OMB No. 1121-0329

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
Bureau of Justice Assistance

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs' (OJP) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications for funding under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. This program furthers the Department's mission by assisting state, local, and tribal efforts to prevent or reduce crime and violence.

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program FY 2012 Local Solicitation

Eligibility

Applicants are limited to units of local government appearing on the FY 2012 JAG Allocations List. To view this list, go to www.bja.gov/programs/jag/12jagallocations.html. For JAG program purposes, a unit of local government is: a town, township, village, parish, city, county, borough, or other general purpose political subdivision of a state; or, it may also be a federally recognized Indian tribe that performs law enforcement functions (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior). Otherwise a unit of local government may be any law enforcement district or judicial enforcement district established under applicable state law with authority to independently establish a budget and impose taxes. In Louisiana, a unit of local government means a district attorney or parish sheriff. In the District of Columbia or any United States Trust Territory, a unit of local government is any agency of the District of Columbia or federal government performing law enforcement functions for the District of Columbia or Trust Territories of the United States.

Deadline

Applicants must register in OJP's Grants Management System (GMS) prior to submitting application for this funding opportunity. Select the "Apply Online" button associated with the solicitation title. (See "How To Apply," page 14.) All registrations and applications are due by 8:00 p.m. eastern time on May 14, 2012. (See "Deadlines: Registration and Application," page 4.)

Contact Information

For technical assistance with submitting the application, contact the Grants Management System Support Hotline at 1–888–549–9901, option 3, or via e-mail to GMS.HelpDesk@usdoj.gov.

Note: The GMS Support Hotline hours of operation are Monday–Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 12 midnight eastern time, except federal holidays.

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

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Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program: Local Solicitation CFDA #16.738

Overview

The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program (42 U.S.C. 3751(a)) is the primary provider of federal criminal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. JAG funds support all components of the criminal justice system, from multijurisdictional drug and gang task forces to crime prevention and domestic violence programs, courts, corrections, treatment, and justice information sharing initiatives. JAG-funded projects may address crime through the provision of services directly to individuals and/or communities and by improving the effectiveness and efficiency of criminal justice systems, processes, and procedures.

Deadlines: Registration and Application

Applicants must register in GMS prior to submitting an application for this funding opportunity. The deadline to register in GMS is 8:00 p.m. eastern time on May 14, 2012, and the deadline to apply for funding under this announcement is 8:00 p.m. eastern time on May 14, 2012. See the "How To Apply" section on page 14 for more details.

Eligibility

Refer to the cover page of this solicitation for eligibility under this program.

JAG Program—Specific Information

Formula

Once each fiscal year's overall JAG Program funding level is determined, BJA partners with the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) to begin a four-step grant award calculation process which consists of:

1. Computing an initial JAG allocation for each state and territory, based on their share of violent crime and population (weighted equally).

2. Reviewing the initial JAG allocation amount to determine if the state or territory allocation is less than the minimum ("de minimus") award amount defined in the JAG legislation (0.25 percent of the total). If this is the case, the state or territory is funded at the minimum level, and the funds required for this are deducted from the overall pool of JAG funds. Each of the remaining states receives the minimum award plus an additional amount based on their share of violent crime and population.

3. Dividing each state's final award amount (except for the territories and District of Columbia) between state and local governments at a rate of 60 and 40 percent, respectively.

4. Determining local unit of government award allocations, which are based on their proportion of the state's three-year violent crime average. If a local eligible award amount is less than $10,000, the funds are returned to the state to be awarded to these local units of government through the state agency. If the eligible award amount is $10,000 or more, then the local government is eligible to apply for a JAG award directly from BJA.

Award Amount

Eligible award amounts under JAG are posted annually to BJA's JAG web page: www.bja.gov/ProgramDetails.aspx?Program_ID=59.

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

Purpose Areas

JAG funds may be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, strategic planning, research and evaluation, data collection, training, personnel, equipment, forensic laboratories, supplies, contractual support, and criminal justice information systems that will improve or enhance such areas as:

- Law enforcement programs.
- Prosecution and court programs.
- Prevention and education programs.
- Corrections and community corrections programs.
- Drug treatment and enforcement programs.
- Planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs.
- Crime victim and witness programs (other than compensation).

