





The U.S. Department of Justice, <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>National Institute of Justice</u> (NIJ) is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications for funding under the Recovery Act: Research and Evaluation of Recovery Act State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance program.

On February 17, 2009, President Obama signed into law the landmark American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (the "Recovery Act"). As one of its many elements, the Recovery Act provides the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) with funding for grants to assist State, local, and tribal law enforcement (including support for hiring), to combat violence against women, to fight internet crimes against children, to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system, to assist victims of crime, and to support youth mentoring. DOJ is committed to working with our national, State, local and tribal partnerships to ensure this funding invests in the American workforce.

Specifically, under this solicitation, NIJ will be making awards for research and evaluation projects that support the purposes of several OJP Recovery Act competitive grant programs.

# Recovery Act: Research and Evaluation of Recovery Act State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance

### Eligibility

(See "Eligibility," page 5)

### Deadline

Registration with the OJP Grants Management System (*GMS*) is required prior to application submission. Applicants must obtain a DUNS number from Dun and Bradstreet prior to application submission. Applicants must register with the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database. (See "Deadline: Registration," page 5)

All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. eastern time **May 18, 2009**. (See "Deadline: Application," page 5)



### Important Note to Prospective Applicants This solicitation is issued pursuant to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5), which was signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009. As of the date this solicitation is issued, government-wide guidance is still forthcoming on various aspects of the Act. Applicants are strongly advised to check the appropriate Web site and www.oip.usdoi.gov/recovery/solicitationrequirements.htm periodically (including before submitting an application) for updates to this solicitation and its associated requirements. Additional information may become available that could affect project proposal narratives, timelines, budget requests, certifications, and other matters related to applications.

Award recipients will be required to follow any applicable provisions of government-wide guidance that may be issued pursuant to the Recovery Act.

### **Contact Information**

For assistance with the programmatic requirements of this solicitation, contact Katharine Browning, Senior Social Science Analyst, at 202–616–4786 or <u>Katharine.Browning@usdoj.gov</u>; Linda Truitt, Senior Social Science Analyst, at 202–353–9081 or <u>Linda.Truitt@usdoj.gov</u>; or Brett Chapman, Social Science Analyst, at 202–514–2187 or <u>Brett.Chapman@usdoj.gov</u>.

This application must be submitted through *OJP's Grants Management System (GMS)*. For technical assistance relating to the online application system, call the Grants Management System Support Hotline at 1–888–549–9901, option 3.

**Note:** The *GMS* Support Hotline hours of operation are Monday–Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. eastern time.

#### SL000876



## CONTENTS

Overview	.4
Deadline: Registration	.5
Deadline: Application	.5
Eligibility	.5
<ul> <li>Additional Requirements of the Recovery Act related to Eligibility to Receive Funds</li> <li>Faith-Based and Other Community Organizations</li> <li>American Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Tribes and/or Tribal Organizations</li> </ul>	.6
Specific Information	.7
Accountability and Transparency under the Recovery Act1	12
Performance Measures1	15
How to Apply1	6
What An Application Must Include1	17
Selection Criteria1	9
Review Process	21
Additional Requirements2	21
Appendix: Template for Required Certification2	24



# Recovery Act: Research and Evaluation of Recovery Act State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance

# (CFDA #16.808, CFDA #16.809, CFDA #16.810)

### **Overview**

This grant program is authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5) (the "Recovery Act").

The stated purposes of the Recovery Act are: to preserve and create jobs and promote economic recovery; to assist those most impacted by the recession; to provide investments needed to increase economic efficiency by spurring technological advances in science and health; to invest in transportation, environmental protection, and other infrastructure that will provide long-term economic benefits; and to stabilize State and local government budgets, in order to minimize and avoid reductions in essential services and counterproductive State and local tax increases.

The Recovery Act places great emphasis on accountability and transparency in the use of taxpayer dollars. Among other things, it creates a new Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board and a new Web site—Recovery.gov—to provide information to the public, including access to detailed information on grants and contracts made with Recovery Act funds.

The Recovery Act provides funding for various competitive grant programs that will be administered by OJP. Subject to the availability of funds, NIJ seeks applications that promote the goals of the Recovery Act through research and evaluation that supports the purposes of several OJP Recovery Act competitive grant programs. Targeted areas include: increasing the capacity of State and local criminal justice systems; developing data-driven strategies that provide information to law enforcement to help prevent and combat rural crime; and improving efficiency and effectiveness of law enforcement in combating criminal narcotics activity along or stemming from the Southern border.

Note: Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final grant award decisions will be made by the OJP Assistant Attorney General (AAG), who may also give consideration to factors including, but not limited to, underserved populations, strategic priorities, past performance, and available funding when making awards.



### **Deadline: Registration**

### Registering with OJP's Grants Management System (GMS)

Applications must be submitted through OJP's online Grants Management System (GMS). To access the system, go to <u>https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov</u>. Applicants should begin the process immediately to meet the GMS registration deadline, especially if this is the first time they have used the system. Each application requires a separate GMS registration. The registration process for organizations includes: (1) Obtaining a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number; (2) Registering your organization with the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database; and (3) Registering with GMS prior to applying.

The deadline to register is 11:59 p.m. eastern time on May 18, 2009.

<u>A DUNS number is required</u>. All applicants under this solicitation must include a DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) number in their application. Applications without a DUNS number are incomplete.

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, simple, one-time activity. Obtain one by calling 1–866–705–5711 or by applying online at http://www.dnb.com/us/. Individuals are exempt from this requirement.

<u>Central Contractor Registration (CCR) is required.</u> In addition to the DUNS number requirement, OJP requires that all applicants (other than individuals) for Federal financial assistance maintain current registrations in the Central Contractor Registration (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. Please note, however, that applicants must update or renew their CCR registration at least once per year to maintain an active status. Information about registration procedures can be accessed at <u>www.ccr.gov</u>.

