

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



Solicitation Title: BJA FY24 Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program

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Step 1: Application Grants.gov Deadline: 08:59 p.m. Eastern Time on May 1, 2024

Step 2: Application JustGrants Deadline: 08:59 p.m. Eastern Time on May 6, 2024

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Synopsis

The [Connect and Protect](#) grant program focuses on helping law enforcement and behavioral health agencies work together to improve law enforcement responses to people with behavioral health (mental health and substance use) needs, including implementing deflection and diversion programs at the point of contact with law enforcement (e.g., co-responder teams, homeless outreach teams, mobile crisis teams, and crisis intervention teams).

Program Description Overview

The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [Bureau of Justice Assistance](#) (BJA) is seeking applications for funding.

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

With this solicitation, BJA seeks applications for the Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program (Connect and Protect). This program supports law enforcement–behavioral health cross-system collaboration to improve public health and public safety by improving responses to and outcomes for individuals with mental health disorders (MHDs) or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders (MHSUDs). BJA provides grant funding to help entities prepare, create, or expand comprehensive plans and then implement these collaborative projects to target [people who qualify](#).

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

Eligibility

- State governments
- Special district governments
- City or township governments
- Public- and state-controlled institutions of higher education
- County governments
- Native American tribal governments (federally recognized)
- Other: Agencies with a different legal status (e.g., nonprofit or for-profit mental health agencies) are eligible to apply only if they meet two requirements:
 1. The applicant is designated by the state mental health authority to provide services as a unit of the state or local government.
 2. The applicant must attach documentation to support this designation.

BJA will consider applications under which two or more entities (project partners) would carry out the federal award; however, only one entity may be the applicant for the solicitation. Any others must be proposed as subrecipients (subgrantees). See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on subawards.

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

Agency Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, contact the OJP Response Center by phone at 800-851-3420 or 301-240-6310 (TTY for hearing-impaired callers only) or email grants@ncjrs.gov. The OJP Response Center operates from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) Monday–Friday and from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET on the solicitation closing date.

For procedures related to unforeseen technical issues beyond the control of the applicant that impact submission by the deadlines, see the “How To Apply” section, [Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues](#).

For assistance with submitting the [Application for Federal Assistance standard form \(SF-424\)](#) and a [Disclosure of Lobbying Activities \(SF-LLL\)](#) in Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, [Grants.gov Customer Support](#), or support@grants.gov. The Grants.gov Support Hotline is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

For technical assistance with submitting the **full application** in JustGrants, contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov. The JustGrants Service Desk operates from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET Monday–Friday and from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET on Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays.

Pre-Application Information Session

BJA will hold a webinar on this solicitation on March 21, 2024, at 2:00pm ET. This call will provide a detailed overview of the solicitation and allow interested applicants to ask questions. Preregistration is required for all participants. Register by clicking on this link https://csg-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_HEHa3PrfQpSRytvPD9O-LQ#/registration and following the instructions. To use the time most efficiently, BJA encourages participants to review this solicitation and submit any questions in advance and no later than March 18, 2024. Submit questions to lesupport@csg.org with the subject “Questions for BJA FY24 Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program Webinar.” The session will be recorded and available on [Past Events - CSG Justice Center](#).

Application Submission Information

Registration

Before submitting an application, an applicant must have a registration in the [System for Award Management \(SAM.gov\)](#).

Submission

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

Step 1: The applicant must register for this opportunity in Grants.gov at <https://grants.gov/register> and submit by the Grants.gov deadline the required [Application for Federal Assistance standard form \(SF-424\)](#) and a [Disclosure of Lobbying Activities \(SF-LLL\)](#). See the [Submission Dates and Time](#) section for application deadlines.

Step 2: The applicant must submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at JustGrants.usdoj.gov by the JustGrants application deadline. See the [Submission Dates and Time](#) section for application deadlines.

Program Description

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

With this solicitation, BJA seeks applications for the Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program (Connect and Protect). This program supports law enforcement-behavioral health cross-system collaboration to improve public health and public safety by improving responses to and outcomes for individuals with mental health disorders (MHDs) or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders (MHSUDs). BJA provides grant funding to help entities prepare, create, or expand comprehensive plans and then implement these collaborative projects to target [people who qualify](#).