JAG funds may also be used to address key statutory requirements that may not be otherwise funded, including requirements from the state and federal level, such as addressing limited English proficiency requirements and other similar mandates.

Responsibilities

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of an eligible unit of local government or other officer designated by the CEO must submit the application for JAG funds. A unit of local government receiving a JAG award will be responsible for the administration of the funds including: distributing the funds; monitoring the award; submitting quarterly financial status (SF-425) and performance metrics reports and annual programmatic reports; and providing ongoing oversight and assistance to any subrecipients of the funds.

Length of Awards

Awards are made in the first fiscal year of the appropriation and may be expended during the following 3 years, for a total grant period of 4 years. Extensions beyond this period may be made on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Director of BJA and must be requested via the Grants Management System (GMS) **no less than 30 days prior to the grant end date.**

Administrative Funds

A unit of local government may use up to 10 percent of the award, plus any interest accrued, for costs associated with administering JAG funds.

Disparate Certification

A disparate allocation occurs when a city or municipality is allocated one-and-one-half times (150 percent) more than the county, while the county bears more than 50 percent of the costs associated with prosecution or incarceration of the municipality's Part 1 violent crimes. A disparate allocation also occurs when multiple cities or municipalities are collectively allocated four times (400 percent) more than the county, and the county bears more than 50 percent of the collective costs associated with prosecution or incarceration of each municipality's Part 1 violent crimes.

- ★ Jurisdictions certified as disparate must identify a fiscal agent that will submit a **joint application** for the aggregate eligible allocation to all disparate municipalities. The joint application must determine and specify the award distribution to each unit of local government and the purposes for which the funds will be used. When beginning the JAG application process, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that identifies which jurisdiction will serve as the applicant/fiscal agent for joint funds, must be completed, and signed by the Authorized Representative for each participating jurisdiction. The signed MOU should be attached to the application. For a sample MOU, go to www.bja.gov/Funding/JAGMOU.pdf.

Governing Body Review

The applicant agency (fiscal agent in disparate situations) must make the grant application available for review by the governing body (or to the organization designated by the governing body) not fewer than 30 days before the application is submitted to BJA.

Public Comment

The applicant agency (the fiscal agent in disparate situations) must include a statement that the application was made public and that, to the extent of applicable law or established procedure, an opportunity to comment was provided to citizens and to neighborhood or community-based organizations.

Supplanting

Federal funds must be used to supplement existing funds for program activities and cannot replace or supplant nonfederal funds that have been appropriated for the same purpose. Supplanting is prohibited under JAG. See BJA's JAG web page and the updated JAG FAQs for examples of supplanting.

Trust Fund

Award recipients may draw down JAG funds in advance. To do so, a trust fund must be established in which to deposit the funds. The trust fund may or may not be an interest-bearing account. If subrecipients draw down JAG funds in advance, they also must establish a trust fund in which to deposit funds. This trust fund requirement only applies to direct JAG award recipients as well as subrecipients that are not on a reimbursement basis.

Match Requirement

While match is not required with the JAG Program, match is as an effective strategy for states and units of local government to expand justice funds and build buy-in for local criminal justice initiatives. If an applicant proposes a voluntary match amount, the match amount incorporated into the OJP-approved budget becomes mandatory and subject to audit.

Prohibited Uses

No JAG funds may be expended outside of JAG purpose areas. Even within these purpose areas, however, JAG funds cannot be used directly or indirectly for security enhancements or equipment for nongovernmental entities not engaged in criminal justice or public safety. Nor may JAG funds be used directly or indirectly to provide for any of the following matters unless BJA certifies* that extraordinary and exigent circumstances exist, making them essential to the maintenance of public safety and good order:

- **Vehicles (excluding police cruisers), vessels (excluding police boats), or aircraft (excluding police helicopters).
- Luxury items.
- Real estate.
- Construction projects (other than penal or correctional institutions).
- Any similar matters.