### **Deadline: Application**

The due date for applying for funding under this announcement is 11:59 p.m. eastern time on **May 18, 2009**.

### Eligibility

In general, NIJ is authorized to make grants to, or enter into contracts or cooperative agreements with, States (including territories), local governments (including federally recognized Indian tribal governments that perform law enforcement functions), nonprofit and profit organizations (including tribal nonprofit and profit organizations), institutions of higher education (including tribal institutions of higher education), and certain qualified individuals. Foreign



governments, foreign organizations, and foreign institutions of higher education are not eligible to apply.

# Additional Requirements related to the Recovery Act (including certification requirements):

<u>Reporting on the Use of Funds</u>. In order to be eligible to receive funds under this solicitation, applicants must certify that they will satisfy the reporting requirements of section 1512(c) of the Recovery Act, which requires detailed reporting (including reporting on subawards) not later than **ten calendar days after the end of each calendar quarter**. Detailed information on section 1512(c) appears below, under "Accountability and Transparency under the Recovery Act." A template for the certification is included in the appendix. Applicants may expect that a standard form and/or standard reporting mechanism will be made available at a future date.

<u>Funding Distribution and Appropriate Use of Funds</u>. Section 1607 of the Recovery Act requires either a certification by the Governor or a concurrent resolution of the State legislature concerning funds distribution and assurance of appropriate use of funds. States may not receive funds under this Recovery Act solicitation unless section 1607 is satisfied. Please reference the "OJP Recovery Act Additional Requirements" Web page at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/recovery/solicitationrequirements.htm.

**Faith-Based And Other Community Organizations:** Consistent with Executive Order 13279, dated December 12, 2002, and 28 C.F.R. Part 38, faith-based and other community organizations that statutorily qualify as eligible applicants under DOJ programs are invited and encouraged to apply for assistance awards to fund eligible grant activities. Faith-based and other community organizations will be considered for awards on the same basis as other eligible applicants and, if they receive assistance awards, will be treated on an equal basis with all other grantees in the administration of such awards. No eligible applicant or grantee will be discriminated for or against on the basis of its religious character or affiliation, religious name, or the religious composition of its board of directors or persons working in the organization.

Faith-based organizations receiving DOJ assistance awards retain their independence and do not lose or have to modify their religious identity (e.g., remove religious symbols) to receive assistance awards. DOJ grant funds, however, may not be used to fund any inherently religious activity, such as prayer or worship. Inherently religious activity is permissible, although it cannot occur during an activity funded with DOJ grant funds; rather, such religious activity must be separate in time or place from the DOJ-funded program. Further, participation in such activity by individuals receiving services must be voluntary. Programs funded by DOJ are not permitted to discriminate in the provision of services on the basis of a beneficiary's religion.

If your organization is a faith-based organization that makes hiring decisions on the basis of religious belief, it may be entitled, under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, 42 U.S.C. § 2000bb, to receive federal funds and yet maintain that hiring practice, even if the law creating the funding program contains a general ban on religious discrimination in employment. For the circumstances under which this may occur, and the certifications that may be required, please see the section titled, "Funding to Faith-Based Organizations" on the "OJP Recovery Act Additional Requirements" Web page at

www.ojp.usdoj.gov/recovery/solicitationrequirements.htm.



Applicants are also encouraged to review the "Civil Rights Compliance" section on the "OJP Recovery Act Additional Requirements" Web page, which can also be found at <a href="https://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/recovery/solicitationrequirements.htm">www.ojp.usdoj.gov/recovery/solicitationrequirements</a>.

American Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Tribes and/or Tribal Organizations: If a grant application is being submitted on behalf of a tribe or tribal organization, a current authorizing resolution of the governing body of the tribal entity or other enactment of the tribal council or comparable government entity authorizing the inclusion of the tribe or tribal organization named in the application must be included with the application.

# Specific Information—Recovery Act: Research and Evaluation of Recovery Act State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance

All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law. Applicants also should anticipate that awards under the Recovery Act will be one-time awards and accordingly should propose project activities and deliverables that can be accomplished without additional DOJ funding.

Under the Recovery Act, OJP received funding that, among other things, supports the following competitive grant programs—Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program; Recovery Act: Assistance to Rural Law Enforcement to Combat Crime and Drugs; and Recovery Act: Combating Criminal Narcotics Activity Stemming from the Southern Border of the United States. Program solicitations for each of these programs, all of which will be administered by the OJP Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), are available at <a href="http://ojp.usdoj.gov/recovery/">http://ojp.usdoj.gov/recovery/</a>.

NIJ is soliciting proposals that promote the goals of the Recovery Act through research and evaluation projects that support the purposes of these Recovery Act programs. Evaluation proposals should explain how the particular program or strategy being proposed for evaluation was selected and demonstrate that the program has reached a sufficient level of stability for evaluation purposes. Proposals for research or evaluation that address any of the following objectives will be considered.

1. Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program

Applicants are referred to the corresponding BJA solicitation at <u>http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/recovery/RecoveryByrne.pdf</u>. Up to \$2,250,000 is available to fund up to eight awards under this objective.

Applicants proposing to conduct evaluations under this objective are advised that NIJ will give high priority to applications proposed in partnership with programs receiving funds from BJA under the Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program. Applications for evaluations of programs not receiving funds from BJA under the Recovery Act "Byrne Competitive" program will also be considered. As always, strength of evaluation design will be a critical factor in funding decisions.