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

Statutory Authority

Public Law No. 90-351, Title I, Sec. 2991 (codified at 34 U.S.C. 10651); (Public Law No. 117-103, 136 Stat. 49, 127). Any awards under this solicitation would be made under statutory authority provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024. As of the writing of this solicitation, the Department of Justice is operating under a short-term Continuing Resolution with no full-year appropriation for the Department being enacted for FY 2024 currently.

Specific Information

The Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program is specifically designed to support law enforcement and behavioral health collaboration to improve public health and public safety responses to and outcomes for individuals with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs who come into contact with the criminal justice system. BJA is seeking applicants to develop new or enhance an existing law enforcement-behavioral health response to people with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs who come into contact with law enforcement.

For the purposes of this FY24 Connect and Protect solicitation, the definition of someone with MHD includes individuals with traumatic brain injury (TBI) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Like other mental health disorders, TBI and PTSD are chronic diseases that may cause cognitive and psychological impairment.

Please note that the Connect and Protect Program is under the umbrella of the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCPC). Per the authorizing statute, JMHCPC requires a two-phase process consisting of planning and then implementation activities during which grantees will develop a coordinated approach to implementing or enhancing services for individuals with MHDs or MHSUDs who come in contact with law enforcement. Applicants must submit one application that proposes detailed activities for both a planning phase and an implementation phase. For information on planning and then implementation activities, see the "Deliverables Expected by Successful Applicants" section.

To learn more about building comprehensive response systems, see: [Police–Mental Health Collaborations: A Framework for Implementing Effective Law Enforcement Responses for People Who Have Mental Health Needs](#).

Solicitation Goals and Objectives

Goals

The goal of the Connect and Protect Program is to improve law enforcement and mental health collaboration in order to improve responses to and outcomes for individuals with MHDs, co-occurring MHSUDs, and intellectual and developmental disabilities who come into contact with law enforcement.

Objectives

The Connect and Protect Program offers grants to eligible entities to plan, implement, or expand comprehensive collaborative response initiatives that target preliminarily qualified individuals with MHDs or MHSUDs and promote improved public health and public safety. The definition of “preliminarily qualified offender” is outlined in the 21st Century Cures Act and codified at 34 U.S.C. 10651(9)(A). See text at: [Text – H.R.34 – 114th Congress \(2015-2016\): 21st Century Cures Act | Congress.gov | Library of Congress](#).

Deliverables

There are no statutorily required deliverables for the FY 2024 Connect and Protect Program.

Priority Areas

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

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

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

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

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

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

2. In addition to executing any OJP priority areas listed above, the programmatic priority areas for consideration are:

- Promote effective strategies by law enforcement to identify and reduce the risk of harm to individuals with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs who encounter law enforcement and improve public safety.
- Promote effective strategies for the identification and treatment of females who have been incarcerated with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs.
- Propose interventions that have been shown by empirical evidence to reduce recidivism. When appropriate, use validated assessment tools to target people who have been incarcerated with a moderate or high risk of recidivism and a need for treatment services.

To receive priority consideration under any of these areas, applicants must identify, in the proposal abstract, each area for which priority consideration is being sought and then describe, in the proposal narrative, how they will address each priority.

Note: Addressing these priority areas is one of many factors that OJP considers in making funding decisions. Receiving priority consideration for one or more priority areas does not guarantee an award.

Federal Award Information

Awards, Amounts, and Durations

Anticipated Number of Awards: 19

Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount per Award: \$550,000

Period of Performance Start Date: October 1, 2024

Period of Performance Duration (Months): 36

Anticipated Total Amount To Be Awarded Under This Solicitation: \$10,450,000

Additional Information: Applicants that are planning a program for shorter than 36 months must indicate the period of performance in the abstract with a corresponding budget.

Continuation Funding Intent

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

Availability of Funds

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

Type of Award

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

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

This funding opportunity requires cost sharing or match from the applicant. “Match” means the portion of project costs not paid by Federal funds or contributions (unless otherwise authorized by Federal statute). For information on cost sharing or match requirements, see the “[Application and Submission Information](#)” section.

Eligibility Information

Agencies with a different legal status (e.g., nonprofit or for-profit mental health agencies) are eligible to apply only if they meet two requirements:

1. The applicant is designated by the state mental health authority to provide services as a unit of the state or local government.
2. The applicant must attach documentation to support this designation.