***For information related to requesting a waiver to use funds for any prohibited item, refer to the updated JAG FAQs on BJA's JAG web page.**

****Police cruisers may include a police pursuit vehicle (PPV) or system support vehicle (SSV). Examples include sedans and sport utility vehicles (SUVs).**

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, federal funds may not be used to pay total cash compensation (salary plus 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 2012 salary table for SES employees is available at www.opm.gov/oca/12tables/indexSES.asp. Note: A recipient may compensate an employee at a higher 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 limitation on compensation rates allowable under an award may be waived on an individual basis at the discretion of the Assistant Attorney General (AAG) for OJP. An applicant requesting a waiver should include a detailed justification in the budget narrative of its application. Unless the applicant submits a waiver request and justification with the application, the applicant should anticipate that OJP will request the applicant to adjust and resubmit its budget.

The justification should include the particular qualifications and expertise of the individual, the uniqueness of the service being provided, 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
No OJP funding can be used to purchase food and/or beverages for any meeting, conference, training, or other event. Exceptions to this restriction may be made only in cases where such sustenance is not otherwise available (i.e., extremely remote areas), or where a special presentation at a conference requires a plenary address where there is no other time for sustenance to be obtained. Such an exception would require prior approval from the BJA Director. This restriction 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 impact direct payment of per diem amounts to individuals in a travel status under your organization's travel policy.

Updated Department of Justice and OJP guidance on conference planning, minimization of costs, and conference cost reporting will be forthcoming and will be accessible on the OJP web site at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/funding.htm.

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 by individuals with limited English proficiency may be allowable costs. 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 (www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other_requirements.htm).

Updated Requirements

Bulletproof Vest Certification

Bulletproof vests can be funded through two BJA-administered programs: the JAG Program and the Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Program.

- BVP is a program designed to provide a critical resource to state and local law enforcement through the purchase of ballistic-resistant and stab-resistant body armor. A jurisdiction is able to request up to 50 percent of the cost of a vest with BVP funds. For more information on the BVP Program, including eligibility and application, refer to the BVP web page.

- JAG funds may also be used to purchase vests for an agency, but they may not be used to pay for that portion of the bulletproof vest (50 percent) that is not covered by BVP funds. Unlike BVP, JAG funds used to purchase vests do not require a 50 percent match.

- Bulletproof vests purchased with JAG funds may be purchased at any threat level, make, or model from any distributor or manufacturer, as long as the vests have been tested and found to comply with applicable National Institute of Justice ballistic or stab standards. In addition, bulletproof vests purchased must be American-made. The latest NIJ standard information can be found at: www.nij.gov/topics/technology/body-armor/safety-initiative.htm.

- As is the case in BVP, grantees that wish to purchase vests with JAG funds **must certify** that law enforcement agencies receiving vests have a written "mandatory wear" policy in effect. FAQs related to the mandatory wear policy and certifications can be found at www.bja.gov/Funding/JAGFAQ.pdf This policy must be in place for at least all uniformed officers before any FY 2012 funding can be used by the agency for vests. There are no requirements regarding the nature of the policy other than it being a mandatory wear policy for all uniformed officers while on duty. A *mandatory wear concept and issues paper* and a *model policy* are available by contacting the BVP Customer Support Center at vests@usdoj.gov or toll free at 1–877–758–3787.

- A copy of the certification related to the mandatory wear can be found at: www.bja.gov/Funding/12JAGBVPCert.pdf.

Interoperable Communications Guidance

- Grantees (including subgrantees) that are using FY 2012 JAG Program funds to support emergency communications activities must comply with the *FY 2012 SAFECOM Guidance for Emergency Communication Grants,* including provisions on technical standards that ensure and enhance interoperable communications. Emergency communications activities include the purchase of Interoperable Communications Equipment and technologies such as voice-over-internet protocol bridging or gateway devices, or equipment to support the build out of wireless broadband networks in the 700 MHz public safety band under the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Waiver Order. SAFECOM guidance can be found at www.safecomprogram.gov.