The focus of this objective is to evaluate programs that increase the capacity of State and local criminal justice systems in the following areas:

- Neighborhood probation, parole and other community corrections officers;
- Regional task force activities to reduce mortgage fraud and crime related to vacant properties;
- Hiring of civilian staff in law enforcement agencies and implications for crime reduction;
- Problem-solving courts and community prosecution programs;
- State and local capacity to process forensic evidence by hiring lab analysts, crime scene specialists, law enforcement, and evidence coordinators; or,
- Crime victim resources and services, especially in underserved populations.

In addition, consistent with the goals of the Recovery Act, NIJ is interested in learning more about the impact of preserving and creating positions in the criminal justice workforce. Examples of key research questions include the following:

- Absenteeism and turnover For specific labor sectors of the criminal justice system (e.g., police, probation officers, or institutional corrections), what is known about career longevity, workforce turnover, and absenteeism from work (e.g., sick leave)? What provisions have agencies taken to project accurately and to plan for staffing turnover in specific labor sectors? What strategies are in use to retain experienced staff in specific criminal justice labor sectors?
- Work readiness, training and recruitment What is the role of police or other criminal justice related training academies and programs in creating a work-ready criminal justice labor force? What is the role and value of basic criminal justice education programs in promoting relevant employment?
- Work transitions What evidence exists to help understand mobility into and out of specific criminal justice labor sectors; for instance, how much transition in workforce exists between institutional corrections and community corrections workforces? What recruitment and/or training strategies are used or may be used to transition workforce into criminal justice careers from the military or industry? How often do criminal justice or law enforcement agencies allow lateral entry and what have been the performance results of these employees?
- Work performance How is performance measured? What kinds of innovative performance incentive systems exist and do they work?
- 2. Recovery Act: Assistance to Rural Law Enforcement to Combat Crime and Drugs

Applicants are referred to the corresponding BJA solicitation at <u>http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/recovery/RecoveryRuralLE.pdf</u>. Up to \$1,250,000 is available to fund up to four awards under this objective.

The focus of this objective is on evaluations of data-driven strategies that provide timely, accurate, and actionable information to law enforcement for sound management decisions to help prevent and combat rural crime (especially drug-related crime) with existing limited resources.

For purposes of this solicitation, the following definitions apply:

 "Rural area"– (I) a jurisdiction that is not located in a metropolitan statistical area (MSA), as defined by the Office of Management and Budget; or, (II) any jurisdiction



located in an MSA, but in a county or tribal jurisdiction that has a population less than 50,000.

• "Rural state"–a state that has a population density of 52 of fewer persons per square mile or a state in which the largest county has fewer than 150,000 people based on the most recent decennial census.

For purposes of this solicitation objective, state and local law enforcement agencies include state and local prosecutors, parole, probation, and community corrections agencies.

In connection with rural law enforcement, NIJ is particularly interested in:

- Programs that support the hiring of personnel, including crime analysts, to prevent and combat rural crime;
- Implementation of management practices that improve rural agency capacity to share appropriate investigative and case information with national information sharing programs;
- Strategies designed to collaboratively improve rural law enforcement drug and crime investigations;
- Rural local, regional, or statewide projects that support law enforcement efforts to prevent or reduce crime;
- Programs that build capacity to increase public safety, and to investigate crime and drug-related crimes in rural states and rural areas;
- Projects that enhance rural law enforcement anti-gang investigations of gangs involved in drug-related crimes;
- Programs that support rural law enforcement task force activities and tactical operations effectiveness;
- Programs that support problem-oriented policing, community mobilization, use of volunteers, and resource sharing in rural areas and states;
- Programs that improve the sharing and use of criminal intelligence within law enforcement, including rural agencies;
- Programs that establish or enhance multi-agency or multi-jurisdiction information sharing designed to facilitate improved services to the community; and increased detection, enforcement; and prosecution of criminal activity through improved access to relevant criminal justice data locally or nationwide; or,
- Programs that establish multi-jurisdictional information sharing systems.
- 3. Recovery Act: Combating Criminal Narcotics Activity Stemming from the Southern Border of the United States

Applicants are referred to the corresponding BJA solicitation at <u>http://www.oip.usdoj.gov/BJA/recovery/RecoverySouthernBorder.pdf</u>. Up to \$300,000 is available to fund up to three awards under this objective.

The focus of this objective is upon the control, reduction, and/or prevention of criminal narcotics activity along or stemming from the Southern border. How can we improve the efficiency and effectiveness of law enforcement in combating criminal narcotics activity along or stemming from the Southern border, including drug-related crime and violence? For the purposes of this solicitation objective, narcotic drug activity must relate to Mexican, Central and South American



production and trafficking, and the Southern border refers to the four States on the geographic land border of the U.S. (i.e., California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas).



Within this objective, NIJ is interested in research and evaluation on:

 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) programs – How may HIDTA or other similar programs enhance coordination of criminal narcotics activity control efforts among local, State, and Federal law enforcement agencies?

HIDTA is defined as a multi-jurisdictional law enforcement partnership focused on the interdiction, control, and prevention of the sale, distribution, and use of illegal drugs. The HIDTA Program provides Federal resources to areas within the U.S., designated by the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, that exhibit serious drug trafficking problems and harmfully impact other areas of the country. You can find an overview of the HIDTA program on the Office of National Drug Control Policy Web site at <a href="http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/hidta/overview.html">http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/hidta/overview.html</a>.

- Equipment What equipment, technology, and additional resources to combat criminal narcotics drug trafficking and its consequences are critical in the Southern border region?
- Investigation How best can crime laboratories, prosecutors, analysts, and other experts be used to build intelligence and support case-building efforts to combat criminal narcotics activity, including drug-related crime and violence?

