

OJJDP FY25 Multistate Mentoring Programs Initiative

Total Amount To Be Awarded Under This Funding
Opportunity: \$24,000,000

Anticipated Award Ceiling: Up to \$4,000,000

Anticipated Period of Performance Duration: 36 months

Funding Opportunity Number: O-OJJDP-2025-172314

Deadline to submit SF-424 in Grants.gov: **February 24, 2025, by 11:59 p.m. eastern time**

Deadline to submit application in JustGrants: **March 10, 2025, by 8:59 p.m. eastern time**



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BASIC INFORMATION

The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#) (OJJDP) is accepting applications for funding in response to this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO).

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights, 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. OJP's grant programs further DOJ's mission to uphold the rule of law, to keep our country safe, and to protect civil rights.

Agency Name	U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
NOFO Title	OJJDP FY25 Multistate Mentoring Programs Initiative
Announcement Type	Initial
Funding Opportunity Number	O-OJJDP-2025-172314
Assistance Listing Number	16.726

Executive Summary

This funding opportunity seeks to support mentoring organizations to enhance and expand mentoring services for children and youth who are at risk or high risk for delinquency, victimization, and juvenile justice system involvement.

Please see the [Eligible Applicants](#) section for the eligibility criteria.

- Category 1: Mentoring Organizations (1 state)
- Category 2: Mentoring Organizations (2 to 10 states)
- Category 3: Mentoring Organizations (11 to 44 states)

Key Dates

Funding Opportunity Release Date	January 7, 2025
Pre-Application Webinar	February 7, 2025
SAM.gov Registration/Renewal	Recommend beginning process by January 24, 2025, and no later than February 10, 2025
Step 1: Grants.gov Application Deadline	11:59 p.m. eastern time on February 24, 2025
Step 2: JustGrants Application Deadline	8:59 p.m. eastern time on March 10, 2025
Award Notification Date	Generally by September 30

Funding Details

Total Amount To Be Awarded Under This Funding Opportunity: \$24,000,000

Anticipated Number of Awards: 15

Anticipated Award Ceiling: Up to \$4,000,000

Note: Applicants may propose a budget that is less than the anticipated award ceiling amount. The budget should be reasonable for conducting the proposed project and be within the applicant's capacity to manage.

Anticipated Period of Performance Start Date: October 1, 2025

Anticipated Period of Performance Duration: 36 months

C-OJJDP-2025-00007-PROD, Category 1: Mentoring Organizations (1 state)

- Anticipated Number of Awards: 5
- Anticipated Award Ceiling: \$1,000,000
- Anticipated Period of Performance Start Date: October 1, 2025
- Anticipated Period of Performance Duration: 36 months

C-OJJDP-2025-00008-PROD, Category 2: Mentoring Organizations (2 to 10 states)

- Anticipated Number of Awards: 5
- Anticipated Award Ceiling: \$1,000,000 to \$4,000,000
- Anticipated Period of Performance Start Date: October 1, 2025
- Anticipated Period of Performance Duration: 36 months

C-OJJDP-2025-00009-PROD, Category 3: Mentoring Organizations (11 to 44 states)

- Anticipated Number of Awards: 5
- Anticipated Award Ceiling: \$2,000,000 to \$4,000,000
- Anticipated Period of Performance Start Date: October 1, 2025
- Anticipated Period of Performance Duration: 36 months

Availability of Funds

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

Statutory Authority

Any awards under this NOFO would be made under statutory authority provided by a full-year appropriations act for FY 2025. As of the writing of this NOFO, the Department of Justice is operating under a short-term "Continuing Resolution;" no full-year appropriation for the Department has been enacted for FY 2025.

Agency Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this funding opportunity:

OJP Response Center

Phone: 800–851–3420 or 301–240–6310 (TTY for hearing-impaired callers only)

Email: grants@ncjrs.gov

Hours of operation: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. eastern time (ET) Monday–Friday and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET on the funding opportunity closing date.

For assistance with **SAM.gov** (registration/renewal):

SAM.gov Help Desk

Phone: 866–606–8220

Web: [SAM.gov Help Desk \(Federal Service Desk\)](#)

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

For assistance with **Grants.gov** (registration, submission of the Application for Federal Assistance SF-424):

Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline

Phone: 800–518–4726, 606–545–5035

Email: support@grants.gov

Web: [Grants.gov Customer Support](#)

Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays

For assistance with **JustGrants** (registration, submission of full application):

JustGrants Service Desk

Phone: 833–872–5175

Email: JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov

Hours of operation: 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET Monday–Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET on Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays

For procedures related to unforeseen technical issues beyond the control of the applicant that impact submission by the deadlines, see [Experiencing Technical Issues Preventing Submission of an Application \(Technical Waivers\)](#).

Resources for Applying

Pre-Application Webinar: A webinar on this NOFO will be held on February 7, 2025, at 2:00pm - 3:30pm ET. Preregistration is required for all participants. Register by clicking [here](#). Submit any questions in advance to grants@ncjrs.gov no later than January 31, 2025. Submit questions

with the subject “Questions for OJJDP FY25 Multistate Mentoring Programs Webinar.” The session will be recorded and available [here](#).

[OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#): Referred to as the Application Resource Guide throughout the NOFO, this resource provides guidance to help applicants for OJP funding prepare and submit their applications.

[JustGrants Application Submission Training Webpage](#): Offers helpful information and resources on the grant application process.

Note: If this NOFO requires something different from any guidance provided in the [Application Resource Guide](#), the difference will be noted in this NOFO and the applicant should follow the guidance in this NOFO.



ELIGIBILITY

Eligible Applicants

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

- **Government Entities**
 - State governments
 - County governments
 - City or township governments
 - Special district governments
 - Native American Tribal governments (federally recognized)
 - Native American Tribal governments (other than federally recognized)
- **Educational Organizations**
 - Independent school districts
 - Public- and state-controlled institutions of higher education
 - Private institutions of higher education
- **Nonprofit Organizations**
 - Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), other than institutions of higher education
 - Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- **Other**
 - Units of local government
 - Native American Tribal organizations (other than federally recognized Tribal governments)

“Other” Entities Definition:

Units of local government: 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.

State Government Entities: For the purposes of this NOFO, “state” means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Additional Applicant Eligibility Factors

This funding opportunity has three separate categories of funding that organizations can apply for. ***In addition to meeting the entity eligibility requirement above, applicants must also meet eligibility requirements of one of the funding categories identified below.***

Category 1: Mentoring Organizations (1 state)

Eligible entities are those mentoring organizations that have been in existence and providing mentoring services for at least 3 years and are currently delivering a structured, standalone mentoring program (i.e., “program x”) in one state. Applicants must submit a separate

attachment labeled Program Model Overview to demonstrate the existence of this standalone mentoring program (see Appendix C).