- Grantees interested in developing a public safety broadband network in the 700 MHz band in their jurisdictions must adhere to the technical standards set forth in the FCC Waiver Order, or any succeeding FCC orders, rules, or regulations pertaining to broadband operations in the 700 MHz public safety band. The recipient shall also ensure projects support the Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP) and are fully coordinated with the full-time Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) in the state of the project. As the central coordination point for their state's interoperability effort, the SWIC plays a critical role, and can serve as a valuable resource. SWICs are responsible for the implementation of the SCIP through coordination and collaboration with the emergency response community. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office of Emergency Communications maintains a list of SWICs for each of the 56 states and territories. Contact OEC@hq.dhs.gov if you are not familiar with your state or territory's SWIC. If any future regulatory requirement (from the FCC or other governmental entity) results in a material technical or financial change in the project, the recipient should submit associated documentation, and other material, as applicable, for review by the SWIC to ensure

coordination. Grantees (and sub-grantees) must provide a listing of all communications equipment purchased with grant award funding (plus the quantity purchased of each item) to their assigned BJA State Policy Advisor once items are procured during any periodic programmatic progress reports.

DNA Testing of Evidentiary Materials and Upload of DNA Profiles to a Database

If JAG program funds will be used for DNA testing of evidentiary materials, any resulting eligible DNA profiles must be uploaded to the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS), by a government DNA lab with access to CODIS. No profiles generated with JAG funding may be entered into any other non-governmental DNA database without prior express written approval from BJA. For more information, refer to the NIJ FY 2012 DNA Backlog Reduction Program, available at ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/sl000989.pdf

Reporting Requirements

Once an award is accepted, award recipients must submit quarterly financial status (SF-425) and annual programmatic reports through GMS, quarterly performance metrics reports (see Performance Measures section below) through BJA's Performance Measurement Tool (PMT), and Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) reports through the FFATA Sub-award Reporting System (FSRS) as necessary (see FFATA section below).

Performance Measures

To assist in fulfilling the Department's responsibilities under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA), P.L. 103-62, and the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010, Public Law 111–352, applicants who receive funding under this solicitation must provide data that measures the results of their work. Quarterly performance metrics reports must be submitted through BJA's Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) web site: www.bjaperformancetools.org. The performance measure can be found at: www.bjaperformancetools.org/help/ARRAJAGandJAGCombinedIndicatorGrid.pdf.

All JAG recipients should be aware that BJA is currently making changes to the JAG performance reporting processes, including measures. While state administering agencies are playing a role in the process, recipients are advised that the reporting requirements noted above may be subject to modification through this process.

Submission of performance measures data is not required for the application. Instead, applicants should discuss in their application their proposed methods for collecting data for performance measures. Refer to the section "What an Application Should Include" on page 16 for additional information.

Note on Project Evaluations
Applicants that propose to use funds awarded through this solicitation to conduct project evaluations should be aware that certain project evaluations (such as systematic investigations designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge) may constitute "research" for purposes of applicable DOJ human subjects protection regulations. However, 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." Applicants should provide sufficient information for OJP to determine whether the particular project they propose would either intentionally or unintentionally collect and/or use information in such a way that it meets the DOJ regulatory definition of research.

Research, for the purposes of human subjects protections for OJP-funded programs, is defined as, "a systematic investigation, including research development, testing, and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge." 28 C.F.R. § 46.102(d). For additional information on determining whether a proposed activity would constitute research, see the decision tree to assist applicants on the "Research and the Protection of Human Subjects" section of the OJP Other Requirements for OJP Applications" web page (www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other_requirements.htm). Applicants whose proposals may involve a research or statistical component also should review the "Confidentiality" section on that web page.

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.

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.

Priorities

BJA recognizes that the downturn in the economy has resulted in significant pressures on state and local criminal justice systems. In these challenging times, shared priorities and leveraged resources can make a significant impact. In light of this, it is important to make SAAs and local JAG recipients aware of several areas of priority that may be of help in maximizing the effectiveness of JAG funding at the state and local level.

As an overall framework for success, we encourage both state and local comprehensive justice planning, bringing all of the system stakeholders together—including law enforcement, courts, prosecutors, defenders, corrections officials, and other stakeholders (including victims and victim advocates)—to create a comprehensive and strategic justice plan to ensure coordination and a more effective justice system.

In addition to our longstanding and unwavering commitment to keeping violent crime at its lowest level in decades, the following priorities represent key areas where we will be focusing nationally and invite each state and local JAG recipient to join us in addressing these challenges as a part of our JAG partnership.

