The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is seeking applications for its Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 National Mentoring Resource Center. This program furthers the Department's mission by providing the mentoring field with comprehensive resources and training materials to advance the implementation of evidence- and research-based mentoring practices.

OJJDP FY 2013 National Mentoring Resource Center

Eligibility

Eligible applicants are limited to nonprofit and for-profit organizations (including tribal nonprofit and for-profit organizations) and institutions of higher education (including tribal institutions of higher education). *For-profit organizations must agree to forgo any profit or management fee.* (See Eligibility, page 3.)

Deadline

Applicants must register with Grants.gov prior to submitting an application. (See How To Apply, page 19.) All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on July 23, 2013. (See Deadlines: Registration and Application, page 3.)

Contact Information

For technical assistance with submitting an application, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, or via e-mail to support@grants.gov. Hotline hours of operation are 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except federal holidays.

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact the Justice Information Center (JIC) at 1–877–927–5657, via e-mail to JIC@telesishq.com, or by live Web chat. JIC hours of operation are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday, and 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. eastern time on the solicitation close date.

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Contents

OJJDP FY 2013 National Mentoring Resource Center
(CFDA #16.726)

Overview

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) supports a wide range of mentoring initiatives aimed at preventing and reducing juvenile delinquency. Under this solicitation, the successful applicant will develop the OJJDP National Mentoring Resource Center (NMRC), which will provide comprehensive mentoring resource, reference, and training materials and advance the implementation of evidence- and research-based mentoring practices. NMRC's goal is to enhance the capacity of mentoring organizations to develop, implement, and expand effective mentoring practices. This program is authorized pursuant to the Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2013, Pub. L. No. 113-6.

Deadlines: Registration and Application

Applicants must register with Grants.gov to submit an application. OJP encourages applicants to **register several weeks before** the application submission deadline. In addition, OJP urges applicants to submit applications at least **72 hours prior to the due date** of the application to allow time to receive the validation message and to correct any problems that may have caused a rejection notification. The deadline to apply for funding under this announcement is 11:59 p.m. eastern time on July 23, 2013. See How To Apply, page 20, for details.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants are limited to nonprofit and for-profit organizations (including tribal nonprofit and for-profit organizations) and institutions of higher education (including tribal institutions of higher education). *For-profit organizations must agree to forgo any profit or management fee.*

OJJDP welcomes joint applications from two or more eligible applicants; however, one applicant must be clearly indicated as the primary applicant (for correspondence, award, and management purposes) and the others indicated as co-applicants.

Program-Specific Information

Purpose

OJJDP has been a national leader in the expansion of mentoring for youth across the country since it first established the Juvenile Mentoring Program (JUMP) in 1996. Since JUMP, OJJDP has supported an extensive portfolio of mentoring programs for national, multi-state, and local organizations that have served and continue to serve a diverse population of at-risk, high risk, and underserved youth across the country. OJJDP has also advanced what is known about mentoring and the moderators of program effectiveness through research and demonstration programs. The types of mentoring approaches that OJJDP supports are targeted to youth younger than 18 years old. They have grown to include one-to-one mentoring, group mentoring, peer mentoring held in different settings (i.e., school-based, community-based, institutional-

based). With the establishment of the NMRC, OJJDP aims to build upon its history and leadership in mentoring to provide a comprehensive and reliable resource for mentoring tools, program and training materials, and information. OJJDP expects that the NMRC will collect OJJDP mentoring grantee materials, house key mentoring training opportunities, identify evidence-based mentoring practices, and facilitate collaboration among mentoring organizations and programs.

Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables

The overall goal of this initiative is to establish a comprehensive National Mentoring Resource Center to improve the quality and effectiveness of mentoring across the nation.

The specific objectives of this program are to:

- design, develop, and implement a comprehensive OJJDP NMRC Web site to host a variety of resources and tools for the mentoring field. (The successful applicant will work with OJJDP to determine whether this will be a standalone site or will be incorporated within www.ojjdp.gov or another pre-existing site.) The site will point to pre-existing resources, when possible, and include user-friendly access to:

  o a "what works" in mentoring section highlighting key mentoring research and evidence-based practices and implementation resources, which must be consistent with OJJDP's Model Program Guide and OJP's CrimeSolutions.gov.

  o a catalogue of OJJDP grantee-produced materials and resources.

  o a means for collaborative information sharing among organizations that focus on mentoring and highlight evidence-based mentoring practices resources.

  o access to online mentoring trainings and information.

- identify gaps in evidence-based mentoring training, resources, and/or practice information and develop online trainings or materials to fill those gaps.

- develop and disseminate information to advance the understanding of evidence-based practices and tools for successful mentoring programs.

- promote and leverage strategic partnerships among mentoring organizations that would benefit youth and the mentoring field.

- leverage previous OJJDP mentoring investments and partnerships and collaborate and coordinate with OJJDP and its training and technical assistance providers to maximize resources, including:

  o the Center for the Advancement of Mentoring.

  o OJJDP's National Training and Technical Assistance Center.

  o OJJDP's Model Programs Guide and OJP's CrimeSolutions.gov.

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- collaborate with and incorporate input from a wide range of mentoring research and practice experts

Deliverables

The specific deliverables of this program are to:

- create a work plan, timeline, and requirements document to ensure accomplishment of key goals and activities.