**Evaluation Research:** Within applications proposing evaluation research, funding priority will be given to experimental research designs that use random selection and assignment of participants to experimental and control conditions. When randomized designs are not feasible, priority will be given to quasi-experimental designs that include contemporary procedures like Propensity Score Matching and Regression Discontinuity Design to address selection bias in evaluating outcomes and impacts.

Evaluations that also include measurements of program fidelity and implementation as part of a thorough process assessment are desirable. Measurements of program fidelity should be included as part of an assessment of program processes and operations to ensure that policies, programs, and technologies are implemented as designed. As one aspect of a comprehensive evaluation, assessments of program processes should include objective measurements and qualitative observations of programs as they are actually implemented and services are delivered. These may include assessment of such aspects as adherence to program content and protocol, quantity and duration, quality of delivery, and participant responsiveness.

Proposed evaluation research designs with multiple units of analysis and multiple measurements will also be given priority. Design aspects that contribute to the validity of results are necessary to effectively address issues of generalizability and representativeness of findings.

Finally, applications that include cost/benefit analysis will be given priority. NIJ views cost/benefit analysis as an effective way to communicate and disseminate findings from evaluation research.



**Please note:** All applicants under this solicitation must comply with Department of Justice regulations on confidentiality and human subjects protection. See the "OJP Recovery Act Additional Requirements" Web page at <a href="https://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/recovery/solicitationrequirements.htm">www.ojp.usdoj.gov/recovery/solicitationrequirements.htm</a>.

#### What will *not* be funded:

- 1. Provision of training or direct service.
- 2. Proposals primarily to purchase equipment, materials, or supplies.
- 3. Work that will be funded under another specific solicitation.

Cost of proposed work: All NIJ awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law. NIJ expects to make the following awards, depending on funds available, the number of highquality applications, and other pertinent factors:

- 1. Recovery Act: Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program–Up to \$2,250,000 is available to fund up to eight awards under this objective.
- 2. Recovery Act: Assistance to Rural Law Enforcement to Combat Crime and Drugs–Up to \$1,250,000 is available to fund up to four awards under this objective.
- 3. Recovery Act: Combating Criminal Narcotics Activity Stemming from the Southern Border of the United States–Up to \$300,000 is available to fund up to three awards under this objective.

Applicants should be aware that the total period of an award, including one that receives a nocost extension of the award period, ordinarily will not exceed 3 years.

A grant made by NIJ under this solicitation may account for up to 100 percent of the total cost of the project. See "Cofunding," under "What an Application Must Include."

Limitation on use of award funds for employee compensation; waiver: No portion of any award of more than \$250,000 made under this solicitation may be used to pay any portion of the total cash compensation (salary plus bonuses) of any employee of the award recipient whose total cash compensation exceeds 110% 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. For FY 2009, the total cash compensation cannot exceed \$194,700 (\$177,000 [current maximum SES salary] plus [\$177,000 times 10%]). (The salary table for SES employees is available at www.opm.gov.)

This prohibition may be waived at the discretion of the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs. An applicant that wishes to request a waiver should include a detailed justification in the budget narrative for the application. The justification should include: the particular qualification and expertise of the individual, the uniqueness of the service being provided, the individual's specific knowledge of the program or project undertaken with the grant funds and a statement explaining that the individual's salary is commensurate with the regular and customary rate for an individual with her/his qualifications and expertise, and for the work that is to be done.

**Non-Supplanting**: For purposes of this Recovery Act solicitation, the general non-supplanting requirement of the <u>OJP Financial Guide (Part II, Chapter 3)</u> does not apply.



#### **Recovery Act: Contracts**

Generally speaking, the Recovery Act places special emphasis on the use of fixed-price contracts awarded through competitive procedures. As information becomes available, OJP will provide guidance to applicants as to what, if any, particular procurement requirements or procedures may apply to contracts awarded with Recovery Act grant funds, apart from those that appear in 28 C.F.R. Part 66 and 28 C.F.R. Part 70.

#### **Recovery Act: Limit on Funds**

The Recovery Act specifically provides that funds may not be used by any State or local government, or any private entity, for any casino or other gambling establishment, aquarium, zoo, golf course, or swimming pool.

#### Recovery Act: Use of Funds in Conjunction with Funds from Other Sources

Recovery Act funds may be used in conjunction with other funding as necessary to complete projects, but tracking and reporting of Recovery Act funds must be separate, to meet the reporting and other requirements of the Recovery Act and other applicable law. There can be no commingling of funds. (See "Accountability and Transparency under the Recovery Act," below.)

### Accountability and Transparency under the Recovery Act

### Separate Tracking and Reporting of Recovery Act Funds and Outcomes

Consistent with the special purposes and goals of the Recovery Act, and its strong emphasis on accountability and transparency, it is essential that all funds from a Recovery Act grant be tracked, accounted for, and reported on separately from all other funds (including DOJ grant funds from non-Recovery Act grants awarded for the same or similar purposes or programs). Recipients must also be prepared to track and report on the specific outcomes and benefits attributable to use of Recovery Act funds.

The accounting systems of all recipients and subrecipients must ensure that funds from any award under this Recovery Act solicitation are not commingled with funds from any other source.

Misuse of grant funds may result in a range of penalties, including suspension of current and future funds, suspension or debarment from Federal grants, recoupment of monies provided under a grant, and civil and/or criminal penalties.

### **Quarterly Financial and Programmatic Reporting**

Consistent with the Recovery Act emphasis on accountability and transparency, reporting requirements under Recovery Act grant programs will differ from and expand upon OJP's standard reporting requirements for grants. In particular, section 1512(c) of the Recovery Act sets out detailed requirements for quarterly reports that must be submitted within 10 days of the end of each calendar quarter. Receipt of funds will be contingent on meeting the Recovery Act reporting requirements.