Funding Evidence-Based Programs

BJA strongly encourages state and local planners to fund programs that are evidence-based and have been proven effective. In the current difficult budgetary climate, it is more critical than ever that JAG dollars are spent on programs with proven effectiveness.

Questions often arise about what is meant by evidence-based programs. 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.

In 2011, OJP made an excellent online tool available to criminal justice practitioners and policy makers to identify evidence based programs that are effective or promising. CrimeSolutions.gov is the OJP online resource about what works in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. Using certified expert reviewers, CrimeSolutions.gov provides detailed information and evidence ratings of programs that may fall within the JAG purpose areas. Launched in June 2011, CrimeSoultions.gov features multiple, user-friendly search options; easy to read program profiles and evaluation summaries from over three decades of research; and recognizable evidence ratings by certified reviewers with research and subject area expertise . CrimeSolutions.gov is intended to increase the use of evidence-based programs in criminal justice, juvenile justice and victim services settings; inform practitioners and policy makers about what works using the best available evidence; and help state and local jurisdictions address crime effectively and efficiently. BJA urges SAAs and local jurisdictions to use information available in CrimeSolutions.gov in making funding decisions.

Criminal Justice Planning

Jurisdictions are strongly encouraged to use JAG funding to support their existing strategic plan. If such a plan does not now exist, jurisdictions are encouraged to develop and undertake a strategic planning process, using a community engagement model, in order to guide spending under this and future fiscal year allocations. Training and technical assistance (TTA) is available from BJA's TTA providers to assist localities with the development of their strategic planning process and their plan to fund evidence-based projects. To ensure that the impact of Byrne JAG funding decisions is considered across the entire criminal justice system, we are redoubling our efforts to encourage state and local jurisdictions to bring all system stakeholders together in the strategic planning process. Our recommended guidelines are that at a minimum, the strategic planning process includes law enforcement, courts, prosecutors, indigent defense providers, victim advocates, and corrections and community corrections officials. BJA will continue to provide valuable technical assistance in 2012 through the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) for comprehensive criminal justice planning that includes bringing all criminal justice stakeholders to the table to develop innovative strategies to improve the fair administration of justice. For more information, see the National Center for Justice Planning web site.

Recidivism Reduction and Community Corrections

In this time of fiscal austerity and smaller state and local budgets, reducing the overall costs of incarceration in a manner that promotes public safety is a paramount goal. Effective community supervision coupled with evidence-based program interventions can result in significant reductions in recidivism. A priority funding area is the implementation of effective pre-trial services programs and innovative programs and approaches in probation and parole supervision that improve services to offenders and increase collaborative efforts among community supervision agencies with law enforcement and the courts. This includes development and implementation of strategies for the identification, supervision, and treatment of medium- to high-risk offenders that demonstrate the integration, use, and efficacy of evidenced-based practices and principles in the improvement of the delivery of probation and/or parole supervision strategies and practices.

Indigent Defense

Another key priority area is ensuring that justice is truly done in the criminal justice system is support for indigent defense. BJA continues to encourage states and SAAs to use JAG funds to support the vital needs of the indigent defense community. Attorney General Holder has consistently stressed that the crisis in indigent defense reform is a serious concern which must be addressed if true justice is to be achieved in our nation. In 2002, the American Bar Association (ABA) published Ten Principles of a Public Defense Delivery System which represent fundamental building blocks for implementing quality legal representation for indigent defendants. (See ABA Ten Principles.)

Evidence-Based "Smart Policing" Programs

As a result of the current fiscal crisis, many police departments are experiencing unprecedented budget cuts, layoffs and reductions in force. These challenges must be met by making wider use of advancements in the law enforcement field in the last several decades which rely on use of data, crime analysis, crime mapping and other analytic tools, cutting edge technology, and research and evaluations regarding effective policing strategies and programs. A useful matrix of evidence-based policing programs and strategies is available through the Center for Evidence-Based Policy at George Mason University and provides valuable information on policing strategies and programs that work. BJA encourages states to use JAG funds to support these "smart policing" strategies, including a focus on real time crime analysis centers (CACs), and effective partnerships with universities and research partners and with non-traditional criminal justice partners. Counterterrorism continues to be the number one priority for the Department of Justice. At the state and local level, high functioning, evidence-based, data driven public safety agencies are a critical component of our nation's "all crimes" strategy. In addition, the JAG Program has long supported effective and collaborative multi-jurisdictional task forces and justice information sharing programs, which continue as a priority in order to maintain our nation's historic reductions in violent crime.