As part of the funded program, the primary applicant must either propose to expand the existing mentoring program to one additional state OR one additional jurisdiction within the state where they are already providing mentoring services.

The primary applicant must be the headquarters office **of** the mentoring organization or the headquarters office **for** the proposed mentoring curriculum to be implemented. The primary applicant may deliver services through affiliate or partner subawards; however, the proposed subawards must implement the same mentoring program (i.e., “program x”) or established curriculum as the primary applicant.

Note: Applicants that are members/affiliates/subgrantees of larger mentoring organizations will be considered ineligible if the standalone mentoring model/programming proposed is being implemented through the headquarters of the larger mentoring organization. Applicants are expected to include information that delineates ownership/proprietorship of such program/curriculum that has been implemented for at least 3 years. Applicants must submit a separate attachment labeled Mentoring Organizational History with this information (see Appendix B). Applicants must also provide a statement indicating that the headquarters office of the larger mentoring membership organization is not implementing such model/program/curriculum.

Category 2: Mentoring Organizations (2 to 10 states)

Eligible entities are those mentoring organizations that have been in existence and providing mentoring services for at least 3 years and are currently delivering a structured, standalone mentoring program (i.e., “program x”) in 2 to 10 states. Applicants must submit a separate attachment labeled Program Model Overview to demonstrate the existence of this standalone mentoring program (see Appendix C).

The primary applicant must be the headquarters office **of** the mentoring organization or the headquarters office **for** the proposed mentoring curriculum to be implemented. The primary applicant may deliver services through affiliate or partner subawards; however, the proposed subawards must implement the same mentoring program (i.e., “program x”) or established curriculum as the primary applicant.

Note: Applicants that are members/affiliates/subgrantees of larger mentoring organizations will be considered ineligible if the standalone mentoring model/curriculum proposed is being implemented through the headquarters of the larger mentoring organization. Applicants are expected to include information that delineates ownership/proprietorship of such program/curriculum that has been implemented for at least 3 years. Applicants must submit a separate attachment labeled Mentoring Organizational History with this information (see Appendix B). Applicants must also provide a statement indicating that the headquarters office of the larger mentoring membership organization is not implementing such model/program/curriculum.

For the purposes of this category, a primary applicant that forms a partnership with one or more organizations that are delivering different mentoring program models for the purposes of meeting the multistate requirement is not eligible to apply.

Category 3: Mentoring Organizations (11 to 44 states)

Eligible entities are those mentoring organizations that have been in existence and providing mentoring services for at least 3 years and are currently delivering a structured, standalone mentoring program (i.e., “program x”) in 11 to 44 states. Applicants must submit a separate attachment labeled Program Model Overview to demonstrate the existence of this standalone mentoring program (see Appendix C).

The primary applicant must be the headquarters office **of** the mentoring organization or the headquarters office **for** the proposed mentoring curriculum to be implemented. The primary applicant may deliver services through affiliate or partner subawards; however, the proposed subawards must implement the same mentoring program (i.e., “program x”) or established curriculum as the primary applicant.

Note: Applicants that are members/affiliates/subgrantees of larger mentoring organizations will be considered ineligible if the standalone mentoring model/programming proposed is being implemented through the headquarters of the larger mentoring membership organization. Applicants are expected to include information that delineates ownership/proprietorship of such program/curriculum that has been implemented for at least 3 years. Applicants must submit a separate attachment labeled Mentoring Organizational History with this information (see Appendix B). Applicants must also provide a statement indicating that the headquarters office of the larger mentoring membership organization is not implementing such model/program/curriculum.

For the purposes of this category, a primary applicant that forms a partnership with one or more organizations that are delivering different mentoring program models for the purposes of meeting the multistate requirement is not eligible to apply.

Limit on Number of Applications

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

Applications under which two or more entities (project partners) would carry out the federal award will be considered. However, only one entity may be the applicant for the NOFO; any others must be proposed as subrecipients. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on subawards.

Cost Sharing/Match Requirement

For this opportunity, match **is not** required.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

General Purpose of the Funding

This program supports the implementation and delivery of mentoring services to youth populations that are at risk or high risk for delinquency, victimization, and juvenile justice system involvement. Mentoring services can be one-on-one, group, peer, or a combination of these types. Applicants must initiate mentoring services to youth who are 17 years old or younger at the time of admission to the program. Mentors must be an adult (age 18 or older), or in cases where peer mentoring models are being implemented, an older peer and under adult supervision.

Funding is encouraged to support new mentoring matches but can also support existing mentoring matches through program completion. However, the applicant *must* specify the number of new and existing matches to be served during the project period in the required Executive Summary Chart (see Additional Application Components section). OJJDP expects applicants to track numbers of youth served for each target population it will serve.

The target population should include those youth who are at risk or high risk for delinquency or victimization and/or are involved in the juvenile justice system. For this NOFO, OJJDP defines at-risk and high-risk youth as youth who are most likely to become involved in the juvenile justice system because they possess certain risk factors in key life domain areas (i.e., individual, family, school, community); are already involved in the juvenile justice system; and/or reside in environments that have high rates of parental incarceration, community violence, drug markets, gang concentration, and failing schools.

OJJDP also highly encourages applicants to target mentoring services to underserved populations. OJJDP defines these youth as those who demonstrate need but have not participated in mentoring services due to a variety of factors, including but not limited to lack of availability of or access to mentoring services, a shortage of trained and screened mentors, youth from communities that have been historically underserved, and youth involved in the juvenile justice system. Applicants should specifically identify the underserved populations they will serve and how they will increase mentoring services for these youth. OJJDP also encourages applicants to target youth having a parent in the military, including a deployed parent, and youth who have lost a parent or caregiver serving in the military.

Funds may not be used to deliver training and technical assistance (TTA) as part of the proposed project. OJJDP supports the National Mentoring Resource Center (NMRC) to provide TTA to all OJJDP-funded grantees, including implementation of the National Quality Mentoring System. OJJDP expects funded mentoring organizations to work with NMRC in identifying and receiving TTA. Lead grantee organizations are expected to monitor subgrantee implementation of the specific mentoring program model funded in the application to ensure subgrantee adherence to the model/curriculum and specifications. Lead grantee organizations may use a limited amount of funds to train subgrantee staff on administering the specific mentoring program model.

