

The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice is seeking applications for funding of research related to trafficking of human beings in the United States. This program furthers the Department's mission by sponsoring research to provide objective, independent, evidence-based knowledge and tools to meet the challenges of crime and justice, particularly at the State and local levels.

# Solicitation: Trafficking in Human Beings Research and Comprehensive Literature Review

# Eligibility

(See "Eligibility," page 3)

# Deadline

All applications are due by April 16, 2007, 11:59 p.m. eastern time.

# **Contact Information**

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, contact Cornelia Sorensen Sigworth, Social Science Analyst, at 202–305–9776 or Cornelia.Sigworth@usdoj.gov.

This application must be submitted through Grants.gov. For technical assistance with submitting the application, call the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 1–800–518–4726.

Grants.gov Funding Opportunity No. 2007–NIJ–1582

SL# 000796

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### Trafficking in Human Beings Research and Comprehensive Literature Review CFDA No. 16.560

## Overview

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is the research, development, and evaluation agency of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and a component of the Office of Justice Programs (OJP). NIJ provides objective, independent, evidence-based knowledge and tools to enhance the administration of justice and public safety. NIJ solicits proposals to inform its search for the knowledge and tools to guide policy and practice.

NIJ is seeking applications for funding two distinct research projects to address certain knowledge gaps related to trafficking in human beings in the United States. NIJ is specifically seeking applications for funding that (1) respond to a series of research questions regarding trafficking in human beings, or (2) propose to perform a comprehensive literature review of trafficking in human beings. Applicants may apply for one or both projects.

Pursuant to 22 U.S.C. § 7110(g)(1), no funds made available under this solicitation may be used to promote, support, or advocate the legalization or practice of prostitution.

# **Deadline: Registration**

Registering with Grants.gov is a one-time process; however, if you are a first-time registrant, it could take up to several weeks to have your registration validated and confirmed and to receive your user password. Start the registration process early to prevent delays that may cause you to miss the application deadline. You must complete these three steps before you are able to register: (1) register with Central Contractor Registry (CCR), (2) register yourself as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR), and (3) be authorized as an AOR by your organization. For more information, visit www.grants.gov. Note: Your CCR Registration must be renewed once a year. Failure to renew your CCR registration may prohibit submission of a grant application through Grants.gov.

# **Deadline: Application**

The due date for applying for funding under this announcement is **April 16, 2007, 11:59 p.m. eastern time**.

# 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

organizations, profit organizations, institutions of higher education, and certain qualified individuals. Foreign governments, foreign organizations, and foreign institutions of higher education are not eligible to apply.

Pursuant to 22 U.S.C. § 7110(g)(2), eligibility for funds under this solicitation is limited to applicants that do <u>**not**</u> promote, support, or advocate the legalization or practice of prostitution.<sup>1</sup>

**Faith-Based and Other Community Organizations:** Consistent with President George W. Bush's Executive Order 13279, dated December 12, 2002, and 28 C.F.R. Part 38, it is DOJ policy that 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., removing 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 DOJfunded 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.

Applicants are encouraged to review the Civil Rights Compliance section under "Additional Requirements" in this announcement.

### Specific Information—Trafficking in Human Beings Research and Comprehensive Literature Review

Trafficking in human beings is a hidden crime of unknown prevalence. For the purposes of this solicitation, the term "trafficking in human beings" is comprehensive, meaning the transportation of human beings across and within the borders of the United States for the purpose of subjecting such persons to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery, including both sex- and labor-related victimizations. Notably, the trafficking of human beings is distinct from human smuggling, which is the illegal transportation of persons across international borders. Although there are many estimates, researchers currently lack sufficient information to understand the scope of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Each applicant whose proposal NIJ decides to fund **must** certify—at the time the applicant accepts NIJ funding—that it does not promote, support, or advocate the legalization or practice of prostitution, nor will it use funds awarded pursuant to this solicitation to promote, support, or advocate for the legalization or practice of prostitution. Contact Cornelia Sorensen Sigworth at NIJ at 202–305–9776 for further information.

trafficking in human beings or to quantify the number of victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons within the United States. There is reason to believe, however, that there are more such victims and trafficking events than are currently being identified and prosecuted.

For the purposes of this solicitation, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. § 7102(8), the term "severe forms of trafficking in persons" means:

- Sex trafficking<sup>2</sup> in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age; or
- b. The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

NIJ seeks proposals for the completion of two distinct research projects. Applicants may apply for one or both of the projects described below.