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

How To Apply

Application Resources

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

1. Grants.gov [“How to Apply for Grants”](#)
2. OJP [“How To Apply”](#) section in the [Application Resource Guide](#)
3. JustGrants [Application Submission Training](#)

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

How To Apply

Registration

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

Submission

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

Step 1: After registering with SAM.gov, the applicant must submit the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL** in Grants.gov at <https://grants.gov/register> by the Grants.gov deadline. **To leave time to address any technical issues that may arise, an applicant should submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL as early as possible and recommended not later than 48 hours before the Grants.gov deadline.** If an applicant fails to submit in Grants.gov by the deadline, they will be unable to apply in JustGrants. Applicants can confirm Grants.gov submission by verifying their application status shows as “submitted” or “agency tracking number assigned.”

Step 2: The applicant must then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](https://justgrants.usdoj.gov) by the JustGrants deadline.

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

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

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

For additional information, see the “How To Apply” section in the [Application Resource Guide](#) and the [DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#).

Submission Dates and Time

The **SF-424 and the SF-LLL** must be submitted in Grants.gov by 8:59 p.m. ET, May 1, 2024.

The **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by 8:59 p.m. ET, May 6, 2024.

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

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

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

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

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

- SAM.gov: contact the [SAM.gov Help Desk \(Federal Service Desk\)](#), Monday–Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET at 866-606-8220.
- Grants.gov: contact the [Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline](#), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays, at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, or support@grants.gov.
- JustGrants: contact the JustGrants Service Desk at JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or 833-872-5175, Monday–Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET and Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET.

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

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

Waiver requests sent to the OJP Response Center must —

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

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

For more details on the waiver process, OJP encourages applicants to review the “Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues” section in the [Application Resource Guide](#).

Application and Submission Information

Content of Application Submission and Available Surveys

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

- SF-424 and SF-LLL (in Grants.gov)
- Proposal Abstract (in JustGrants)
- Proposal Narrative (in JustGrants)
- Budget Web-Based Form, which includes the budget details and the budget narrative (in JustGrants)
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire, including applicant disclosure of high-risk status (in JustGrants)
- MOU between a criminal justice agency and a mental health agency to demonstrate partnership
- Those entities applying as “other” mental health agencies must attach documentation to support their designation as a state or local government provider

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

Content of the SF-424 in Grants.gov

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

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

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

Content of the JustGrants Application Submission

Entity and User Verification (First Time Applicant)

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

Standard Applicant Information

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

Proposal Abstract

A Proposal Abstract (no more than 400 words) summarizing the proposed project—including its purpose, primary activities, expected outcomes, the service area, intended beneficiaries, and subrecipients (if known)—must be completed in the JustGrants web-based form. This abstract should be in paragraph form without bullets or tables, written in the third person, and exclude personally identifiable information). Abstracts will be made publicly available on the OJP and USASpending.gov websites if the project is awarded. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for an [example](#) of a proposal abstract.

Data Requested With Application

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

Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)

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

Brief Applicant Entity Questionnaire

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

Proposal Narrative

The Proposal Narrative should be submitted as an attachment in JustGrants. The attached document should be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point size font; have no less than 1-inch margins; and should not exceed 15 numbered pages. If the Proposal Narrative fails to comply with these length restrictions, OJP may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions.

The Proposal Narrative must include the following sections:

a. Description of the Issue

- Identify or introduce the issue to be addressed by the grant and why this project/these proposed activities are necessary (significance/value).
- Describe and demonstrate understanding of the nature and scope of the problem to be addressed, using data and research as support.
- Describe successful efforts to date to address the needs identified.
- Describe the need for assistance and resources to address the problem.
- Briefly introduce how the applicant proposes to address the problem.

b. Project Design and Implementation

- Describe the strategy to address the needs identified in the Description of the Issue.
- List the activities and describe how they relate to the stated objectives.
- Describe the specific actions and how they will fulfill the program's objectives and reach the program's goal(s).
- Provide a detailed description of the method(s) to be used to carry out each activity.
- Provide a timetable/project plan indicating roughly when the activities or program milestones are to be accomplished and who is responsible.
- Address whether any of the program-specific priority areas have been met.