Officer Safety and Wellness

Law enforcement safety and wellness issues are an important priority for the Department of Justice, have become highly visible as recent trends have shown an increase in law enforcement deaths. According to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, 2011 showed a 16 percent increase in law enforcement fatalities with a 20 percent increase in

firearms-related fatalities. The Department of Justice is taking a holistic approach to addressing officer safety and wellness by providing training and technical assistance to state and local law enforcement, as well as studying law enforcement injuries. BJA encourages states and local jurisdictions to use JAG funds to support this priority area by providing training—such as paying for tuition and travel expenses related to attending trainings like the VALOR training—as well as providing start-up funding for health and wellness programs to law enforcement agencies.

How To Apply

Applications are submitted through OJP's Grants Management System (GMS). GMS is a web-based, data-driven computer application that provides cradle to grave support for the application, award, and management of awards at OJP. Applicants must register in GMS for each specific funding opportunity and should begin the process immediately to meet the GMS registration deadline, especially if this is the first time using the system. Complete instructions on how to register and submit an application in GMS can be found at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/gmscbt/. If the applicant experiences technical difficulties at any point during this process, e-mail GMS.HelpDesk@usdoj.gov or call 888-549-9901 (option 3), Monday–Friday from 6:00 a.m. to midnight eastern time, except federal holidays. OJP highly recommends that applicants start the registration process as early as possible to prevent delays in submitting an application package by the specified application deadline.

All applicants should complete the following steps:

1. **Acquire a Data Universal Numbering System (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 application for a new award or renewal of an existing award. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and keeping track of entities receiving federal funds. The identifier is used for tracking purposes and to validate address and point of contact information for federal assistance applicants, recipients, and subrecipients. The DUNS number will be used throughout the grant life cycle. Obtaining a DUNS number is a free, one-time activity. Obtain a DUNS number by calling Dun and Bradstreet at 866-705-5711 or by applying online at www.dnb.com. A DUNS number is usually received within 1-2 business days.

2. **Acquire or renew registration with the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database.** OJP requires that all applicants (other than individuals) for federal financial assistance maintain current registrations in the CCR database. The CCR database is the repository for standard information about federal financial assistance applicants, recipients, and subrecipients. Organizations that have previously submitted applications via Grants.gov are already registered with CCR, as it is a requirement for Grants.gov registration. Note, however, that applicants must **update or renew their CCR registration annually** to maintain an active status. Information about CCR registration procedures can be accessed at www.ccr.gov.

3. **Acquire a GMS username and password**. A new user must create a GMS profile by selecting the "First Time User" link under the sign-in box of the GMS home page. For more information on how to register in GMS, go to www.ojp.usdoj.gov/gmscbt/.

4. **Verify the CCR registration in GMS.** OJP requests that all applicants verify their CCR registration in GMS. Once logged into GMS, click the "CCR Claim" link on the left side of the default screen. Click the submit button to verify the CCR registration.

5. **Search for the funding opportunity on GMS.** After logging into GMS or completing the GMS profile for username and password, go to the "Funding Opportunities" link on the left side of the page. Select the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program—Local Solicitation.

6. **Register by selecting the "Apply Online" button associated with the solicitation title.** The search results from step 5 will display the solicitation title along with the registration and application deadlines for this funding opportunity. Select the "Apply Online" button in the "Action" column to register for this solicitation and create an application in the system.

7. **Complete the Disclosure of Lobbying Activities.** All applicants must complete this information and submit the form in GMS. An applicant that expends any funds for lobbying activities must provide the detailed information requested on the form, *Disclosure of Lobbying Activities*, (SF-LLL). An applicant that does not expend any funds for lobbying activities should enter "N/A" in the required highlighted fields. Access the form at www.ojp.gov/funding/forms/disclosure.pdf.