- establish and maintain an OJJDP NMRC Web site.

- assess the needs of mentoring programs and gaps in evidence-based mentoring practice resources and trainings.

- provide and disseminate evidence-based mentoring practice information, highlighting specific implementation tools, resources, and research.

- develop an online clearinghouse of mentoring resources drawing on OJJDP grantees and other sources. Resources may include recruitment strategies, training curricula, program evaluation tools, matching strategies, and retention tools**.**

- develop and deliver online trainings and Webinars to advance evidence-based strategies and tools in areas where an identified gap or need exists.

- provide tools and practical techniques for collaboration and coordination among mentoring organizations and across disciplines to facilitate information sharing, communication, and coordination.

OJJDP will assign major tasks and deliverables under this solicitation based on a review of the successful application. **Note:** While OJJDP is interested in the applicant designing and hosting mentoring specific Webinars, the objectives of offering tools for successful mentoring programs and promoting collaboration and coordination among mentoring organizations may best be served through a regional or national gathering. If OJJDP determines this is necessary over the course of the award and funding is available, the successful applicant will host a national mentoring conference.

Evidence-based Programs or Practices

OJP strongly emphasizes the use of data and evidence in policy making and program development in criminal justice. OJP is committed to:

- improving the quantity and quality of evidence OJP generates.

- integrating evidence into program, practice, and policy decisions within OJP and the field.

- improving the translation of evidence into practice.

OJP considers programs and practices to be evidence-based when their effectiveness has been demonstrated by causal evidence, generally obtained through one or more outcome

evaluations. Causal evidence documents a relationship between an activity or intervention (including technology) and its intended outcome, including measuring the direction and size of a change, and the extent to which a change may be attributed to the activity or intervention. Causal evidence depends on the use of scientific methods to rule out, to the extent possible, alternative explanations for the documented change. The strength of causal evidence, based on the factors described above, will influence the degree to which OJP considers a program or practice to be evidence-based. OJP's CrimeSolutions.gov and OJJDP's Model Program Guide Web sites are two resources that applicants may use to find information about evidence-based programs in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services.

Amount and Length of Awards

OJJDP expects to make one cooperative agreement award of as much as $1 million for a 12-month project period. Subject to the availability of funds and determination of successful performance, OJJDP may supplement the award with as much as $1 million per year for 2 additional years.

All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

OJJDP will enter into a cooperative agreement with the successful applicant. In furtherance of the goals and objectives described above, OJJDP's role will include the following tasks:

- reviewing and approving major work plans, including changes to such plans, and key decisions pertaining to project operations.

- reviewing and approving major project-generated documents and materials used in the provision of project services.

- providing guidance in significant project planning meetings and participating in project sponsored training events or conferences.

Budget Information

Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation, Waiver. With respect to any award of more than $250,000 made under this solicitation, recipients may not use federal funds to pay total cash compensation (salary plus cash bonuses) to any employee of the award 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. The 2013 salary table for SES employees is available at www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/2013/executive-senior-level/. Note: A recipient may compensate an employee at a greater rate, provided the amount in excess of this compensation limitation is paid with non-federal funds. (Any such additional compensation will not be considered matching funds where match requirements apply.)

The Assistant Attorney General for OJP may exercise discretion to waive, on an individual basis, the limitation on compensation rates allowable under an award. Applicants requesting a waiver should include a detailed justification in the budget narrative of their applications. Applicants who do not submit a waiver request and justification with their applications should anticipate that OJP will request them to adjust and resubmit their budgets.

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The justification should include the particular qualifications and expertise of the individual, the uniqueness of the service the individual will provide, the individual's specific knowledge of the program or project being undertaken with award funds, and a statement explaining that the individual's salary is commensurate with the regular and customary rate for an individual with his/her qualifications and expertise, and for the work to be done.

Minimization of Conference Costs. OJP encourages applicants to review the guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting that is available on the OJP Web site at www.ojp.gov/funding/confcost.htm. This guidance sets out the current OJP policy, which requires all funding recipients who propose to hold or sponsor conferences (including meetings, trainings, and other similar events) to minimize costs, requires OJP review and prior written approval of most conference costs for cooperative agreement recipients (and certain costs for grant recipients), and generally prohibits the use of OJP funding to provide food and beverages at conferences. The guidance also sets upper limits on many conference costs, including facility space, audio/visual services, logistical planning services, programmatic planning services, and food and beverages (in the rare cases where food and beverage costs are permitted at all).

Prior review and approval of conference costs can take time (see the guidance for specific deadlines), and applicants should take this into account when submitting proposals. Applicants also should understand that conference cost limits may change and that they should check the guidance for updates before incurring such costs.

Note on food and beverages. OJP may make exceptions to the general prohibition on using OJP funding for food and beverages but will do so only in rare cases where food and beverages are not otherwise available (e.g., in extremely remote areas); the size of the event and capacity of nearby food and beverage vendors would make it impractical to not provide food and beverages; or a special presentation at a conference requires a plenary address where conference participants have no other time to obtain food and beverages. Any such exception requires OJP's prior written approval. The restriction on food and beverages does not apply to water provided at no cost, but does apply to any and all other refreshments, regardless of the size or nature of the meeting. Additionally, this restriction does not affect direct payment of per diem amounts to individuals in a travel status under your organization's travel policy.