This NOFO has three separate categories of funding that organizations can apply for based on their eligibility (see “Additional Applicant Eligibility Factors” section for more information). The following provides additional guidance for each of the funding categories:

Category 1: Mentoring Organizations (1 state)

For Category 1, the maximum amount of funding applicants can apply for is \$1,000,000. The expectation is that applicants will use funding to expand their existing mentoring services to an additional state or an additional jurisdiction within the state where they are already providing mentoring services. The new mentoring site must implement the same mentoring program (i.e., “program x”) or established curriculum as the primary applicant. While funding can support existing matches, the majority of funding should be used for expansion efforts.

Category 2: Mentoring Organizations (2 to 10 states)

For Category 2, the minimum amount of funding applicants can apply for is \$1,000,000. However, OJJDP is interested in providing more robust support (**up to \$4,000,000**) for those applicants who can demonstrate their program has the “broadest reach” across their affiliates. The following provides details on what applicants should include in their application to demonstrate the “broadest reach.”

Broadest Reach: Address how the proposed existing mentoring approach will reach a diverse and broad population of youth. The factors OJJDP will consider in making this determination include:

- Number of states where the applicant organization can show a history of providing mentoring services through subawards and the number of states where the applicant organization proposes to provide mentoring services through subawards with awarded grant funds.
- Number of program sites where the applicant organization can demonstrate a history of providing mentoring services through subawards and the number of program sites where the applicant organization proposes to provide mentoring services through subawards with awarded grant funds.
- If applicable, a description of how the applicant organization intends to expand existing mentoring services to an additional state or jurisdiction within the state where they are already providing mentoring services. The new mentoring site must implement the same mentoring program (i.e., “program x”) or established curriculum as the primary applicant.
- Number of youth served.
- Number of mentors recruited.
- Diversity (including racial and ethnic diversity) in the youth being served and the mentors from an applicant organization or affiliate providing services to youth.
- Applicant efforts to ensure mentors have life experiences that are aligned in one or more significant areas with those youth being served (i.e., credible messengers).

Category 3: Mentoring Organizations (11 to 44 states)

For Category 3, the minimum amount of funding applicants can apply for is \$2,000,000. However, OJJDP is interested in providing more robust support (up to \$4,000,000) for those applicants who can demonstrate their program has the “broadest reach” across their affiliates. See the description above for guidance on how to demonstrate “broadest reach.”

Additional Guidance for the Funding Categories

For the purposes of this NOFO, additional jurisdiction refers to a new municipal area such as an additional city, additional county or region of the state, or another state.

For all three categories, applicants are expected to submit the following items as separate attachments in JustGrants as part of their application (see also Additional Application Components section):

- A fully executed Executive Summary Chart that indicates the number of states and sites where the program currently exists and the number of states and sites where program services will be implemented with federal funds as a part of this application.
- A fully executed Mentoring Program Profile document (see Appendix A).
- A Mentoring Organizational History that demonstrates the timeframe that the organization has been in operation and providing mentoring services (see Appendix B).
- A Program Model Overview that describes the program and documents the name and key components of the mentoring program model (i.e., principles/tenets of the program model; evidence-based program(s), practice(s), and curriculum used; mentoring type; expected location, etc.) (see Appendix C).
- A statement indicating that the headquarters office of the larger mentoring membership organization is not implementing such model/program/curriculum (if applicable).

OJJDP Guiding Philosophy: [OJJDP's](#) 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 [Treat Children as Children](#); [Serve Children at Home, With Their Families, in Their Communities](#); and [Open Up Opportunities for System-Involved Youth](#). OJJDP encourages all proposed applications that work with youth to highlight how the proposed program aligns with these priorities.

Youth and Family Partnership Strategies: 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. 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).

Applicants should refer to [Application Contents, Submission Requirements, and Deadlines: Budget Detail Form](#) for information on allowable and unallowable costs that may inform the development of their project design.

Program Goals and Objectives

Goal: The program's goal is to improve outcomes (such as improved academic performance and reduced school dropout rates) for at-risk and high-risk youth, and reduce negative outcomes (including delinquency, substance misuse, and gang participation) through youth mentoring.

Objective 1: Increase or expand reach to the number of at-risk or high-risk youth receiving mentoring services.

Objective 2: Increase or maintain the number of screened and well-trained mentors, with an emphasis on ensuring the mentors selected reflect the youth they serve.

Objective 3: Develop and implement program design enhancements that align with research and evidence on effective mentoring approaches.

How Awards Will Contribute to Program Goals/Objectives

OJJDP anticipates that award recipients will provide high-quality mentoring services that meet the needs associated with the target population(s) and that will reduce delinquency or other problem behaviors in at-risk youth. Applicants under all categories should identify the proposed target population(s) and explain how the proposed mentoring approach will appropriately respond to their unique needs in a way that is likely to promote positive outcomes.

Expected Outcomes: Deliverables and Performance Measures

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

Deliverables

Deliverables are what the applicant will create or produce under the award. The term "deliverables" as used here refers to discrete products under an award. An award may support activities (e.g., personnel time for award activities) that are part of recipient performance but are not considered deliverables. Award recipients will be expected to develop and submit the deliverables listed below in the course of implementing their proposed project.

- Provide high-quality mentoring services that meet the needs associated with the target population(s) and that will reduce delinquency or other problem behaviors in at-risk youth. Applicants under all categories should identify the proposed target population(s) and explain how the proposed mentoring approach will appropriately respond to their unique needs in a way that is likely to promote positive outcomes.
- Implement program enhancements for the existing mentoring program in one or more of the six core practice areas listed in the *Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring, 4th edition* (<https://www.mentoring.org/resource/elements-of-effective-practice-for-mentoring>).

Performance Measures

Performance measures are data that show a recipient's progress in implementing their project, such as the number of people served or number of trainings conducted. OJP will require each award recipient to submit regular performance reports that communicate progress toward achieving the goals and objectives identified in [Program Goals and Objectives](#). Applicants can visit [OJP's performance measurement page](#) at ojp.gov/performance for more information on performance measurement activities.

A list of performance measure questions for this funding opportunity can be found at <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/funding/performance-measures/performance-measures-juvenile-mentoring.pdf>.

Progress Reporting Questions

<https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/funding/grant-performance-measurement/performance-measures#progress-reporting-questions>

Some measures are presented as examples, while others are the exact measures that every recipient will be expected to address.