- Explain the applicant's inability to fund the collaboration program adequately without federal assistance.
- Specify how the federal support will be used to supplement, and not supplant, state, local, American Indian tribe, or tribal organization funding sources that would otherwise be available, including billing for services already covered under programs such as Medicaid, Medicare, and the State Children's Insurance Program.
- If an applicant is seeking consideration under Priority 1A, it should explain in this section how the proposed project(s) will meaningfully address identified inequities **and** contribute to greater access to services and opportunities for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization. The applicant should also identify how the project design and implementation will specifically incorporate the input and/or participation of these communities.

c. Capabilities and Competencies

- Describe the capabilities and competencies of the applicant to manage the award.
- Provide a detailed description of the capacity of the partners and the key personnel to deliver the required services and perform the key tasks described under Project Design and Implementation.
- Include a letter of support from the joint applicants' agency executives demonstrating agency commitment to the project. Demonstration of the partners' commitment will contribute to scoring under this criterion.
- Describe how the proposed management structure and staffing of the project will facilitate the delivery of the required services. The management and organizational structure described should match the staffing needs necessary to accomplish the tasks outlined in the timeline/project plan. Information regarding the personnel assigned to these tasks and whether their résumés and role descriptions are included will contribute to the assignment of points relative to this criterion.

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

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

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

OJP will require each award recipient to submit regular performance data that show the completed work's results. The performance data directly relate to the solicitation goals and objectives identified in the "[Goals and Objectives](#)" section.

Applicants can visit [OJP's performance measurement page](#) at www.ojp.gov/performance for more information on performance measurement activities.

BJA will require award recipients to submit performance measure data and performance reports in JustGrants. BJA will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process, if the applicant is selected for award. A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found [here](#).

Note on Project Evaluations

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

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

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

- **Goals:** The applicant should describe the project's intent to change, reduce, or eliminate the problem noted in the proposal narrative.
- **Program Objectives and Timeline:** The applicant should include objectives to accomplish its goals. Objectives are specific, measurable actions to reach the project's desired results. The included timelines should be clearly linked to the goal.

BJA will make site-based awards for grantees to pursue the following objectives:

- Design and implement a crisis response program based on current best practice to assist law enforcement officers to improve encounters with individuals who have MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs. This could include any of the following:
 - [Crisis Intervention Teams \(CIT\) Co-Responder Teams](#)
 - [Law Enforcement-based Case Management Services](#)
 - [Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion \(LEAD\)](#)
 - [Mobile Crisis Teams](#)
 - [Crisis Resolution and Home Treatment Teams](#)
 - [EMS and Ambulance-based Responses](#)
 - Community Responder Programs are eligible if the program is a partnership between a justice entity and mental health as applicants and the community responder program is responding to a target population that is in behavioral health crisis for an alleged offense. Justice system partners need to be a part

of the community responder effort. Learn more at the [Taking the Call](#) website, which includes resources from a national conference exploring innovative community responder models.

- Plan and deliver a crisis response program, through coordination between law enforcement and a mental health agency, that includes services to improve or enhance the response.
 - Enhance officer knowledge and skills in responding to community members with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs.
 - Staff and train qualified staff to [design and implement a police-mental health collaboration program \(PMHC\)](#). Note that salaries and overtime costs to ensure training and coordination activities occur are allowable expenses.
 - Engage residents through outreach and education to improve public health and public safety. Build positive community relations and trust through public communication strategies.
 - Connect with [BJA's 14 law enforcement-mental health learning sites](#) to learn and then incorporate and build upon successful PMHC strategies.
 - Enhance knowledge and capacity to identify and provide veteran-specific services. This can include increasing stakeholder involvement in “Veteran Response and Treatment Teams”; including veteran peers with service-connection experience to respond to veterans in crisis and should enhance community responder capacity and increase available resources. For additional information: [Veterans Response Team | VA Wilmington Health Care | Veterans Affairs](#).
 - Plan for multidisciplinary stakeholder teams to support police officers and mental health crisis workers responding together to mental health calls through strategic planning initiatives at the state, tribal and local level.
 - Increase multi-layered approaches such as case management and co-responders to meet the needs of people in crisis; Homeless Outreach Teams (HOT), mobile crisis, and co-response.
 - Upgrade use of technology to include software programs, training, and data collection to support the ability to count calls for service involving people with behavioral health needs.
 - Increase public safety and public health agencies’ capacity to develop and sustain the program by collecting data to inform practices, create stakeholder groups, develop policy, and encourage ongoing professional development.
- **Deliverables and Timeline:** Project deliverables refer to outputs—tangible (for example, a report or a website) or intangible (for example, greater feelings of safety reported by the community)—that are documented and submitted within the scope of a project. Deliverables include timelines.