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. Reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to services or benefits may include interpretation or translation services where appropriate.

For additional information, see the "Civil Rights Compliance" section of the OJP "Other Requirements for OJP Applications" Web page at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other_requirements.htm.

Match Requirement. This solicitation does not require a match. However, if a successful application proposes a voluntary match amount, and OJP approves the budget, the total match amount incorporated into the approved budget becomes mandatory and subject to audit.

Performance Measures

To assist the Department with fulfilling its responsibilities under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA), Public Law 103-62, and the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010, Public Law 111–352, applicants that receive funding under this solicitation must provide data that measure the results of their work done under this solicitation. OJP will require any award recipient, post award, to provide the data requested in the "Data Grantee Provides" column so that OJP can calculate values for the "Performance Measures" column. OJJDP will require award recipients to submit semiannual performance metrics of relevant data through the Data Reporting Tool (DCTAT) located www.ojjdp-dctat.org/. Performance measures for this solicitation are as follows:

Objective	Performance Measure(s)	Description	Data Grantee Provides
To establish a National Mentoring Resource Center, which will provide various tools and resources that will improve the quality and effectiveness of mentoring programs.	Number of training requests received.	This measure represents the number of training requests received during the reporting period. Requests can come from individuals or organizations served.	Number of training requests received.
	Number of technical assistance requests received.	This measure represents the number of technical assistance requests received during the reporting period. Requests can come from individuals or organizations served.	Number of technical assistance requests received.
	Number of program materials developed.	This measure represents the number of program materials that were developed during the reporting period. Include only substantive materials such as program overviews, client workbooks, lists of local service providers. Do not include program advertisements or administrative forms such as sign-in sheets or client tracking forms. Count the number of pieces developed. Program records are the preferred data source.	Number of program materials developed.
	Number of planning or training events held.	This measure represents the number of planning or training activities held during the reporting period. Planning and	Number of planning or training events held.

		training activities include creation of task forces or inter-agency committees, meetings held, needs assessments undertaken, etc. Preferred data source is program records.	
	Number of people trained.	This measure represents the number of people trained during the reporting period. The number is the raw number of people receiving any formal training relevant to the program or their position as program staff. Include any training from any source or medium received during the reporting period as long as receipt of training can be verified. Training does not have to have been completed during the reporting period. Preferred data source is program records.	Number of people trained.
	Percent of people exhibiting increased knowledge of the program area.	This measure represents the number of people who exhibit an increased knowledge of the program area after participating in training. Use of pre and post tests is preferred.	Number of people exhibiting increased knowledge of the program area (determined by pre- and post- testing). Number of organizations that receive training and technical assistance.
	Percent of organizations reporting improvements in operations based on training and technical assistance.	The number and percent of organizations reporting improvements in operations as a result of TTA one to six months post-service.	Number of organizations served by TTA. Number of organizations reporting improvements in operations based on training and technical assistance (determined by pre- and post- testing) .
	Percent of those served by training and technical assistance who reported implementing an evidence based program and/or practice during or after the TTA.	Number and percent of programs served by TTA that reported implementing an evidence-based program and or practice during or after the TTA. Evidence based programs and practices include program models that have been	Number of those served by TTA who reported implementing an evidence based program and/or practice during or after the TTA.

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		shown, through rigorous evaluation and replication, to be effective at preventing or reducing juvenile delinquency or related risk factors, such as substance use.	

OJP does not require applicants to submit performance measures data with their applications. Instead, applicants should discuss in their application their proposed methods for collecting data for performance measures. Refer to the section "What an Application Is Expected To Include" on page 11 for additional information.

Project Evaluations

Applicants that propose to use funds awarded through this solicitation to conduct project evaluations or statistical data collections should be aware that these activities (such as systematic investigations to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge) may constitute research, which is defined as follows:

Research means a systematic investigation, including research development, testing, and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. Activities that meet this definition constitute research for the purposes of this policy, whether or not they are conducted or supported under a program that is considered research for other purposes. For example, some demonstration and service programs may include research activities (28 C.F. R. § 46.102(d). The following information pertains to applications that propose to conduct research and involves human subjects:

DOJ regulations (28 C.F.R. Part 46) protect the human subjects of federally funded research. In brief, 28 C.F.R. Part 46 requires that an Institutional Review Board, in accordance with the regulations, review and approve most research involving human subjects that any federal department or agency conducts or supports before an award recipient may expend federal funds for that research. As a rule, persons who participate in federally funded research must provide their informed consent and must be permitted to terminate their participation at any time. Funding recipients, before they will be allowed to spend OJP funds on any research activity involving human subjects, must submit appropriate documentation to OJP showing compliance with 28 C.F.R .Part 46 requirements, as requested by OJP.

DOJ regulations (28 C.F.R. Part 22) require recipients of OJP funding to submit a Privacy Certificate as a condition of approval of any grant application or contract proposal that contains a research or statistical component under which information identifiable to a private person will be collected, analyzed, used, or disclosed. The funding recipient's Privacy Certificate includes a description of its policies and procedures to be followed to protect the confidentiality of identifiable data (28 C.F.R. § 22.23). The Department's regulations provide, among other matters, that: "Research or statistical information identifiable to a private person may be used only for research or statistical purposes (28 C.F.R. § 22.21)." Moreover, any private person from whom information identifiable to a private person is collected or obtained (either orally or by means of written questionnaire or other document) must be advised that the information will only be used or disclosed for research or statistical purposes and that compliance with the request for information is voluntary and may be terminated at any time (28 C.F.R. § 22.27).