Funding Instrument

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

Cost Sharing/Match Requirements

This funding opportunity does not require a match.



APPLICATION CONTENTS, SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS, AND DEADLINES

This NOFO contains all the information needed to apply for this funding opportunity. The application for this funding opportunity is submitted through web-based forms and attachments in Grants.gov and JustGrants through the steps that follow.

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and SAM.gov Registration

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

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

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

Applicants are encouraged to start the SAM.gov registration or renewal process **at least 30 days prior to the application's Grants.gov deadline**. Applicants who fail to begin the registration or renewal process at least 10 business days prior to the Grants.gov deadline may not be able to complete the process in time and will not be considered for a technical waiver that allows for late submission.

Submission Instructions: Summary

Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process that begins in Grants.gov and is completed in JustGrants. See [Basic Information: Key Dates](#) for the Grants.gov and JustGrants application deadlines.

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

Submission Step 1: Grants.gov Submission of SF-424

Access/Registration

If the applicant does not already have a Grants.gov account, they will need to register for this opportunity in Grants.gov. Applicants should follow the Grants.gov [Quick Start Guide for Applicants](#) to register, create a workspace, assign roles, submit an application, and troubleshoot issues.

Submission of the SF-424

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

See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on completing the SF-424.

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

Section 19 – Intergovernmental Review: This funding opportunity is subject to [Executive Order \(E.O.\) 12372](#) (Intergovernmental Review). States that participate in the Intergovernmental Review process have an opportunity to review the applicant's submission. An applicant may find the names and addresses of state Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) for Intergovernmental Review at the following website: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/SPOC-list-as-of-2023.pdf>. If the applicant's state appears on the SPOC list, the applicant must contact its SPOC to find out about, and comply with, the state's process under E.O. 12372. On the SF-424, an applicant whose state appears on the SPOC list must make the appropriate selection in response to question 19 once the applicant has complied with its state E.O. 12372 process. An applicant whose state does not appear on the SPOC list should answer question 19 by selecting, "Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the state for review."

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

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

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

Submission Step 2: JustGrants Submission of Full Application Access/Registration

For first-time JustGrants applicants, once the application is received from Grants.gov, DOJ will send an email (from DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov) to the email address listed in Section 8F of the SF-424 with instructions on how to create a JustGrants account. This email should arrive within 24 hours after confirmation from Grants.gov of the SF-424 submission.

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

1. Follow the instructions in the email to first confirm who will be the Entity Administrator (the person who manages which staff can access JustGrants on behalf of the applicant).
2. Log in to JustGrants and confirm the information in the Entity Profile.
3. Invite other individuals who will serve as the Application Submitter and the Authorized Representative for the applicant to register for JustGrants.

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

Preparing for Submission

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

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

For additional information, including file name and type requirements, see the “How To Apply” section in the [Application Resource Guide](#).

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

Proposal Abstract

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

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

- The name of the applicant’s proposed project.

- The purpose of the proposed project (*i.e.*, what the project will do and why it is necessary).
- Where the project will take place (*i.e.*, the service area, if applicable).
- Who will be served by the project (*i.e.*, who will be helped or have their needs addressed by the project).
- What activities will be carried out to complete the project.
- The subrecipient(s)/partner organizations or entities, if known.
- Deliverables and expected outcomes (*i.e.*, what the project will achieve).

See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for an [example](#) of a proposal abstract.

Data Requested With Application

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

The Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire helps OJP assess what financial management and internal control systems the applicant has in place, whether these systems would be sufficient to maintain a funding award, and the associated potential risks of an applicant as part of the pre-award risk assessment process. Every OJP applicant (other than an individual applying in their personal capacity, not representing an applicant organization) is required to complete the web-based form in JustGrants. See the [Application Resource Guide: Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire \(including Applicant Disclosure of High-Risk Status\)](#) for additional guidance on how to complete the questionnaire.

Proposal Narrative

Format of the Proposal Narrative: The Proposal Narrative will be submitted as an attachment in JustGrants. The attached document should be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point size font; have no less than 1-inch margins; have numbered pages; and should not exceed 30 pages. If the Proposal Narrative does not comply with these 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.

Sections of the Proposal Narrative: The Proposal Narrative must include all of the following sections. Applicants must describe how their proposed project/program will integrate and sustain meaningful youth and family partnerships in all sections of the proposal narrative—including the description of the issue, project design and implementation, and capabilities and competencies—and the budget. Any data or research referenced in the narrative should include information about the source of the data and/or a citation. See Program Description: General Purpose of Funding for details on partnership strategies.

a. Description of the Need: What critical issue or problem is the applicant proposing to address with this project? Please include:

- A brief explanation of the need, gap, or issue to be addressed by the proposed project.
- Supporting information, data, or evidence to demonstrate the need's existence, size, and impact on the target population and community.
- Information on how youth and family partnerships will help to address the need.

- How the need relates to the purpose of the NOFO.

b. Project Goals and Objectives: How will the proposed project address the need identified and address the purpose of the NOFO? Please include:

- Project goals (goals are broad, visionary statements on what the applicant hopes to accomplish).
- Project objectives (objectives are specific outcomes the applicant plans to achieve through project activities).
- How the applicant's goals and objectives relate to the goals and objectives of the NOFO.
- Whether, and if so, how the applicant's goals and objectives incorporate youth and families as partners.

c. Project Design and Implementation: How will the applicant implement project activities that meet the goals and objectives? Please include:

- What activities the applicant will conduct to achieve the proposed goals and objectives.
- How the proposed project/program will integrate and sustain meaningful youth and family partnership into their proposed project.
- How the applicant will deliver or complete those activities.
- When the activities will take place.
- Who in the applicant's organization will staff the activities, including key staff.
- Who will participate in and benefit from the activity.
- What deliverables, reports, and other items will be produced as part of the project.

Applicants should also address the following:

- Describe the proposed mentoring model to be implemented and include documentation substantiating the specific model as an attachment in JustGrants.
- Detail how the proposed mentoring model will directly address the impact of bullying (including cyberbullying) on the youth served in their programs. Please see the OJJDP Preventing Youth Hate Crimes and Identity-Based Bullying Initiative webpage as a resource: <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/programs/preventing-youth-hate-crimes-bullying-initiative>.
- Mentoring programs targeting specific underserved populations should detail how they will expand service provision to these youth as well as highlight how anticipated services would best support the unique needs of these populations, such as key partnerships, cultural sensitivity, or specialized curricula. Applicants will also need to collect and track data on **each** of the specific populations they target, how many new and existing matches they make, and also provide other data as submitted in their Mentoring Program Profile document (see Appendix A).
- Detail any leveraged resources (cash or in-kind) from local sources to support the project and discuss plans for sustainability beyond the grant period.
- For expansion applications and Category 1 applicants: Describe how the project will expand the existing mentoring program to an additional state or additional jurisdiction within the state where they are already providing mentoring services. Include where the mentoring program is currently implemented, the specific state or jurisdiction where the applicant will expand, staff involved in expansion efforts and their role, timeline of expansion activities, and additional details on how the expansion will occur.