[Deliverables Expected by Successful Applicants](#)

Connect and Protect requires a two-phase process consisting of planning and implementation activities. The planning phase is up to 12 months. The implementation phase will begin once the grantee has met the requirements of the planning phase, to include completion of the required

“Planning and Implementation Guide,” and will continue for the remaining time of the grant. Deliverables and activities include:

- Document the approach for implementing or enhancing law enforcement–behavioral health responses to individuals with MHDs or co-occurring MHSUDs who come in contact with law enforcement.
- Collect data on the program’s outcomes, effectiveness, and challenges and develop a report to share with fellow grantees.
- Conduct an evaluation of the PMHC and community satisfaction and create a report on the survey results.
- Develop common metrics and processes for tracking calls.
- Incorporate training and technical assistance as well as information and best practice guidance, using BJA’s training and technical assistance provider, into the "[Planning and Implementation Guide](#)."
- Outline and submit a plan at close out for obtaining the necessary support to sustain and continue the proposed collaboration program following the conclusion of federal support.

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

Program objectives and deliverables should be included in one timeline.

Budget and Associated Documentation

Applicants should structure their budgets to allocate \$100,000 to complete the planning phase within 12 months of receiving final OJP approval of the project’s budget. The applicant will need to clearly identify which budget line items are planning costs.

Although applicants will be required to submit a budget for the entire 36-month project at the time of application submission, applicants may revise their budgets based on any outcomes resulting from the planning phase.

Funding Restrictions

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

Budget Detail and Narrative Web-Based Form

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

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

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1A and has proposed activities to incorporate the input and participation of communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime,

violence and victimization, financial support for the identified activities and participation must be reflected in the web-based budget form.

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

[Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs](#)

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

[Costs Associated With Language Assistance \(if applicable\)](#)

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

[Unmanned Aircraft Systems](#)

The use of BJA grant funds for unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), including unmanned aircraft vehicles (UAV), and all accompanying accessories to support UAS or UAV, is unallowable.

[Non-Federal Costs \(match and program income\)](#)

This funding opportunity requires **an escalating percentage cash or in-kind match**. “Match” means the portion of project costs not paid by Federal funds or contributions (unless otherwise authorized by Federal statute). For years one and two, a 20 percent match is required. For year three, a 40 percent match is required. Federal funds awarded under this funding opportunity may not cover more than 80 percent in years 1 and 2, and more than 60 percent in year 3, of the total costs of the project being funded. An applicant must identify the source of the 20 percent and 40 percent non-Federal portion of the total project costs and how they will use match funds. If an award recipient’s proposed match *exceeds* the required match amount according to the formula below, and OJP approves the budget, the total match amount in the approved budget becomes part of the project budget and subject to audit. “Match” funds may be used only for purposes that would be allowable for the federal funds. This means neither Federal funds nor matching funds may be used for costs considered inappropriate by the awarding agency (e.g., lobbying, land acquisition, fundraising).

Example: How to calculate each year of escalating match for \$550,000 federal award amount

Years 1 & 2: 80% federal share / 20% recipient share

Year 3: 60% federal share / 40% recipient share

Years 1 & 2 Escalating Match

Formula					
Step 1	Award Amount	+	% of Federal Share	=	Total (Adjusted) Project Cost
Step 2	Total (Adjusted) Project Cost	x	% of Recipient's Share	=	Required Match
Example					
Years 1 & 2 Escalating Match Requirement – 80/20 (Federal Share/Recipient's Share) Federal Award Amount = \$300,000 (of the \$550,000)					
Step 1	\$300,000	+	80% Federal Share	=	\$375,000
Step 2	\$375,000	x	20% Recipient's Share	=	\$75,000

Year 3 Escalating Match

Formula					
Step 1	Award Amount	+	% of Federal Share	=	Total (Adjusted) Project Cost
Step 2	Total (Adjusted) Project Cost	x	% of Recipient's Share	=	Required Match
Example					
Year 3 Escalating Match Requirement – 60/40 (Federal Share/Recipient's Share) Federal Award Amount = \$250,000 (of the \$550,000)					
Step 1	\$250,000	+	60% Federal Share	=	\$416,667
Step 2	\$416,667	x	40% Recipient's Share	=	\$166,667

See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on this escalating match requirement and step-by-step instructions for entering match amounts in the budget.