Under this Recovery Act program, quarterly financial and programmatic reporting will be required, and will be **due within 10 calendar days after the end of each calendar quarter**, starting July 10, 2009.

Programmatic and Financial Reporting Periods	Due Dates
October- December	January 10
January- March	April 10
April-June	July 10
July-September	October 10

The information from grantee reports will be posted on a public Web site. To the extent that grant funds are available to pay a grantee's administrative expenses, those funds may be used to assist the grantee in meeting the accelerated time-frame and extensive reporting requirements of the Recovery Act.

Recovery Act grant recipients may expect that the information posted by OJP will identify grantees that are delinquent in their reporting. In addition, in keeping with standard OJP practice, grant recipients who do not submit required reports by the due date will not be permitted to draw down funds thereafter, during the pendency of the delinquency, and may be subject to other appropriate actions by OJP, including, but not limited to, restrictions on eligibility for future OJP awards, restrictions on drawdowns on other OJP awards, and suspension or termination of the Recovery Act award.

Funding recipients may expect that a standard form and/or reporting mechanism may be available. Additional instructions and guidance regarding the required reporting will be provided as they become available. For planning purposes, however, all applicants should be aware that the Recovery Act section 1512(c) provides as follows:

Recipient Reports—Not later than 10 days after the end of each calendar quarter, each recipient that received recovery funds from a Federal agency shall submit a report to that agency that contains—

- (1) the total amount of recovery funds received from that agency;
- (2) the amount of recovery funds received that were expended or obligated to projects or activities; and
- (3) a detailed list of all projects or activities for which recovery funds were expended or obligated, including-
  - (A) the name of the project or activity;
  - (B) a description of the project or activity;
  - (C) an evaluation of the completion status of the project or activity;
  - (D) an estimate of the number of jobs created and the number of jobs retained by the project or activity; and
  - (E) for infrastructure investments made by State and local governments, the purpose, total cost, and rationale of the agency for funding the infrastructure investment with funds made available under this Act, and name of the person to contact at the agency if there are concerns with the infrastructure investment.



(4) Detailed information on any subcontracts or subgrants awarded by the recipient to include the data elements required to comply with the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-282), allowing aggregate reporting on awards below \$25,000 or to individuals, as prescribed by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

#### Subawards under Recovery Act Grants

<u>Reporting: DUNS and CCR</u>. As indicated above, quarterly reporting requirements for Recovery Act awards include reporting with respect to subawards. In order to facilitate that reporting, award recipients must work with their first-tier subawardees (if any) to ensure that, no later than the due date of the award recipient's first quarterly report after a subaward is made, the subawardee has a DUNS number and is registered with the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database. See "Deadline: Registration," above, for more information on CCR and DUNS numbers.

<u>Monitoring of subawards</u>. All applicants should bear in mind that any recipient of an award under this solicitation will be responsible for monitoring of subawards under the grant in accordance with all applicable statutes, regulations, OMB circulars, and guidelines, including the OJP Financial Guide. Primary recipients will be responsible for oversight of subawardee spending and monitoring of specific outcomes and benefits attributable to use of Recovery Act funds.

#### Reporting Fraud, Waste, Error, and Abuse

Each grantee or subgrantee awarded funds made available under the Recovery Act is to promptly refer to an appropriate inspector general any credible evidence that a principal, employee, agent, contractor, subgrantee, subcontractor, or other person has submitted a false claim under the False Claims Act or has committed a criminal or civil violation of laws pertaining to fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, gratuity, or similar misconduct involving Recovery Act funds.

You may report potential fraud, waste, abuse, or misconduct to the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of the Inspector General (OIG) by—

mail: Office of the Inspector General

U.S. Department of Justice Investigations Division 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Room 4706 Washington, DC 20530

e-mail: oig.hotline@usdoj.gov

hotline: (contact information in English and Spanish): 800-869-4499

or hotline fax: 202-616-9881

Additional information is available from the DOJ OIG Web site at http://www.usdoj.gov/oig/.



The Recovery Act provides certain protections against reprisals for employees of non-Federal employers who disclose information reasonably believed to be evidence of gross mismanagement, gross waste, substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, abuse of authority, or violations of law related to contracts or grants using Recovery Act funds. For additional information, refer to section 1553 of the Recovery Act.

### **Performance Measures**

To assist in fulfilling the accountability objectives of the Recovery Act, as well as the Department's responsibilities under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), Public Law 103-62, applicants who receive funding under this solicitation must provide data that measure the results of their work. Additionally, applicants must discuss their data collection methods in the application. Performance measures for this solicitation are as follows:

OBJECTIVE		Performance Measures	DATA THE GRANTEE FOR 3-MONTH REPORT	ING PERIOD	DESCRIPTION (PLAIN LANGUAGE EXPLANATION OF WHAT EXACTLY IS BEING PROVIDED)
Recovery Act: Preserving and creating jobs and promoting economic recovery	(by	nber of jobs retained type) due to Recovery funding	The labor hours expended using Recovery Act grant funds (by labor category) for current employees for the grantee and sub grantees, if any.		See data the grantee provides.
	(by	mber of jobs created type) due to Recovery funding	The labor hours expend Recovery Act grant fund category) for new jobs of the grantee and sub gra any.	ds (by labor created by	See data the grantee provides.
Promote economic recovery			The dollar amount of supplies and services procured from other sources, the number of other sources, and the types of goods and services.		Grantees will use the funding provided to pay the salaries of the individuals in their organization working on this project. Funding will also be used to procure goods and services from other sources, including sub grantees, office supplies, high technology components such as computers, precision instrumentation, etc. In so doing it will preserve and create jobs in other businesses and so promote economic recovery.
Objective		Performance Measu	ires	Data Gran	tee Provides
NIJ Specific: Develop and analyze information and data having clear		Relevance to the needs of the field as measured by whether the grantee's substantive scope did not deviate from the funded proposal or any subsequent agency		comprehens and a detaile	ical report providing a live overview of the project ed description of the project , and methods; a full

### **U.S. Department of Justice** Office of Justice Programs

National Institute of Justice



implications for criminal justice policy and practice in the United States.	modifications to the scope. Quality of the research as assessed by peer reviewers.	presentation of scientific findings; and a thorough discussion of the implications of the project findings for criminal justice practice and policy.	
	Quality of management as measured by whether significant interim project milestones were achieved, final deadlines were met, and costs remained within approved limits. If applicable, number of NIJ final grant reports, NIJ research documents, and grantee research documents published.	Required financial and programmatic reports. If applicable, each data set that was collected, acquired, or modified in conjunction with the project. If applicable, citation to report(s)/document(s).	

