the Development of Harris County's Youth Justice Community Reinvestment Fund and Recommendations to Guide Future Efforts.

The Urban Institute's <u>Promoting a New Direction for Youth Justice: Strategies to Fund a</u> <u>Community-Based Continuum of Care and Opportunity</u> and accompanying tool entitled <u>How</u> <u>Can We Fund a Continuum of Care and Opportunity?</u>

The Urban Institute's <u>Transforming Juvenile Probation</u>: <u>Restructuring Probation</u> <u>Terms to</u> <u>Promote Success</u>.

The Coalition for Juvenile Justice's Probation Reform: A Toolkit for State Advisory Groups.

The Southern Poverty Law Center's <u>Unlocking Your Community's Hidden Strengths: A</u> <u>Guidebook to Community Asset-Mapping.</u>

The Annie E. Casey Foundation's <u>25 Questions for Juvenile Probation Transformation:</u> <u>Readiness Self-Assessment Tool for Probation Leaders</u> and <u>Race Equity and Inclusion</u> <u>Action Guide.</u>

## **General Resources**

The National Institute of Justice's <u>CrimeSolutions</u> uses rigorous research to inform practitioners and policymakers about what works in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services.

<u>Youth.gov</u> provides interactive tools and other resources to help youth-serving organizations and community partnerships plan, implement, and participate in effective programs for youth. This website includes information on the <u>National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention</u> (Forum), which was created to build the capacity of localities across the country to more effectively address youth violence through multidisciplinary partnerships, balanced approaches, data-driven strategies, comprehensive planning, and sharing common challenges and promising strategies. The Forum is a strategy for federal and local collaboration that encourages its member jurisdictions to review and improve internal decisionmaking structures, policies, and practices; increase communication; and implement strategic, coordinated action to change the way they do business. The <u>OJJDP Model Programs Guide</u> contains information about evidence-based juvenile justice and delinquency 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 juvenile justice, delinquency prevention, and child protection and safety.

<u>OJJDP's Statistical Briefing Book</u> is a comprehensive online resource describing various topics related to delinquency and the juvenile justice system, including the latest information on juveniles living in poverty, teen birth rates, juvenile victims of violent crime, trends in juvenile arrest rates, and youth in residential placement facilities. The Briefing Book is also a repository for more detailed presentations of juvenile court data than are found in the annual *Juvenile Court Statistics* report.

The <u>Model Standards for Serving Victims and Survivors of Crime</u> promotes the competency of providers to enhance their capacity to provide high-quality, consistent responses to crime victims that meet the demands facing the field today.

The <u>Vicarious Trauma Toolkit</u> (VTT) contains tools and resources to provide the knowledge and skills necessary for organizations to address the vicarious trauma needs of their staff. VTT includes a <u>Blueprint for a Vicarious Trauma-Informed Organization</u> that was informed by research and lessons learned from the field and was created as a step-by-step guide to assist organizations in becoming more informed about vicarious trauma. It provides guidance on using the <u>Vicarious Trauma</u>—Organizational Readiness Guide to assess an organization's current capacity as a vicarious, trauma-informed organization, and offers suggestions on how to use the free, online repository of policies, research, and websites in the <u>Compendium and</u> the <u>New Tools for the Field</u>, created specifically for VTT.