OJP has developed a decision tree (www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/pdfs/decision_tree.pdf) to assist applicants in assessing whether an activity they plan to undertake with OJP funds may constitute research involving human subjects. **Applicants should review this decision tree and include a statement in their application narrative that clarifies if they intend to use any information from a project evaluation or data collection to contribute to generalizable knowledge or if they intend to use the information solely for internal improvements and/or to meet OJP's performance measures data reporting requirements.** If an application includes a research, demonstration evaluation, or statistical data collection component, OJP will examine that component to determine whether it meets the definition of research. For additional information visit the "Research and Protection of Human Subjects" and the "Confidentiality" sections of the OJP "Other Requirements" Web page at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other_requirements.htm.

Notice of Post-Award FFATA Reporting Requirement

Applicants should anticipate that OJP will require all recipients (other than individuals) of awards of $25,000 or more under this solicitation, consistent with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA), to report award information on any first-tier subawards totaling $25,000 or more, and, in certain cases, to report information on the names and total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of the recipient and first-tier subrecipients. Each applicant entity must ensure that it has the necessary processes and systems in place to comply with the reporting requirements should it receive funding. Reports regarding subawards will be made through the FFATA Subaward Reporting System (FSRS), found at www.fsrs.gov.

Please note also that applicants should anticipate that no subaward of an award made under this solicitation may be made to a subrecipient (other than an individual) unless the potential subrecipient acquires and provides a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number.

What an Application Is Expected To Include

Applicants should anticipate that if they fail to submit an application that contains all of the specified elements, it may negatively affect the review of their application; and, should OJJDP decide to make an award, it may result in the inclusion of special conditions that preclude the recipient from accessing or using award funds pending satisfaction of the conditions.

Moreover, applicants should anticipate that some application elements are so critical that applications that do not respond to the scope of the solicitation, do not meet the eligibility requirements, do not request funding within the funding limit, or do not include the application elements that OJJDP has designated to be critical will neither proceed to peer review nor receive further consideration. Under this solicitation, OJJDP has designated the following application elements as critical: Program Narrative, Budget Detail Worksheet or Budget Narrative.

OJP strongly recommends that applicants use appropriately descriptive file names (e.g., "Program Narrative," "Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative," "Timelines," "Memoranda of Understanding," "Resumes") for all attachments. Also, OJP recommends that applicants include resumes in a single file.

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

   The SF-424 is a required standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications, applications, and related information. Grants.gov and GMS take information from the applicant's profile to populate the fields on this form. If the applicant is a for-profit entity, select "For-Profit Organization" or "Small Business" (as applicable), when selecting "type of applicant."

2. **Abstract**

   Applications should include a high-quality abstract that summarizes the proposed project in 400 words or less. Abstracts should be:

   - written for a general public audience.

   - submitted as a separate attachment with "Project Abstract" as part of its file name.

   - single-spaced, using a standard 12-point font (Times New Roman) with 1-inch margins.

   As a separate attachment, the project abstract will **not** count against the page limit for the program narrative.

   The abstract should include a brief description of the project's purpose, the population to be served, and the activities that the applicant will implement to achieve the project's goals and objectives. The abstract should describe how the applicant will measure progress toward these goals. The abstract should indicate whether the applicant will use any portion of the project budget to conduct research, as described in Project Evaluations on page 10.

3. **Program Narrative**

   Applicants must submit a program narrative that presents a detailed description of the purpose, goals, objectives, strategies, design, and management of the proposed program. The program narrative should be double-spaced with 1-inch margins, not exceeding 30 pages of 8½ by 11 inches, and use a standard 12-point font, preferably Times New Roman. Pages should be numbered "1 of 30," etc. The tables, charts, pictures, etc., including all captions, legends, keys, subtext, etc., may be single-spaced, and will count in the 30-page limit. Material required under the Budget and Budget Narrative and Additional Attachments sections will not count toward the program narrative page count. Applicants may provide bibliographical references as a separate attachment that will not count toward the 30-page program narrative limit. If the program narrative fails to comply with these length-related restrictions, OJJDP may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions.

   The program narrative should address the following selection criteria: (1) statement of the problem; (2) goals, objectives, and performance measures; (3) program design and implementation; and (4) capabilities/competencies. The applicant should clearly delineate the connections between and among each of these sections. For example, the applicant should derive the goals and objectives directly from the problems to be addressed. Similarly, the project design section should clearly explain how the program's structure and activities will accomplish the goals and objectives identified in the previous section.

The following sections should be included as part of the program narrative.

a. **Statement of the Problem.** Applicants should briefly describe the need for a National Mentoring Resource Center. The applicant should use data to provide evidence that the need exists, demonstrate the size and scope of the need, and document the effects this has on the mentoring field. Applicants should describe any previous or current attempts to address the need.

b. **Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures.** Applicants should describe the goals of the proposed program and identify its objectives. When formulating the program's goals and objectives, applicants should be cognizant of the performance measures that OJJDP will require successful applicants to provide.