OJJDP encourages applicants to select evidence-based practices for their programs.

Please note: All program numbers mentioned in this section should match those listed in the Mentoring Program Profile).

If the applicant plans to use subrecipients to help conduct the project, please name them (if they are known) or describe how the applicant will identify them. Please describe their role in conducting project activities.

d. Capabilities and Competencies: What administrative and technical capacity and expertise does the applicant bring to successfully complete this project? Please include:

- A short description of the applicant's capacity to deliver the proposed project and meet the requirements of the award, including collecting and reporting the required performance measure data. Who will be responsible for this task, and how will the applicant collect the data? Refer to [Program Description: Performance Measures](#) for additional details on performance measures for this funding opportunity.
- A description of projects or activities the applicant organization has conducted, or is currently conducting, that demonstrate the applicant's ability to undertake the proposed project activities.
- A summary of relevant experience of team members with key responsibilities for implementing the project.
- A summary of management and staffing patterns for the project that are clearly connected to the project design described in the previous section. Include a copy of an organizational chart showing how the organization operates, including who manages the finances.
- A description of how the applicant meets each of the qualifications outlined under the Eligibility section for the category under which they are applying.
- A summary of experience/capability/capacity to manage subawards (if applicable to the project), including details on their system for fiscal accountability.
- A description of the methods and processes that they will use to monitor subgrantee implementation of the specific mentoring model in accordance with model specifications.
- For expansion applications and Category 1 applicants: A short discussion of applicant capacity to expand existing mentoring services to an additional state or jurisdiction within the state where they are already providing mentoring services..
- Applicant history, capabilities, and competencies of supporting youth and family partnerships.

Project Evaluations: An applicant that proposes to use award funds to conduct project evaluations must follow the guidance in the "[Note on Project Evaluations](#)" section in the [Application Resource Guide](#).

Budget and Associated Documentation: Budget Detail Form

The applicant will complete the JustGrants budget detail form. The form collects the individual costs under each cost category needed to implement the proposed project. Applicants should ensure that the name/description of each cost is clear and provide the detailed calculation (e.g.,

cost per unit and number of units) for the total cost. Applicants should enter additional narrative, as needed, to fully describe the cost calculations and connection to the project goals and objectives.

Budget proposals should include the funding needed to implement the proposed activities. 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 [here](#). In preparing their budget proposals, applicants should consider what types of costs are allowable, if awarded funding. Costs are allowable when they are reasonable, allocable to, and necessary for the performance of the project funded under the federal award and when they comply with the funding statute and agency requirements, including the conditions of the award and the cost principles set out in [2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E](#) and the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#). 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.

Applicants should budget funds to support as many as two staff members of the project to participate in a two-day training in Washington, DC. This will be an in-person new grantee orientation meeting during the first year of the project period. 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, 2 people x airline ticket (\$500) = \$1,000, 2 people x 2 travel days x per diem (75% x \$76/day) = \$228, 2 people x lodging (\$251) x 2 nights = \$1,004). Use U.S. General Services Administration per diem rates.

Program Income: Program income is not an allowable cost per this NOFO. Program income means gross income earned by the nonfederal entity that is directly generated by a supported activity or earned as a result of the federal award during the period of performance. See 2.C.F.R. § 200.80 (definition of Program Income).

Food and Entertainment Costs: Entertainment, including amusement, diversion, social activities, and any associated costs (i.e., tickets to shows or sports events, meals, lodging, rentals, transportation, and gratuities) are unallowable. Certain exceptions may apply when such costs have a programmatic purpose and have been approved by the awarding agency. See Section 3.13 of the DOJ Financial Guide.

Incentives: Incentives are not allowable per this NOFO. For purposes of this NOFO, incentive means a monetary payment or any other form of compensation given to the youth to complete the mentoring program.

Training And Technical Assistance: Funds may not be used to deliver TTA as part of the proposed project. OJJDP supports NMRC to provide TTA to all OJJDP-funded grantees, including implementation of the National Quality Mentoring System. OJJDP expects funded mentoring organizations to work with NMRC in identifying and receiving TTA. Lead grantee organizations are expected to monitor subgrantee implementation of the specific mentoring program model funded in the application to ensure subgrantee adherence to the model/curriculum and specifications. Lead grantee organizations may use a limited amount of funds to train subgrantee staff on administering the specific mentoring program model.

Research and Evaluation: Research and/or evaluation activities are not supported under this program. Any costs associated with such activities will be disallowed. Project evaluations that are intended only to generate internal improvements to a program or service or are conducted only to meet OJP's performance measure data reporting requirements likely do not constitute "research." Please see [link](#) for further information about what constitutes research and evaluation.

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

Costs Associated With Language Assistance and Access: If an applicant proposes a program or activity that would deliver services or benefits to individuals, the costs of taking reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to those services or benefits for individuals with limited English proficiency may be allowable in specific grant programs. Costs to provide reasonable accommodation and facilitate language access for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may also be allowable in specific grant programs. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on costs associated with language assistance.

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

Budget and Associated Documentation: Budget/Financial Attachments

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

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

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

Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards Over \$250,000; Waiver (if applicable): If an applicant proposes to hire employees with federal award funds, for any award of more than \$250,000, the 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. Applicants may request a waiver from this requirement by submitting the appropriate form. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) 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 or a description of the experience and skills of key personnel necessary to implement the project.

Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable): An application in response to this NOFO may require inclusion of Tribal authorizing documentation as an attachment. If applicable, the applicant will upload the Tribal authorizing documentation as an attachment in JustGrants. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on Tribal authorizing resolutions.