### How to Apply

**Grants Management System Instructions**. Applications must be submitted through OJP's online Grants Management System (GMS). To access the system, go to <u>https://grants.oip.usdoi.gov</u>. Applicants should begin the process a few weeks prior to the GMS registration deadline, especially if this is the first time they have used the system. Each application requires a separate GMS registration. For a step-by-step guide, visit <u>http://www.oip.gov/gmscbt/</u> and refer to the section entitled "External Overview: Locating & Applying for Funding Opportunities." For additional assistance, call the GMS Help Desk at 1–888–549–9901 from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. eastern time Monday–Friday.

**Funding Opportunities With Multiple Purpose Areas:** Some OJP solicitations posted on GMS contain multiple purpose areas, denoted by the individual solicitation title referencing the purpose area. If you are applying to a solicitation with multiple purpose areas, you must select the appropriate solicitation title for the intended purpose area of your application. The application will be peer reviewed according to the requirements of the purpose area under which it is submitted.

Note: OJP's Grants Management System (GMS) does not support Microsoft Vista or <u>Microsoft 2007.</u> OJP will not review any application whose attachments are in Microsoft Vista or Microsoft 2007 format. Applications submitted via GMS must be in the following formats: Microsoft Word (\*.doc), Word Perfect (\*.wpd), Microsoft Excel (\*.xls), PDF files (\*.pdf), or Text Documents (\*.txt). GMS is not yet compatible with Vista and cannot yet process Microsoft Word 2007 documents saved in the new default format with the extension ".docx." Please ensure that any Word documents you are submitting are saved using "Word 97-2003 Document (\*.doc)" format. Additionally, 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."

**Recovery Act CFDA Number:** The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) numbers for this solicitation are 16.808, titled "Recovery Act—Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program"; 16.809, titled "Recovery Act—Combating Criminal Narcotics Activity Stemming from the Southern Border of the United States Competitive Grant Program"; and 16.810, titled "Recovery Act—Assistance to Rural Law Enforcement to Combat Crime and Drugs Competitive Grant Program."



### What an Application Must Include

#### Standard Form 424

#### Certification

#### **Program Narrative**

The Program Narrative includes:

a. Abstract (not to exceed 600 words).

The abstract should state the problem under investigation (including goals and objectives of the proposed project) and the anticipated relevance of the project to criminal justice public policy, practice, or theory applicable to the United States. It should describe the proposed method and/or research design, including data to be used in addressing research questions, data collection procedures and instrumentation, access to data, and other methods or procedures of the proposed study. It should also describe procedures for data analysis and all expected products, including interim and final reports, instrumentation, devices, and data sets to be submitted in accordance with the Data Archiving Strategy (see below). If applicable, it should describe the subjects who will be involved in the proposed project, including the number of participants; participants' age, gender, and race/ethnicity; and other pertinent characteristics, such as methods used to gain access to subjects.

- b. Statement regarding prior submission of a substantially similar proposal (if applicable). If you are submitting a proposal that is substantially similar to one that was submitted, but not funded, under a previous solicitation, you must provide a statement so indicating. You should prepare a two-page response to the earlier panel review that includes (1) the title, submission date, and NIJ-assigned application number of the previous proposal, and (2) a brief summary of responses to the review and/or revisions to the proposal. Insert the response after the abstract.
- c. Table of contents.
- d. Main body.
- d. Main body.
  - The first section of the Program Narrative should describe the project in depth and include the following subsections:
    - Purpose, goals, and objectives.
    - Review of relevant literature.
    - Research design and methods.
    - Implications for criminal justice policy and practice in the United States.
    - Management plan and organization.
    - Dissemination strategy.
  - The second section of the Program Narrative should address the following Recovery-Act-related content:
    - Project objectives that are linked to meaningful and measurable outcomes consistent with the goals of the Recovery Act, and the likelihood of achieving such outcomes, such as job creation and preservation.



- Organization capabilities and competencies, including a description of how the organization will track all drawdowns and grant expenditures separately from other federal funding.
- Activities that can be started and completed expeditiously, and in a manner that maximizes job creation and economic benefits.
- Timeline or project plan identifying when the goals and objectives will be completed.
- Performance measures established by the organization to assess whether grant objectives are being met.
- e. Appendixes.

Appendixes are not counted against program narrative page limit and must include:

- Bibliography/References (if applicable).
- Data Archiving Strategy (see "Other Program Attachments" below).
- List of key personnel (required).
- Résumés of key personnel (required).
- List of previous and current NIJ awards (required).
- Letters of cooperation/support or administrative agreements from organizations collaborating in the project (if applicable).
- Chart for timeline, research calendar, or milestones (required).
- Other materials required by the solicitation.

#### Budget Detail Worksheet

The Budget Detail Worksheet should address the full scope, duration, and cost of the project. The Budget Detail Worksheet should include a breakdown of costs associated with each budget category, including itemizations and calculations where necessary.