   Goals. Applicants should describe the program's intent to establish a NMRC to improve the quality and effectiveness of mentoring across the nation.

   Program Objectives. Applicants should explain how the program will accomplish its goals. Objectives are specific, quantifiable statements of the project's desired results. They should be clearly linked to the strategy to establish a comprehensive NMRC to improve the quality and effectiveness of mentoring across the nation. (Examples of measurable objectives include the following: to provide various resources and trainings to mentoring organizations.)

   OJJDP will assess the extent to which applicants address the following objectives:

   - design, develop, and implement a comprehensive OJJDP NMRC Web site, which will host a variety of resources and tools for the mentoring field.

   - identify gaps in evidence-based mentoring training, resources, and/or practice information and develop online evidence-based trainings or materials to fill those gaps.

   - develop and disseminate information to advance the understanding of best practices and tools for successful mentoring programs.

   - promote and leverage strategic partnerships among mentoring organizations that would benefit youth and the mentoring field.

   - leverage previous OJJDP mentoring investments and partnerships and collaborate and coordinate with OJJDP and its training and technical assistance providers to maximize resources.

   - collaborate with and incorporate input from a wide range of mentoring research and practice experts.

   Performance Measures. OJJDP does not require applicants to submit performance measures data with their applications. Performance measures (see Performance Measures, page 8) are included as an alert that OJJDP will require successful applicants to submit specific data as part of their reporting requirements. For the application,

applicants should indicate an understanding of these requirements and discuss how they will gather the required data, should they receive funding.

OJJDP encourages award recipients to use information from existing program records to fulfill performance measures reporting requirements rather than initiating new data collection activities for this purpose.

c. **Project Design and Implementation.** Applicants should detail how the project will operate throughout the funding period and describe the strategies that they will use to achieve the goals and objectives identified in the previous section. Applicants should describe how they will complete the deliverables stated in the Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables section on page 4.

OJJDP will assess the extent to which applicants propose a reasonable and feasible plan to meet each of the objectives above. Applicants should fully explain how they will:

*   create a work plan, timeline, and requirements document to ensure accomplishment of key goals and activities.

*   establish and maintain an OJJDP NMRC Web site.

*   assess the needs of mentoring programs and gaps in evidence-based mentoring practice resources and trainings.

*   provide and disseminate evidence-based mentoring practice information, highlighting specific implementation tools, resources, and research.

*   develop an online clearinghouse for OJJDP grantee mentoring resources, such as recruitment strategies, training curricula, program evaluation tools, matching strategies, and retention tools**.**

*   develop and deliver online trainings and Webinars to advance evidence-based strategies and tools in areas where there is an identified gap or need.

*   provide tools and practical techniques for collaboration and coordination among mentoring organizations and across disciplines to facilitate information sharing, communication, and coordination.

Logic Model. Applicants should include a logic model that graphically illustrates how the performance measures are related to the project's problems, goals, objectives, and design. Sample logic models are available at www.ojjdp.gov/grantees/pm/logic_models.html. Applicants should submit the logic model as a separate attachment, as stipulated in Additional Attachments, page 16.

Timeline. Applicants should submit a realistic timeline or milestone chart that indicates major tasks associated with the goals and objectives of the project, assigns responsibility for each, and plots completion of each task by month or quarter for the duration of the award, using "Year 1," "Month 1," "Quarter 1," etc., not calendar dates (see "Sample Project Timelines" at www.ojjdp.gov/grantees/timelines.html).

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Applicants should submit the timeline as a separate attachment, as stipulated in Additional Attachments, page 16. On receipt of an award, the award recipient may revise the timeline, based on training and technical assistance that OJJDP will provide.

d. **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 the organizational chart showing how their organization operates, including who manages the finances; how the applicant manages subawards, if there are any; and the management of the project proposed for funding.

Letters of Support/Memoranda of Understanding. If submitting a joint application, as described under Eligibility, page 3, applicants should provide signed and dated letters of support or memoranda of understanding for all key partners that include the following:

- expression of support for the program and a statement of willingness to participate and collaborate with it.

- description of the partner's current role and responsibilities in the planning process and expected responsibilities when the program is operational.

- estimate of the percent of time that the partner will devote to the planning and operation of the project.

4. **Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative**

Applicants should provide a budget that (1) is complete, allowable, and cost-effective in relation to the proposed activities; (2) shows the cost calculations demonstrating how they arrived at the total amount requested; and (3) provides a brief supporting narrative to link costs with project activities. The budget should cover the entire award period.

For questions pertaining to budget and examples of allowable and unallowable costs, see the OJP Financial Guide at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/financialguide/index.htm.

a. **Budget Detail Worksheet.** A sample Budget Detail Worksheet can be found at www.ojp.gov/funding/forms/budget_detail.pdf. Applicants that submit their budget in a different format should include the budget categories listed in the sample budget worksheet.

b. **Budget Narrative.** The Budget Narrative should thoroughly and clearly describe every category of expense listed in the Budget Detail Worksheet. OJP expects proposed budgets to be complete, cost effective, and allowable (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

Applicants should demonstrate in their budget narratives how they will maximize cost

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effectiveness of grant expenditures. Budget narratives should generally describe cost effectiveness in relation to potential alternatives and the goals of the project. For example, a budget narrative should detail why planned in-person meetings are necessary or how the applicant could use technology and collaboration with outside organizations to reduce costs without compromising quality.