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

Executive Summary Chart: The following chart lists data for each category that are deemed critical application elements and that are to be submitted with the application, in this exact format, as a separate attachment labeled Executive Summary Chart

List of active chapters or subawardees that are a part of the organization at the time of application and the states where they are located.	List of active chapters or subawardees that will be funded through the grant application and the states where they are located.	Number of youth to be served with grant funds. Include number of new mentees and number of continued mentees.	Number of mentors to be recruited and maintained with grant funds.
Example: Result Mentoring, DC Result Mentoring, MD Result Mentoring, VA	Example: Result Mentoring, VA	Example: Total Mentees: 200 New Mentees: 150 Continuing Mentees: 50	Example: Recruit: 100 Mentors Maintain: 90 Mentors

Mentoring Program Profile: See Appendix A.

Mentoring Organizational History: This separate attachment includes information that demonstrates the timeframe that the organization has been in operation and providing mentoring services. See Appendix B.

Program Model Overview: This separate attachment describes the program and documents the name and key components of the mentoring program model (i.e., principles/tenets of the program model; evidence-based program(s), practice(s), or curriculum used; mentoring type; expected location, etc.). See Appendix C.

Mentoring Model/Curriculum Statement: A statement on agency letterhead indicating that the headquarters office of the larger mentoring membership organization is not implementing such model/program/curriculum (if applicable).

Logic Model: Applicants may include as a separate attachment a logic model that graphically illustrates how the performance measures are related to the project's problems, goals, objectives, and design.

Position Descriptions: Provide job descriptions outlining roles and responsibilities for all positions that will implement the project.

Organizational Chart: Attach a copy of an organizational chart showing how the organization operates, including who manages the finances.

Disclosures and Assurances

The applicant will address the following disclosures and assurances.

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

The applicant is required by law to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure form (Standard Form/SF-LLL) if it has paid or will pay any person to lobby in connection with the award for which it is applying AND this application is for an award in excess of \$100,000. This disclosure requirement is not applicable to such payments by an Indian Tribe, Tribal organization, or any other Indian organization that are permitted by other federal law.

Lobbying means (for this requirement) influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress. See 31 U.S.C. 1352; 28 C.F.R. part 69. Note: Most applicants do not engage in activities that trigger this disclosure requirement.

An applicant that is not required by law (31 U.S.C. 1352) to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure, should enter "No." By doing so, the applicant is affirmatively asserting (under applicable penalties) that it has nothing to disclose under 31 U.S.C. § 1352 with regard to the application for the award at issue.

Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items: To ensure funding coordination across grantmaking agencies, and to avoid unnecessary or inappropriate duplication of grant funding, the applicant must disclose if it has any pending applications for federal funding, including pending

applications for subawards of federal funds, for the same project and the same budget items included in this proposal. Complete the JustGrants Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

DOJ Certified Standard Assurances: Review and accept the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

DOJ Certifications: Review the DOJ document [Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Coordination with Affected Agencies](#). An applicant must review and sign the certification document in JustGrants. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for more 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 recipient is an award recipient that has received a DOJ high-risk designation based on a documented history of unsatisfactory performance, financial instability, management system or other internal control deficiencies, noncompliance with award terms and conditions on prior awards, or that is otherwise not responsible. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Submission Dates and Times

Refer to [Basic Information: Key Dates](#) for the submission dates and times.

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

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

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

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. OJP will only consider requests to submit an application via alternative methods or after the deadline when the applicant can document that there is a technical issue with a government system that was beyond their control and that prevents submission of the application via the standard process prior to the deadlines. Issues resulting from circumstances within the applicant's control, such as failure to begin the SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants registration and application process in sufficient time, will not be considered.

Requests and documentation must be sent to the OJP Response Center at grants@ncjrs.gov. Applicants should follow these steps if they experience a technical issue:

- 1. Contact the relevant help desk to report the issue and receive a tracking number.**

See [Basic Information: Contact Information](#) for the phone numbers, email addresses, and operating hours of the SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants help desks. Reports of technical issues to the help desk must occur **before** the application deadline.

If an applicant calls the help desk and experiences a long wait time, they can also email the help desk to obtain a tracking number. Tracking numbers are generated automatically when an applicant emails the applicable service desk; for this reason, long wait times for phone support do not relieve the applicant of the responsibility for getting a tracking number.

2. If an applicant has technical issues with SAM.gov or Grants.gov, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center at grants@ncjrs.gov within 24 hours of the Grants.gov deadline to request approval to submit after the deadline. The applicant's request will need to include:

- A description of the technical difficulties experienced (provide screenshots if applicable).
- 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).
- An attachment of the complete grant application and all the required documentation and materials (this serves as a "manual" submission of the application).
- The applicant's unique entity identifier (UEI).
- Any SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants Service Desk tracking/ticket numbers documenting the technical issue.

3. If an applicant has technical issues with JustGrants that prevent application submission by the deadline, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center at grants@ncjrs.gov within 24 hours of the JustGrants deadline to request approval to submit after the deadline. See step 2 for the list of information the applicant must provide as part of its request.

As a reminder: 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. 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 previously listed), 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 Technical Issues" section in the [Application Resource Guide](#).



APPLICATION REVIEW

Responsiveness (Basic Minimum Requirements) Review

OJP screens applications to ensure they meet the basic minimum requirements (BMR) prior to conducting the merit review. Following are the basic minimum requirements for this funding opportunity. If OJP determines that an application does not include these elements, it will not proceed to merit review and will not receive any further consideration.

- The application is submitted by an eligible applicant.
 - Applicant meets additional eligibility criteria of the mentoring organization categories (see Additional Applicant Eligibility Factors section).
- The requested award amount does not exceed the award ceiling.
- The application is responsive to the scope of the NOFO.
- The following application elements are included:
 - SF-424 (Grants.gov)
 - Proposal Abstract (JustGrants)
 - Proposal Narrative (JustGrants)
 - Budget detail form, which includes the budget items, their calculations, and explanation (JustGrants)
 - Executive Summary Chart (see required format below in Additional Application Components section)

Applicants whose application fails to meet the BMR are provided notice (including an appropriate point of contact for questions) within a few weeks after the submission due date.

Merit Review Criteria

Peer Review Criteria

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

- **Statement of the Problem/Description of the Issue (10%):** What critical issue or problem the applicant is proposing to address with this project.
- **Project Goals and Objectives (20%):** How the proposed project will address the identified need and the purpose of the funding opportunity.
- **Project Design and Implementation (30%):** The strength of how the applicant will implement activities, including the soundness of the project design and how the activities align with the stated goals and objectives.
- **Capabilities and Competencies (30%):** The applicant's administrative and technical capacity to successfully complete this project.
- **Budget (10%):** Completeness and cost effectiveness.