The budget must be broken down on a year-by-year basis over the length of the project. That is, if the proposed project is 3 years, then there should be separate budgets for year one, year two, and year three.

Templates for filling out the Budget Detail Worksheet may be found online at <u>http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/forms/budget\_detail.pdf</u>, OJP Standard Forms & Instructions. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the Chief Financial Officer's Customer Service Center at 1–800–458–0786.

#### **Budget Narrative**

The Budget Narrative is a plain-language description of each of the proposed expenditures listed in the Budget Detail Worksheet. It should clearly explain the purpose and reason for all expenditures in the budget. There should be no ambiguities about any budget item. The narrative should also include details for calculated rates or other figures.

As with the Budget Detail Worksheet, the Budget Narrative must be broken down on a year-byyear basis.

# Description of the Applicant's Plan for the Collection of the Data Required for Recovery Act Performance Measures



### Indirect Rate Agreement (if applicable)

Applicants that do not have a federally negotiated indirect cost rate and wish to establish one can submit a proposal to their "cognizant" Federal agency. Generally, the cognizant Federal agency is the agency that provides the preponderance of direct Federal funding. This can be determined by reviewing an organization's schedule of Federal financial assistance. If DOJ is your cognizant Federal agency, obtain information needed to submit an indirect cost rate proposal at <a href="http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/financialguide/part3/part3chap17.htm">http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/financialguide/part3/part3chap17.htm</a>.

### **Other Program Attachments**

These include several forms, available on OJP's funding page at <u>http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/forms.htm</u>.

**Data Archiving Strategy:** NIJ requires that each data set resulting from funded research be submitted as a grant product or deliverable for archiving with the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data. (Data sets are to be submitted 90 days before the end of the project period.) Applications for NIJ research grants must include a brief (one- or two-page) data archiving strategy. For purposes of research replication and extension, the inclusion of only the final data set often prevents other researchers from replicating or extending the study because there are no original data, intermediate data, or documentation detailing how the data changed throughout the project. This data archiving strategy therefore must briefly describe the—

- Anticipated manipulations of original, intermediate, and final data sets (as applicable).
- Methods of documentation of such manipulations.
- Preparation of original, intermediate, and final data sets for archive submission.

The data archiving strategy should be submitted as an appendix to the application and will NOT count toward the 30-page limit. Please label this appendix "Data Archiving Strategy."

**Page limit:** The program narrative section of your application must not exceed 30 doublespaced pages in 12-point font with 1-inch margins. Abstract, statement regarding prior submission of a substantially similar proposal, table of contents, charts, figures, appendixes, and government forms do not count toward the 30-page limit for the narrative section.

**Cofunding:** A grant made by NIJ under this solicitation may account for up to 100 percent of the total cost of the project. You must indicate whether you believe it is feasible for you to contribute cash, facilities, or services as non-Federal support for the project. Your application should identify generally any such contributions that you expect to make and your proposed budget should indicate in detail which items, if any, will be supported with non-Federal contributions.

### **Selection Criteria**

Successful applicants must demonstrate the following:

**Statement of the Problem/Program Narrative** (Understanding of the problem and its importance.)—15%

1. Clarity of problem statement.



- 2. Awareness of relevant research.
- 3. Connection between proposed research and problem.
- 4. Activities that can be started and completed expeditiously, and in a manner that maximizes job creation and economic benefits.

#### Project/Program Design and Implementation (Quality and technical merit.)-30%

- 1. Awareness of the state of current research or technology.
- 2. Soundness of methodology and analytic and technical approach.
- 3. Evaluation designs proposing partnerships with programs receiving funds from BJA under the Recovery Act "Byrne Competitive" program, if applicable.
- 4 Feasibility of proposed project and awareness of pitfalls.
- 5 Innovation and creativity (when appropriate).
- 6 Project objectives that are linked to meaningful and measurable outcomes consistent with the goals of the Recovery Act, and the likelihood of achieving such outcomes, such as job creation and preservation.
- 7 Timeline or project plan identifying when the goals and objectives will be completed.

**Capabilities/Competencies** (Capabilities, demonstrated productivity, and experience of applicants.)—20%

- 1. Qualifications and experience of proposed staff.
- 2. Demonstrated ability of proposed staff and organization to manage the effort.
- 3. Adequacy of the plan to manage the project, including how various tasks are subdivided and resources are used.
- 4. Successful past performance on NIJ grants and contracts (when applicable).
- 5. A description of how the organization will track all drawdowns and grant expenditures separately from other federal funding.

#### Budget—15%

- 1. Total cost of the project relative to the perceived benefit.
- 2. Appropriateness of the budget relative to the level of effort.
- 3. Use of existing resources to conserve costs.

Impact/Outcomes and Evaluation (Relevance to policy and practice)—15%

- 1. Potential for significant advances in scientific or technical understanding of the problem.
- 2. Potential for significant advances in the field.
- 3. Relevance for improving the policy and practice of criminal justice and related agencies and improving public safety, security, and quality of life.
- 4. Affordability and cost-effectiveness of proposed end products, when applicable (e.g., purchase price and maintenance costs for a new technology or cost of training to use the technology).
- 5. Perceived potential for commercialization and/or implementation of a new technology (when applicable).
- 6. Description of the applicant's plan for collecting data for Recovery Act performance measures.



#### **Dissemination Strategy**—5%

- 1. Well-defined plan for the grant recipient to disseminate results to appropriate audiences, including researchers, practitioners, and policymakers.
- 2. Suggestions for print and electronic products NIJ might develop for practitioners and policymakers.

### **Review Process**

OJP is committed to ensuring a standardized process for awarding grants. NIJ reviews the application to make sure that the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, and achievable, as well as consistent with program or legislative requirements as stated in the solicitation.