The narrative should be mathematically sound and correspond with the information and figures provided in the Budget Detail Worksheet. The narrative should explain how the applicant estimated and calculated all costs, and how they are relevant to the completion of the proposed project. The narrative may include tables for clarification purposes but need not be in a spreadsheet format. As with the Budget Detail Worksheet, the Budget Narrative should be broken down by year.

5. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

Indirect costs are allowed only if the applicant has a federally approved indirect cost rate. (This requirement does not apply to units of local government.) Attach a copy of the federally approved indirect cost rate agreement to the application. Applicants that do not have an approved rate may request one through their cognizant federal agency, which will review all documentation and approve a rate for the applicant organization, or, if the applicant's accounting system permits, costs may be allocated in the direct cost categories. If DOJ is the cognizant federal agency, obtain information needed to submit an indirect cost rate proposal at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/pdfs/indirect_costs.pdf.

6. Additional Attachments

Applicants should submit the following information, as stipulated in the cited pages, as attachments to their application. While the materials listed below are not assigned specific point values, peer reviewers will, as appropriate, consider these items when rating applications. For example, reviewers will consider résumés and/or letters of support/memoranda of understanding when assessing "capabilities/competencies." Peer reviewers will not consider any additional information that the applicant submits other than that specified below.

a. **Applicant disclosure of pending applications.** Applicants are to disclose whether they have pending applications for federal assistance that include requests for funding to support the same project being proposed under this solicitation and that cover the identical cost items outlined in the budget narrative and worksheet in the application under this solicitation. The disclosure should include both direct applications for federal funding (e.g., applications to federal agencies) and indirect applications for such funding (e.g., applications to state agencies that will be subawarding federal funds).

OJP seeks this information to help avoid any inappropriate duplication of funding. Leveraging multiple funding sources in a complementary manner to implement comprehensive programs or projects is encouraged and is not seen as inappropriate duplication.

Applicants that have pending applications as described above are to provide the following information about pending applications submitted within the last 12 months:

- the federal or state funding agency.

- the solicitation name/project name.

- the point of contact information at the applicable funding agency.

Federal or State Funding Agency	Solicitation Name/ Project Name	Name/Phone/E-mail for Point of Contact at Funding Agency
DOJ/COPS	COPS Hiring Program	Jane Doe, 202/000-0000; jane.doe@usdoj.gov
HHS/Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration	Drug Free Communities Mentoring Program/North County Youth Mentoring Program	John Doe, 202/000-0000; john.doe@hhs.gov

Applicants should include the table as a separate attachment, with the file name "Disclosure of Pending Applications," to their application. Applicants that do not have pending applications as described above are to include a statement to this effect in the separate attachment page (e.g., "[Applicant Name] does not have pending applications submitted within the last 12 months for federally funded assistance that include requests for funding to support the same project being proposed under this solicitation and will cover the identical cost items outlined in the budget narrative and worksheet in the application under this solicitation.").

b. **logic model** (see Logic Model, page 14)

c. **timeline or milestone chart** (see Timeline, page 14)

d. **résumés** of all key personnel

e. **job descriptions** outlining roles and responsibilities for all key positions

f. **letters of support/memoranda of understanding** from partner organizations (see Letters of Support/Memoranda of Understanding, page 15)

g. **evidence of nonprofit status**, e.g., a copy of the tax exemption letter from the Internal Revenue Service, if applicable.

h. **evidence of for-profit status**, e.g., a copy of the articles of incorporation, if applicable.

7. **Other Standard Forms**

Additional forms that OJP may require in connection with an award are available on OJP's funding page at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/forms.htm. For successful applicants, receipt of funds may be contingent upon submission of all necessary forms. Note in particular the following forms:

a. Standard Assurances.[*] Applicants must read, certify, and submit this form in GMS prior to the receipt of any award funds.

b. [Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements.](#)[*] Applicants must read, certify, and submit in GMS prior to the receipt of any award funds.

   c. [Accounting System and Financial Capability Questionnaire.](#) Any applicant (other than an individual) that is a non-governmental entity and has not received any award from OJP within the past 3 years, must download, complete, and submit this form.

   [*] These OJP Standard Assurances and Certifications are forms that applicants accept in GMS. They are not additional forms to be uploaded at the time of application submission.

Selection Criteria

The following six selection criteria will be used to evaluate each application, with the different weight given to each based on the percentage value listed after each individual criteria. For example, the first criteria, Statement of the Problem, is worth 5 percent of the entire score in the application review process.

1. Abstract (5 percent)
2. Statement of the Problem (5 percent)
3. Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures (20 percent)
4. Project Design and Implementation (35 percent)
5. Capabilities and Competencies (30 percent)
6. Budget: complete, cost effective, and allowable (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities) Budget narratives should generally demonstrate how applicants will maximize cost effectiveness of grant expenditures. Budget narratives should demonstrate cost effectiveness in relation to potential alternatives and the goals of the project.[1] (5 percent)

See What an Application Is Expected To Include, page 11, for the criteria that the peer reviewers will use to evaluate applications.

Review Process

OJP is committed to ensuring a fair and open process for awarding grants. OJJDP reviews the application to make sure that the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, and achievable, as well as consistent with the solicitation.