Budget/Financial Attachments

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

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

Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

Indirect costs are costs of an organization that are not readily assignable to a particular project, but are necessary to the operation of the organization and the performance of the project. Examples of costs usually treated as indirect include those incurred for facility operation and maintenance, depreciation, and administrative salaries. The requirements for the development and submission of indirect cost proposals and cost allocation plans are listed in Appendices III – VII of 2 C.F.R. Part 200. A non-federal applicant should follow the guidelines applicable to its type of organization. If applicable, an applicant with a current federally-approved indirect cost rate agreement will upload it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the [DOJ Financial Guide](#) for additional information on [Indirect Cost Rate Agreement](#).

Consultant Rate (if applicable)

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

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

If an applicant proposes to hire employees with Federal award funds, for any award of more than \$250,000 made under a funding opportunity, an award recipient may not use federal funds to pay total cash compensation (salary plus cash bonuses) to any employee of the recipient at a rate that exceeds 110 percent of the maximum annual salary payable to a member of the federal government's Senior Executive Service (SES) at an agency with a Certified SES Performance Appraisal System for that year. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on the "Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards over \$250,000; Waiver."

Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation (if applicable)

An applicant that is a nonprofit organization may be required to make certain disclosures relating to the processes it uses to determine the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees, and key employees. If applicable, the applicant will upload a description of the process used to determine executive compensation as an attachment in JustGrants. See the "Application Attachments" section of the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information.

Additional Application Components

The applicant will attach the additional requested documentation in JustGrants.

Tribal Authorizing Resolution

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

Timeline Form

Include a timeline/project plan that identifies the major tasks and deliverables of the proposed project and who is responsible for each activity. Refer to "Program Design and Implementation" in the Proposal Narrative section.

Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and Other Supportive Documents

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

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

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

[Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement](#)

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

[Documentation to Provide Services](#)

To be eligible, when applying as “other,” the applicant must attach documentation to support their designation as a state or local government provider.

[Subrecipient and Contract Disclosure](#)

The applicant must include an attachment disclosing any proposed subrecipients and contracts. (See table at end of solicitation.)

[Disclosures and Assurances](#)

The applicant will address the following disclosures and assurances.

[Disclosure of Lobbying Activities](#)

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

[Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items](#)

To ensure funding coordination across grant making agencies, and to avoid unnecessary or inappropriate duplication among grant awards, the applicant will disclose if it has any pending applications for federal funding, including pending applications for subawards of federal funds. Complete the JustGrants web-based Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

[DOJ Certified Standard Assurances](#)

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

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

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

[Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High-Risk Grantees](#)

If applicable, submit the DOJ High-Risk Disclosure and Justification as an attachment in JustGrants. A DOJ High-Risk Grantee is an award recipient that has received a DOJ High-Risk designation based on a documented history of unsatisfactory performance; financial instability; management system or other internal control deficiencies; noncompliance with award terms and conditions on prior awards or is otherwise not responsible. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Application Review Information

Review Criteria

Basic Minimum Review Criteria

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

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

Merit Review Criteria

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

- Description of the Issue (15%): evaluate the applicant's understanding of the program/issue to be addressed.
- Project Design and Implementation (40%): evaluate the strength of the proposal, including information provided in the goals, objectives, timelines, and deliverables web-based form.
- Capabilities and Competencies (30%): evaluate the applicant's administrative and technical capacity to successfully accomplish the goals and objectives.
- Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (5%): evaluate the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements and the plan for collecting the required data.
- Budget (10%): evaluate for completeness, cost effectiveness, and allowability (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

Other Review Criteria/Factors

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

Risk Criteria/Factors

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

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

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

Review Process

Applications submitted under this solicitation that meet the basic minimum requirements will be evaluated for technical merit by a peer review panel(s) in accordance with OJP peer review policy and procedures using the review criteria listed above. Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final award decisions will be made by the Assistant Attorney General, who may consider not only peer review ratings and BJA recommendations, but also other factors as indicated in this section.

Federal Award Administration Information

Federal Award Notices

Generally, award notifications are made by the end of the current Federal fiscal year, September 30. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on award notifications and instructions.