Peer reviewers will be reviewing the applications submitted under this solicitation as well. NIJ may use either internal peer reviewers, external peer reviewers or a combination of both to review the applications under this solicitation. An external peer reviewer is an expert in the field of the subject matter of a given solicitation who is NOT a current U.S. Department of Justice employee. An internal reviewer is an expert in the field of the subject matter of a given solicitation who is a current U.S. Department of Justice employee. Applications will be screened initially to determine whether the applicant meets all eligibility requirements. Only applications submitted by eligible applicants that meet all other requirements (such as timeliness, proper format, and responsiveness to the scope of the solicitation) will be evaluated, scored, and rated by a peer review panel. Peer reviewers' ratings and any resulting recommendations are advisory only. In addition to peer review ratings, considerations may include, but are not limited to, underserved populations, strategic priorities, past performance, and available funding.

After the peer review is finalized, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO), in consultation with NIJ, conducts a financial review of all potential discretionary awards and cooperative agreements to evaluate the fiscal integrity and financial capability of applicants; examines proposed costs to determine if the budget and budget narrative accurately explain project costs; and determines whether costs are reasonable, necessary, and allowable under applicable Federal cost principles and agency regulations. OCFO also reviews the award document and verifies the OJP Vendor Number.

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final grant award decisions will be made by the OJP Assistant Attorney General (AAG), who may also give consideration to factors including, but not limited to, underserved populations, strategic priorities, past performance, and available funding when making awards.

### **Additional Requirements**

Successful applicants selected for awards under this Recovery Act solicitation must agree to comply with additional applicable requirements prior to receiving grant funding. We strongly encourage you to review the list below pertaining to these additional requirements prior to submitting your application. Additional information for each can be found at <a href="https://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/recovery/solicitationrequirements.htm">www.ojp.usdoj.gov/recovery/solicitationrequirements.htm</a>.



- Civil Rights Compliance
- Funding to Faith-Based Organizations
- Confidentiality and Human Subjects Protection
- Anti-Lobbying Act
- Financial and Government Audit Requirements, includes Single Audit Act Requirements
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- DOJ Information Technology Standards
- Single Point of Contact Review
- Non-Supplanting of State and Local Funds
- Criminal Penalty for False Statements
- Compliance with Office of Justice Programs Financial Guide <u>http://www.oip.usdoj.gov/financialguide/</u>
- Suspension or Termination of Funding
- Non-Profit Organizations
- For-Profit Organizations
- Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)
- Rights in Intellectual Property
- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) of 2006
- Recovery Act Reporting Requirements; Section 1512(c) of the Recovery Act
- Section 1511 of the Recovery Act: Certifications
- Section 1602 of the Recovery Act: Preference for Quick-Start Activities
- Section 1604 of the Recovery Act: Limit on Funds
- Section 1605 of the Recovery Act: Buy American
- Section 1606 of the Recovery Act: Wage Rate Requirements



- Section 1607 of the Recovery Act: Additional Funding Distribution and Assurance of Appropriate Use of Funds
- Section 1609 of the Recovery Act: Relating to National Environmental Policy Act

If your proposal is funded, you will be required to submit several reports and other materials, including:

**Final technical report:** The final technical report should be a comprehensive overview of the project and should include, among other things, a detailed description of the project design, data, and methods; a full presentation of scientific findings; a thorough discussion of the implications of the project findings for criminal justice practice and policy in the United States; and a discussion of outcomes consistent with the goals of the Recovery Act. It must contain an abstract of no more than 600 words and an executive summary of 2,500 to 4,000 words.

A draft of the final technical report, abstract, and executive summary must be submitted 90 days before the end date of the grant. The draft final technical report will be peer reviewed upon submission. The reviews will be forwarded to the principal investigator with suggestions for revisions. The author must then submit the revised final technical report, abstract, and executive summary by the end date of the grant. The abstract, executive summary, and final technical report must be submitted in both paper and electronic formats.

For program evaluation studies, the final technical report should include a section on measuring program performance. This section should outline the measures used to evaluate program effectiveness, modifications made to those measures as a result of the evaluation, and recommendations regarding these and other potential performance measures for similar programs. (This information will be particularly valuable to NIJ and other Federal program agencies in implementing performance measures for federally funded criminal justice programs.)

**Data sets:** NIJ requires submission of all data sets (original, intermediate, and final) produced or collected for the funded project, and any artifact associated with the project data. Included with the final sets of data should be the plan outlined in the Data Archiving Strategy section of the proposal.



### Appendix. Template for Required Certification

(**Instructions:** Scan signed certification and submit image file electronically as part of your application package.)



### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

### Recovery Act: Research and Evaluation of Recovery Act State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance

Certification as to Recovery Act Reporting Requirements

On behalf of the applicant entity named below, I certify the following to the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice:

I have personally read and reviewed the section entitled "Accountability and Transparency under the Recovery Act" in the program announcement for the Recovery Act grant program identified above. I have also read and reviewed section 1512(c) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5), concerning reporting requirements for grants. I agree that the applicant will comply with the reporting requirements set forth therein with respect to any grant the applicant may receive under the Recovery Act grant program identified above.

I acknowledge that a false statement in this certification may be subject to criminal prosecution, including under 18 U.S.C. § 1001. I also acknowledge that Office of Justice Programs grants, including certifications provided in connection with such grants, are subject to review by the Office of Justice Programs, and/or by the Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General.

I have authority to make this certification on behalf of the applicant entity (that is, the entity applying directly to the Office of Justice Programs.

Signature of Certifying Official

Printed Name of Certifying Official

Title of Certifying Official

Full Name of Applicant Entity

Date

OMB No. 1121-0323 Approval Expires 9/30/2009