8. **Submit an application consistent with this solicitation by following the directions in GMS.** Once submitted, GMS will display a confirmation screen stating the submission was successful. **Important:** In some instances, an applicant must wait for GMS approval before submitting an application. Applicants are urged to submit the application **at least 72 hours prior** to the due date of the application.

Note: OJP's Grants Management System (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."

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

Experiencing Unforeseen GMS Technical Issues

If an applicant experiences unforeseen GMS technical issues beyond the applicant's control that prevent submission of its application by the deadline, the applicant must contact the BJA Programs Office staff **within 24 hours after the deadline** and request approval to submit the application. At that time, BJA Programs Office staff will instruct the applicant to submit specific information detailing the technical difficulties. The applicant must e-mail: a description of the technical difficulties, a timeline of submission efforts, the complete grant application, the applicant DUNS number, and GMS Help Desk tracking number(s) received. **Note: Requests are not automatically approved by BJA.** After the program office reviews all of the information submitted, and contacts the GMS Help Desk to validate the technical issues reported, OJP will contact the applicant to either approve or deny the request to submit a late application. If the technical issues reported cannot be validated, the application will be rejected as untimely.

The following conditions are not valid reasons to permit late submissions: (1) failure to begin the registration process in sufficient time, (2) failure to follow GMS instructions on how to register and apply as posted on its Web site, (3) failure to follow all of the instructions in the OJP solicitation, and (4) technical issues experienced with the applicant's computer or information technology (IT) environment, including firewalls.

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

What an Application Should Include

Applicants should anticipate that failure to submit an application that contains all of the specified elements may negatively affect the review of the application and, should a decision be made to make an award, will result in the inclusion of special conditions that preclude access to or use of award funds pending satisfaction of the conditions.

Refer to the BJA Grant Writing and Management Academy and OJP 101 for an overview of what should be included in each application requirement. These trainings can be found at bja.ncjrs.gov/gwma/index.html and www.ojp.gov/grants101/.

OJP strongly recommends use of appropriately descriptive file names (e.g., "Program Narrative," "Budget and Budget Narrative," "Memoranda of Understanding," etc.) for all required attachments.

1. **Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)**
   The SF-424 is a standard form required for use 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.

2. **Program Narrative**
   Applicants **must** submit a program narrative that generally describes the proposed program activities for the four year grant period. The narrative must outline the type of programs to be funded by the JAG award and provide a brief analysis of the need for the programs. Narratives must also identify anticipated coordination efforts involving JAG and related justice funds. Certified disparate jurisdictions submitting a **joint application** must specify the funding distribution to each disparate unit of local government and the purposes for which the funds will be used.

   Failure to submit this required information will result in an application being returned in the Grants Management System (GMS) for inclusion of the missing information OR the attachment of a withholding of funds special condition at the time of award.

3. **Budget and Budget Narrative**
   Applicants **must** submit a budget and budget narrative outlining how JAG funds, including administrative funds if applicable, will be used to support and implement the program. This narrative should include a full breakdown of administrative costs, as well as an overview of how funds will be allocated across approved JAG purpose areas. Applicants should utilize the following approved budget categories to label the requested expenditures: Personnel, Fringe Benefits, Travel, Equipment, Supplies, Consultants/Contracts, and an Other

category. For informational purposes only, a sample budget form may be found at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/forms/budget_detail.pdf.

Failure to submit this required information will result in an application being returned in the Grants Management System (GMS) for inclusion of the missing information OR the attachment of a withholding of funds special condition at the time of award.

4. **Review Narrative**
   Applicants **must** submit information documenting that the date the JAG application was made available for review to the governing body, or to an organization designated by that governing body, on a date not less than 30 days before the application was submitted to BJA. The attachment must also specify that an opportunity to comment was provided to citizens to the extent applicable law or established procedures make such opportunity available.

   Failure to submit this required information will result in an application being returned in the Grants Management System (GMS) for inclusion of the missing information OR the attachment of a withholding of funds special condition at the time of award.

5. **Abstract**
   Applicants **must** provide an abstract that includes the applicant's name, title of the project, goals of the project, and a description of the strategies to be used. In addition, above or below the abstract narrative, applicants **must identify up to five project identifiers** that would be associated with proposed project activities. The list of all identifiers can be found at www.bja.gov/programs/jag/jag12/12JAGIdentifiers.pdf. The abstract **should not** exceed a half-page, or 400-500 words.