Programmatic and Financial Review Criteria

After the peer review, applications undergo additional programmatic and financial reviews. OJP staff may reach out to applicants during the programmatic or financial review if a submitted form is incomplete or needs to be updated. Note that OJP staff are not authorized to provide

information on peer review scores or comment on programmatic, risk, or budget/financial reviews while the merit review is in progress.

In addition to BMR and peer review criteria, other important considerations for OJP include geographic diversity (including, but not limited to, remote and geographically isolated communities, such as Alaska Native villages), strategic priorities (including, but not limited to, the priority areas already mentioned, if applicable), available funding, past performance, and the extent to which the budget detail form accurately explains project costs that are reasonable, necessary, and otherwise allowable under federal law and applicable federal cost principles. If cost sharing/match is not required for this opportunity, applicants will not receive higher consideration by proposing a voluntary match contribution in their budget.

Risk Review

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

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

In addition, if OJP anticipates that an award will exceed \$250,000 in federal funds, OJP also must review and consider any information about the applicant that appears in the nonpublic segment of the integrity and performance system accessible through SAM.gov.

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

Selection Process

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



AWARD NOTICES

Federal Award Notices

Award notifications are usually sent by September 30 (the end of the current federal fiscal year). For successful applicants, JustGrants will send a system-generated email to the Application Submitter, Authorized Representative, and Entity Administrator with information on accessing their official award package in JustGrants. The award package will include key information (such as funding amount and period of performance) as well as award conditions that must be followed. The Authorized Representative for the entity should accept or decline the award within 45 days of the notification. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on award notifications and instructions.

Applicants not selected for award will receive notification after all award recipients have been notified. OJP also provides unsuccessful applicants with a summary of peer reviewer comments.

Future Funding Opportunities

OJP may, in certain cases, provide additional funding in future years to awards made under this funding opportunity through continuation awards. When making continuation award decisions, OJP will consider, among other factors, OJP's strategic priorities, a recipient's overall management of the award, and the progress of the work funded under the award.

Applications submitted under this FY 2025 funding opportunity may be funded in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and the availability of appropriations.



POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

Reporting

All award recipients under this funding opportunity will be required to submit the following reports and data:

- Quarterly financial reports.
- Semi-annual performance reports.
- Final financial and performance reports.
- If applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with the Part 200 Uniform Requirements or specific award conditions.

See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measure data and the method for submitting reports in OJP's online systems. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent, and in appropriate cases, OJP may require additional reports.

Performance Measure Reporting

Award recipients are required to submit performance measure data and performance reports in JustGrants on a semi-annual basis. Applicants selected for an award will receive further guidance on post-award reporting processes.

Program- and Award-Specific Award Conditions

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

Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements

If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the 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 [Application Resource Guide](#).

Civil Rights Compliance

If a successful applicant accepts funding from OJP—as a recipient of OJP funding—that award recipient must comply with certain federal civil rights laws that prohibit the award recipient from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disability in how it delivers its program's services or benefits and in its employment practices. The civil rights laws that may be applicable to the award include, but are not limited to, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the nondiscrimination provisions of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. These and other federal civil rights laws are discussed in greater detail on OJP's [Legal Overview—FY 2025 Awards](#) webpage under the

“Civil Rights Requirements” section. Additional resources are available from the [OJP Office for Civil Rights](#).

Complying with civil rights laws that prohibit national origin discrimination includes the requirement that recipients and subrecipients take reasonable steps to ensure that people with limited English proficiency (LEP) have meaningful access to a recipient’s programs and activities. An individual with LEP is one whose first language is not English and who has a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English. DOJ offers resources to help recipients meet this requirement, including [Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons](#); a [language access assessment and planning tool](#) with [commonly asked questions](#); and additional resources on [the Office of Justice Programs’ Office for Civil Rights website](#).

Faith-based organizations may apply for this award on the same basis as any other organization subject to the protections and requirements of 28 C.F.R. Part 38 and any applicable constitutional and statutory requirements, including 42 U.S.C. 2000bb et seq. The Department of Justice will not, in the selection of recipients, discriminate for or against an organization on the basis of the organization's religious character, motives, or affiliation, or lack thereof, or on the basis of conduct that would not be considered grounds to favor or disfavor a similarly situated secular organization. A faith-based organization that participates in this funded program will retain its independence from the Government and may continue to carry out its mission consistent with religious freedom and conscience protections in Federal law. An organization may not use direct Federal financial assistance from the Department of Justice to support or engage in any explicitly religious activities except when consistent with the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment and any other applicable requirements. An organization receiving Federal financial assistance also may not, in providing services funded by the Department of Justice, or in their outreach activities related to such services, discriminate against a program beneficiary or prospective program beneficiary on the basis of religion, a religious belief, a refusal to hold a religious belief, or a refusal to attend or participate in a religious practice.

Financial Management and System of Internal Controls

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

Information Technology Security Clauses

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

Other Reporting Requirements

Applicants and recipients are required to notify OJP if you know that you or any of your organization’s principals for the award transaction are presently excluded or disqualified (*i.e.*, debarred or suspended) or otherwise meet any of the criteria in 2 C.F.R. 180.335. Recipients must comply with requirements in 2 C.F.R. Part 180, as implemented by DOJ in 2 C.F.R. Part 2867, which, among other things, require recipients to check certain information sources and, in

some cases, notify the federal awarding agency prior to the agency awarding federal funds via contracts or subawards.

If a recipient's award includes a federal share of more than \$500,000 over the period of performance of the award, then the award (per 2 C.F.R. 200.113) will include a condition that may require the recipient to report and maintain certain information (relating to certain criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings) in SAM.gov. See <https://www.ojp.gov/funding/explore/legaloverview2025/otherrequirements> for more information.



OTHER INFORMATION

Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities

OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the projects and activities funded under this NOFO. For additional information on what should be included in the application, see the [Application Resource Guide](#) section “Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities.”

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for important information on the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. §§ 552 and 552a).

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

Provide Feedback to OJP

See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on how to provide feedback to OJP.



APPLICATION CHECKLIST

OJJDP FY25 – Multistate Mentoring Programs Initiative

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. For more information, reference the [“OJP Application Submission Steps”](#) in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) and the [DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#).

SAM.gov Registration/Renewal

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

Grants.gov Registration

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

Grants.gov Opportunity Search

- Search for the funding opportunity in Grants.gov using the opportunity number, assistance listing number, or keyword(s).
- Select the correct Competition ID.
 - Category 1 - C-OJJDP-2025-00007-PROD
 - Category 2 - C-OJJDP-2025-00008-PROD
 - Category 3 - C-OJJDP-2025-00009-PROD
- Access the funding opportunity and application package (see Step 7 under [“OJP Application Submission Steps”](#) in the [Application Resource Guide](#)).
- Sign up for Grants.gov email notifications (optional) (see [Application Resource Guide](#)).