Evidence-Based Programs or Practices

OJP strongly encourages the use of data and evidence in policymaking and program development for criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. For additional information and resources on evidence-based programs or practices (programs or practices that have been evaluated as effective), see the [Application Resource Guide](#).

Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities

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

Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements

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

Civil Rights Compliance

If a successful applicant accepts funding from OJP—as a recipient of OJP funding—that award recipient must comply with certain federal civil rights laws that prohibit it from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disability in how the recipient delivers its program’s services or benefits and in its employment practices. The civil rights laws that may be applicable to the award include Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), the

nondiscrimination provisions of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (Safe Streets Act), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. These and other federal civil rights laws are discussed in greater detail here: "[Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements – FY 2024 Awards](#)" under the "Civil Rights Requirements" section, and additional resources are available from the [OJP Office for Civil Rights](#).

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

Financial Management and System of Internal Controls

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

Information Technology Security Clauses

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

General Information About Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements

In addition to the deliverables described in the "[Program Description](#)" section, all award recipients under this solicitation will be required to submit certain reports and data.

Required reports. Award recipients must submit quarterly financial reports, quarterly performance reports, final financial and performance reports, and, if applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with the Part 200 Uniform Requirements or specific award conditions. If awarded and by statute, applicants will be required to complete a planning and implementation guide. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent (in appropriate cases, OJP may require additional reports).

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

Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

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

Other Information

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

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

Provide Feedback to OJP

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

Performance Measures

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found at: <https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/Connect-and-Protect-Measures.pdf>.

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

Application Checklist

BJA FY24 Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program

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

Pre-Application

Before Registering in Grants.gov

- Confirm your entity's registration in the [System Award Management \(SAM.gov\)](#) is active through the solicitation period; submit a new or renewal registration in SAM.gov if needed (see [Application Resource Guide](#))

Register in Grants.gov

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

Find the Funding Opportunity

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

Review the Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements

- Review the "[Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements – FY 2024 Awards](#)" in the [OJP Funding Resource Center](#).

Review the Scope Requirement

- The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of \$550,000.

Review Eligibility Requirement

- Review the "Eligibility" section in the Synopsis and "Eligibility Information" section in the solicitation.

Application Step 1

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

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

Within 48 hours after the SF-424 and SF-LLL submission in Grants.gov, receive four (4) Grants.gov email notifications:

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

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

- Contact BJA or Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, [Grants.gov customer support](#), or support@grants.gov regarding technical difficulties (see “[Application Resource Guide](#)” section on Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues)

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

- Proceed to Application Step 2 and complete application in JustGrants

Application Step 2

Submit the following information in JustGrants:

Application Components

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

Budget and Associated Documentation

- Budget Detail Narrative and web-based form*
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see [Application Resource Guide](#))
- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see [Application Resource Guide](#))
- Disclosure of Process related to Executive Compensation (see [Application Resource Guide](#))

Additional Application Components

- Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable) (see [Application Resource Guide](#))
- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (see [Application Resource Guide](#))
- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see [Application Resource Guide](#))
- Timeline
- Memorandum of Understanding (applicable to Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Responses) must be included*
- If applying as “other,” documentation to support designation as a state or local government provider*
- Disclosure of Proposed Subrecipients and Contracts* – see sample table on next page

Applicant Documentation of Proposed Subrecipients and Procurement Contracts Sample Table

Complete the table below with information regarding proposed subrecipients and procurement contracts of this funding, including the name, organizational affiliation, and city and state of the proposed subrecipient entity. Add rows if needed. For additional information on subawards, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide. As described previously, applicants will submit the table by uploading the document as an attachment in JustGrants.

Subrecipient Organization	Subrecipient Location (City, State)	Subrecipient Name (Last, First)

Disclosures and Assurances

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

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

Review, Certify, and Submit Application in JustGrants

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

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

- Contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov regarding technical difficulties. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Standard Solicitation Resources

[Application Resource Guide](#) provides guidance to assist OJP grant applicants in preparing and submitting applications for OJP funding.

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

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

[JustGrants Application Submission Training page](#) offers helpful information and resources on the application process. This training page includes e-learning videos, reference guides, checklists, and other resources to help applicants complete an application.

[Virtual Q&A Sessions](#) are advertised here and provide opportunities for users to receive topic-specific training, direct technical assistance, and support on JustGrants system functionality.