Peer reviewers will review the applications submitted under this solicitation that meet basic minimum requirements. OJJDP may use either internal peer reviewers, external peer reviewers, or a combination, to review the applications. An external peer reviewer is an expert in the subject matter of a given solicitation who is NOT a current DOJ employee. An internal reviewer is a current DOJ employee who is well-versed or has expertise in the subject matter of this solicitation. A peer review panel will evaluate, score, and rate applications that meet basic minimum requirements. Peer reviewers' ratings and any resulting recommendations are advisory only. In addition to peer review ratings, considerations for award recommendations and

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[1] Generally speaking, a reasonable cost is a cost that, in its nature or amount, does not exceed that which would be incurred by a prudent person under the circumstances prevailing at the time the decision was made to incur the costs.

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decisions may include, but are not limited to, underserved populations, geographic diversity, strategic priorities, past performance, and available funding.

The Office of the Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with OJJDP, reviews applications for potential discretionary awards to evaluate the fiscal integrity and financial capability of applicants, examines proposed costs to determine if the Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative accurately explain project costs, and determines whether costs are reasonable, necessary, and allowable under applicable federal cost principles and agency regulations.

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, the Assistant Attorney General, who may consider factors including, but not limited to, underserved populations, geographic diversity, strategic priorities, past performance, and available funding, will make all final award decisions.

Additional Requirements

Applicants selected for awards must agree to comply with additional legal requirements upon acceptance of an award. OJP encourages applicants to review the information pertaining to these additional requirements prior to submitting an application. Additional information for each requirement can be found at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other_requirements.htm.

- Civil Rights Compliance

- Civil Rights Compliance Specific to State Administering Agencies

- Faith-Based and Other Community Organizations

- Confidentiality

- Research and the Protection of Human Subjects

- Anti-Lobbying Act

- Financial and Government Audit Requirements

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- DOJ Information Technology Standards (if applicable)

- Single Point of Contact Review

- Non-Supplanting of State or Local Funds

- Criminal Penalty for False Statements

- Compliance with Office of Justice Programs Financial Guide

- Suspension or Termination of Funding

- Nonprofit Organizations

- For-Profit Organizations

- Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)

- Rights in Intellectual Property

- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA)

- Awards in Excess of $5,000,000 – Federal Taxes Certification Requirement

- Policy and Guidance for Conference Approval, Planning, and Reporting

- OJP Training Guiding Principles for Grantees and Subgrantees

How To Apply

Note: Grants.gov limits the use of specific characters in names of attachment files. Valid file names may only include the following characters: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, underscore (_), hyphen (-), space, and period. Grants.gov will forward the application to OJP's Grants Management System (GMS). GMS does not accept executable file types as application attachments. These disallowed file types include, but are not limited to, the following extensions: ".com," ".bat," ".exe," ".vbs," ".cfg," ".dat," ".db," ".dbf," ".dll," ".ini," ".log," ".ora," ".sys," and ".zip."

Applicants must register with and submit applications through Grants.gov, a "one-stop storefront" to find federal funding opportunities and apply for funding. Find complete instructions on how to register and submit an application at www.Grants.gov. Applicants that experience technical difficulties during this process should call the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at **800**-**518**-**4726** or **606–545–5035**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except federal holidays. Registering with Grants.gov is a one-time process; however, **processing delays may occur, and it can take several weeks** for first-time registrants to receive confirmation and a user password. OJP encourages applicants to **register several weeks before** the application submission deadline. In addition, OJP urges applicants to submit applications 72 hours prior to the application due date to allow time to receive validation messages or rejection notifications from Grants.gov, and to correct in a timely fashion any problems that may have caused a rejection notification.

Note: OJJDP encourages all prospective applicants to sign up for Grants.gov e-mail notifications regarding this solicitation. If this solicitation is cancelled or modified, individuals who sign up with Grants.gov for e-mail updates will be notified.

All applicants are required to complete the following steps:

1. **Acquire a DUNS number.** In general, the Office of Management and Budget requires that all applicants (other than individuals) for federal funds include a DUNS number in their applications for a new award or a supplement to an existing award. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and differentiating entities receiving federal funds. The identifier is used for tracking purposes and to validate address and point of contact information for federal assistance applicants,

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recipients, and subrecipients. The DUNS number will be used throughout the grant life cycle. Obtaining a DUNS number is a free, one-time activity. Call Dun and Bradstreet at 866–705–5711 to obtain a DUNS number or apply online at www.dnb.com. A DUNS number is usually received within 1-2 business days.

2. **Acquire registration with the System for Award Management (SAM).** SAM replaces the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database as the repository for standard information about federal financial assistance applicants, recipients, and subrecipients. OJP requires all applicants (other than individuals) for federal financial assistance to maintain current registrations in the SAM database. Applicants must register in SAM to successfully register in Grants.gov. (Previously, organizations that had submitted applications via Grants.gov were registered with CCR, as it was a requirement for Grants.gov registration. SAM registration replaces CCR as a pre-requisite for Grants.gov registration.) Applicants must **update or renew their SAM registration annually** to maintain an active status.

    Applicants that were previously registered in the CCR database must, at a minimum:

    • create a SAM account;

    • log into SAM and migrate permissions to the SAM account (all the entity registrations and records should already have been migrated).