Funding Opportunity Review and Project Planning

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

Submission Step 1: Grants.gov

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

- Complete and submit the SF-424 by the deadline.
- Confirm Section 8F of the SF-424 lists the name and contact information of the individual **who will complete the application in JustGrants.**
- Submit documents for Intergovernmental Review.
- Confirm that, within 48 hours of your submission in Grants.gov, you 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 are received, or if error notifications are received, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800–518–4726, 606–545–5035, or support@grants.gov regarding technical difficulties (see the [Application Resource Guide](#) section on “[Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues](#)”).
- Confirm that, within 24 hours after receipt of confirmation emails from Grants.gov, the individual listed in Section 8F of the SF-424 receives an email from JustGrants with login instructions.

Submission Step 2: JustGrants

- Complete the following information:
 - Entity and User Verification (first-time applicants)
 - Standard Applicant Information
 - Proposal Abstract*
 - Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see [Application Resource Guide](#))
- Upload the Proposal Narrative. *
- Complete the budget detail form*
- Upload other budget/financial attachments, as applicable.
- Upload additional application components, as applicable.
 - Curriculum Vitae or Resumes
 - Tribal Authorizing Resolution, if applicable
 - Executive Summary Chart *
 - Mentoring Program Profile (Appendix A)
 - Mentoring Organizational History (Appendix B)
 - Program Model Overview (Appendix C)
 - Timeline
 - Logic Model
 - Position Descriptions
 - Organizational Chart
 - Mentoring Model/Curriculum Statement (if applicable)
- Complete the required disclosures and assurances:
 - Disclosure of Lobbying Activities and submission of SF-LLL, if prompted by the system
 - Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items

- DOJ Certified Standard Assurances
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High-Risk Grantees
- Complete the required DOJ Certification on Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Coordination With Affected Agencies.

****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.***

JustGrants Review, Certification, and Application Submission

- Address any validation errors displayed on screen after attempted submission, then return to the “Certify and Submit” screen to submit the application.
- Note the confirmation message at the top of the page. Users will also receive a notification in the “bell” alerts confirming submission.
- If no JustGrants application submission confirmation email and validation are received, or if an error notification is received, contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833–872–5175 or JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov regarding technical difficulties. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

OJJDP FY25 Multistate Mentoring Programs Initiative

Appendix A: Mentoring Program Profile

Applicant Name:**JustGrants Application Number:****Multistate Category:**

Note: The Information provided should be specific to the proposed application and budget.

Operational Structure:

1. **Number of program locations:** ___

2. **Number of subgrantees proposed (if applicable):** ___

Please provide a separate attachment with a list of subgrantees if identified.

3. **Number of subrecipient services accessed (contractors/consultants) (if applicable):** ___

Please provide a separate attached listing of subrecipient service providers to be used that includes service, amount of contract, and location of the service provider.

4. **Committed partners (please select all that apply):**

- Substance abuse provider
- Juvenile justice agency
- Law enforcement agency
- School
- Corporate sector
- Faith-based organization
- Other (please specify): _____

Program Structure:

5. **Match structure:** How is the mentoring primarily delivered? *(please select one):*

- One-on-one
- Group
- Combined *(Mentee receives both group and 1:1 mentoring)*
- Hybrid *(Mentee is matched 1:1 to a mentor and delivered only in a group setting)*

Do you use peer mentors in your match structure?

- Yes
- No

6. **Program focus (please check all that apply as the primary focus of program):**

- Sports
- STEM

- Arts
- Community service
- Academics
- Gender-specific
- Gang prevention (targeted)
- Youth with disabilities
- College readiness
- Substance misuse/impact
- Youth victims (child abuse or exploitation)
- General
- Other (please specify):

7. **Program location** (please select one):

- Community-based
- Site-based (e.g., club)
- School-based

8. Total number of **youth to be served** as mentees: _____
Please ensure the numbers listed match the narrative portion of the NOFO.

9. Total number of proposed **mentors to be recruited**: _____
 Total number of **mentors to be accepted**: _____
Please ensure the numbers listed match the narrative portion of the NOFO.

10. Total number of **proposed matches**: _____

11. What is the **primary target population** for mentee recruitment? (check all that apply):

- Single-parent household
- Academically challenged
- Gender
- Race/ethnicity
- Juvenile justice involvement
- Victimization
- Substance misuse/impact
- Rural
- Youth with disabilities
- Other (please specify): _____

12. **Any additional program services** offered to mentees and their families?

- Case management
- Group activities (in addition to primary mentoring)
- Referral to other services
- Counseling
- Academic support
- Leadership development
- Substance misuse intervention or treatment

13. **Mentor recruitment focus**, if specific:

14. **Number of training hours** required of recruited mentor before match: ____

15. **Duration of program service** for each youth: _____

16. **Length of match** expected: _____

(Note: May be the same length as program service in question 15)

17. **Frequency of match** contact expected: _____ *(e.g., X per month; X per week)*

18. **Intensity of match contact** expected: _____ *(e.g., X hours)*

OJJDP FY25 Multistate Mentoring Programs Initiative

Appendix B: Mentoring Organizational History

Applicant Name:

JustGrants Application Number:

Multistate Category:

Date the organization was established: _____

Date the organization began delivering standalone mentoring services: _____

Applicant website: _____

Other evidence supporting organizational history: _____

For applicants eligible as headquarters office for mentoring curriculum proposed:

- Date curriculum was developed by applicant: _____
- Date organization began implementing the curriculum proposed: _____
- Other evidence supporting ownership/proprietorship of mentoring curriculum:
Examples may include but are not limited to:
 - Discuss the affiliates, subawardees, or other mentoring organizations that adopted the curriculum owned.
 - Share any press releases, articles, or publications written about the curriculum owned.
 - Describe any awards or other recognition received for the curriculum owned.

OJJDP FY25 Multistate Mentoring Programs Initiative

Appendix C: Program Model Overview

Applicant Name:

JustGrants Application Number:

Multistate Category:

Describe the key components of the mentoring program model or mentoring curriculum

- Principles/tenets of the program model
- Evidence-based program(s), practice(s), or curriculum used
- Mentoring type
- Expected location(s)

Note: Applicants may include additional information as applicable to describe their mentoring program model.