   Failure to submit this required information will result in an application being returned in the Grants Management System (GMS) for inclusion of the missing information OR the attachment of a withholding of funds special condition at the time of award.

6. **Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable)**
   If an application is being submitted by either (1) a tribe or tribal organization or (2) a third party proposing to provide direct services or assistance to residents on tribal lands, then a current authorizing resolution of the governing body of the tribal entity or other enactment of the tribal council or comparable governing body authorizing the inclusion of the tribe or tribal organization and its membership should be included with the application. In those instances when an organization or consortium of tribes proposes to apply for a grant on behalf of a tribe or multiple specific tribes, then the application should include a resolution (or comparable legal documentation, as may be applicable) from all tribes that will be included as a part of the services/assistance provided under the grant. A consortium of tribes for which existing consortium bylaws allow action without support from all tribes in the consortium (i.e., without authorizing resolution or other enactment of each tribal governing body) may submit a copy of its consortium bylaws with the application in lieu of tribal resolutions (or comparable legal documentation).

   If an applicant is unable to obtain and submit with its application a fully-executed (*i.e.,* signed) copy of a tribal resolution or other, comparable legal documentation as may be consistent with the tribe's governance structure, then, at minimum, the applicant should submit an unsigned, draft version of such legal documentation as part of its application

(except in cases where, with respect to a tribal consortium applicant, consortium bylaws allow action without the support of all consortium member tribes). If selected for funding, use of and access to funds will be contingent on receipt of the fully-executed tribal resolution or other, comparable legal documentation.

7. **Additional Attachments (if applicable)**
   Jurisdictions certified as disparate **must** identify a fiscal agent that will submit a **joint application** for the aggregate eligible allocation to all disparate municipalities. The joint application **must** determine and specify the award distribution to each unit of local government and the purposes for which the funds will be used. When beginning the JAG application process, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that identifies which jurisdiction will serve as the applicant/fiscal agent for joint funds, **must** be completed, and signed by the Authorized Representative for each participating jurisdiction. The signed MOU **must** be attached to the application. For a sample MOU, go to www.bja.gov/Funding/JAGMOU.pdf.

   Failure to submit this required information will result in an application being change requested in the Grants Management System (GMS) for inclusion of the missing information OR the attachment of a withholding special condition at the time of award if time does not permit for a change request process.

8. **Other Standard Forms**
   Additional forms that may be required 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 (required for any applicant other than an individual that is a non-governmental entity and that has not received any award from OJP within the past 3 years; this form must be downloaded, completed, and submitted)

Review Process

OJP is committed to ensuring a fair and open process for awarding grants. BJA reviews the application to make sure that the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, and achievable, as well as consistent with the solicitation. Applications for formula awards will be reviewed to ensure statutory requirements have been met.

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final grant award decisions will be made by the Assistant Attorney General (AAG).

Additional Requirements

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

- Civil Rights Compliance
- 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
- Nonsupplanting 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 (FFATA) of 2006
- Awards in excess of $5,000,000 – federal taxes certification requirement
- Active CCR Registration

Provide Feedback to OJP on This Solicitation

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

Application Checklist
FY 2012 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program: Local Solicitation

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

Eligibility Requirement:

_____ The jurisdiction listed as the legal name on the application corresponds with the eligible jurisdiction listed on BJA's JAG web page

_____ The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit of the FY 2012 JAG Allocations List as listed on BJA's JAG web page

What an Applications Should Include:

_____ Standard 424 Form (see page 16)

_____ Program Narrative (see page 16)

_____ Budget and Budget Narrative (see page 16)

_____ Review Narrative (the date the JAG application was made available to the governing body for review and that it was provided to the public for comment) (see page 17)

_____ Abstract (see page 17)

_____ Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable) (see page 17)

_____ Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) (see page 15)

_____ Additional Attachments (if applicable) (see page 18);

_____ Other Standard Forms as applicable (see page 18), including:

  _____ Accounting System and Financial Capability Questionnaire (if applicable)

_____ DUNS Number (see page 14)

_____ CCR Registration (see page 14)