    Applicants that were not previously registered in the CCR database must register in SAM prior to registering in Grants.gov. Information about SAM registration procedures can be accessed at www.sam.gov.

3. **Acquire an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and a Grants.gov username and password**. Complete the AOR profile on Grants.gov and create a username and password. Applicants must use their organization's DUNS number to complete this step. For more information about the registration process, go to www.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp.

4. **Acquire confirmation for the AOR from the E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC).** The E-Biz POC at the applicant organization must log into Grants.gov to confirm the applicant organization's AOR. An organization can have more than one AOR.

5. **Search for the funding opportunity on Grants.gov.** Use the following identifying information when searching for the funding opportunity on Grants.gov. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number for this solicitation is 16.726, titled "Juvenile Mentoring Program," and the funding opportunity number is OJJDP-2013-3618.

6. **Complete the Disclosure of Lobbying Activities.** All applicants must complete this information. Applicants that expend any funds for lobbying activities must provide the detailed information requested on the form, *Disclosure of Lobbying Activities* (SF-LLL). Applicants that do not expend any funds for lobbying activities should enter "N/A" in the required highlighted fields.

7. **Follow the directions in Grants.gov to submit an application consistent with this solicitation.** Within 24–48 hours after submitting the electronic application, the applicant should receive an e-mail validation message from Grants.gov. The message will state whether the application has been received and validated, or rejected due to errors, with an

explanation. **Important:** OJP urges applicants to submit applications **at least 72 hours prior** of the application due date to allow time to receive validation messages or rejection notifications from Grants.gov, and to correct in a timely fashion any problems that may have caused a rejection notification.

Note: Duplicate Applications. If an applicant submits multiple versions of an application, OJJDP will review the most recent version submitted.

Experiencing Unforeseen Grants.gov Technical Issues

Applicants that experience unforeseen Grants.gov technical issues that prevent them from submitting their application by the deadline must e-mail the Justice Information Center (see Page 1 for contact information) **within 24 hours after the application deadline** and request approval to submit their application. The e-mail must describe the technical difficulties, and include a timeline of the applicant's submission efforts, the complete grant application, the applicant's DUNS number, and any Grants.gov Help Desk or SAM tracking number(s). **Note: OJJDP does not automatically approve requests.** After the program office reviews the submission, and contacts the Grants.gov or SAM Help Desks to validate the reported technical issues, OJP will inform the applicant whether the request to submit a late application has been approved or denied. If the technical issues reported cannot be validated, OJP will reject the application as untimely.

The following conditions are <u>not</u> valid reasons to permit late submissions: (1) failure to register in sufficient time, (2) failure to follow Grants.gov instructions on how to register and apply as posted on its Web site, (3) failure to follow each instruction in the OJP solicitation, and (4) technical issues with the applicant's computer or information technology environment, including firewalls.

Notifications regarding known technical problems with Grants.gov, if any, are posted at the top of the OJP funding Web page at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/solicitations.htm.

Provide Feedback to OJP on This Solicitation

To help OJP improve its application and award processes, we encourage applicants to provide feedback on this solicitation, the application submission process, and/or the application review/peer review process. Feedback may be provided to OJPSolicitationFeedback@usdoj.gov.

IMPORTANT: This e-mail is for feedback and suggestions only. OJP does **not** send replies from this mailbox. If you have specific questions on any program or technical aspect of the solicitation, **you must** directly contact the appropriate number or e-mail listed on the front of this solicitation document. These contacts are provided to ensure that you can directly reach an individual who can address your specific questions in a timely manner.

If you are interested in being a reviewer for other OJP grant applications, e-mail your resume to ojppeerreview@lmbps.com. The OJP Solicitation Feedback e-mail account will not forward your resume. **Note:** Neither you nor anyone else from your organization can be a peer reviewer in a competition in which you or your organization have submitted an application.

Application Checklist

OJJDP FY 2013 National Mentoring Resource Center

This application checklist has been created to assist in developing an application.

Eligibility Requirement:
_____Nonprofit or for-profit organization, including tribal nonprofit and for-profit organization
_____Institution of higher education, including tribal institution of higher education
_____The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit of $1 million*.*

What an Application is Expected to Include:
_____Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) (see page 12)
_____Abstract (see page 12)

_____Program Narrative (see page 12)
     _____Format (double spaced, 12-point standard font, 1" standard margins, narrative is 30 pages or less)
     _____Statement of the Problem
     _____Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures
     _____Project Design and Implementation
     _____Capabilities/Competencies

_____Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative (see page 15*)*
_____Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see page 16*)*

_____Additional Attachments (see page 16)
     _____disclosure of pending applications
     _____logic model
     _____timeline or milestone chart
     _____résumés of all key personnel
     _____job descriptions for all key positions
     _____letters of support/memoranda of understanding from partner organizations
     _____evidence of nonprofit status e.g., copy of articles of incorporation, if applicable
     _____evidence of for-profit status e.g., copy of tax exemption letter from the Internal Revenue Service, if applicable

_____Other Standard Forms and Components, as applicable, including:
     _____Accounting System and Financial Capability Questionnaire (see page 18)
     _____DUNS number (see page 20)
     _____System for Award Management (SAM) (see page 20)
     _____AOR registration and confirmation (see page 20)
     _____Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) (see page 20)