#### Project 1: Trafficking in Human Beings Research

This project is designed to further the knowledge base in the area of trafficking in human beings by seeking applications for research that proposes to answer the following questions for both alien victims in the United States as well as United States citizens who are victims of trafficking:

- 1. How many cases of severe forms of trafficking in persons currently exist?
- 2. Where are unidentified victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons likely to be found (e.g., in massage parlors or restaurants, as prostitutes or migrant farm workers)?
- 3. What proportion of the individuals involved in unlawful commercial sex acts are also victims of trafficking? What are the characteristics of such victims?
- 4. What are the barriers to labeling victims of severe forms of trafficking as such? Are there more victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons than have been identified?
- 5. How and why do severe forms of trafficking in persons occur? Compare and contrast foreign and domestic cases. What are the characteristics of such victims? Identify push and pull factors (e.g., monetary, psychological, social, political). What are the characteristics of the perpetrators? Identify push and pull factors (e.g., monetary, psychological, social, political).

The answers to these questions will provide the foundation for future projects that are intended to develop prevention practices in three general areas: First, victim-focused

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For the purposes of this solicitation, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. § 7102(9) the term "sex trafficking" means the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act.

services should be enriched through the identification and development of strategies related to push and pull factors (e.g., monetary, psychological, social, political) specifically relevant to victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons. Second, some rescued victims of severe forms of trafficking have found themselves trafficked again. The identification of specific push and pull factors is intended to guide research that will prevent the multiple victimization of trafficked human beings. Lastly, the identification and prosecution of those who benefit from trafficking in human beings—recruiters, transporters, and exploiters (e.g., pimps, labor bosses, johns, and employers)—should be enriched by the identification and development of strategies related to the push and pull factors specifically relevant to such beneficiaries of trafficking.

**Note**: Any victims of severe forms of trafficking that are discovered by researchers pursuant to funding awarded under this research project must be referred to a qualified victim service provider. (See "What an Application Must Include" below.)

#### Project 2: Comprehensive Literature Review

This project will involve the collection and analysis of U.S. and non-U.S. literature on trafficking in human beings (as defined above). NIJ seeks the completion of a systematic analysis of literature (excluding media reports) on trafficking in human beings. Many existing bibliography databases have compiled this literature; many of these, however, include media reports. Analysis of this published literature should comprehensively identify what is known about trafficking in human beings. Applicants for Project 2 funding should expect to—

- 1. Collect and create a complete bibliography of all known publications on trafficking in human beings in an easily accessible electronic form (e.g., such as endnote).
- 2. Develop criteria to objectively rate and categorize the literature found based on the quality of the research methods. Criteria should be suitable for qualitative and exploratory research methods.
- 3. Classify and rank the literature based on the developed (and NIJ-approved) criteria. The analysis should systematically and transparently categorize the information collected into broad categories and analyze the rigor and potential bias of the information.
- 4. Complete a literature review based on the analyzed information. The literature review should reflect the valid state of knowledge in human trafficking today based on this assessment process.

The products of this project should be a literature review and a bibliography with specific annotations based on a developed ranking system of the exploratory nature of the literature for this topic. The review document should include an executive summary in a style that is accessible to criminal justice executives and other policymakers.

The projects described above (Project 1: Trafficking in Human Beings Research and Project 2: Comprehensive Literature Review) should be considered two distinct and separate research projects. Applicants may submit proposals for either project or both projects. Any applicant who seeks to address both projects must include a separate project and budget narrative for each (i.e., a project and budget narrative for Project 1, and a separate project and budget narrative for Project 2). Each project narrative is subject to the page limits described in "What an Application Must Include" below.

Please note that the duration of each project is 12 months. No extensions will be considered or granted. NIJ anticipates an award date of May 10, 2007, which should be used as your project start date. Each project will need institutional review board (IRB) review and approval; applicants should consider this in light of the project period when applying.

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

- 1. Provision of training or direct service.
- 2. Proposals primarily to purchase equipment, materials, or supplies. (Your budget may include these items if they are necessary to conduct applied research, development, demonstration, evaluation, or analysis, but NIJ does not fund proposals that are primarily to purchase equipment.)
- 3. Work that will be funded under another specific solicitation.
- 4. Work that is considered to promote, support, or advocate the legalization or practice of prostitution. (See "Eligibility" above.)

**Cost of proposed work:** NIJ anticipates that up to \$380,000 may become available for an award made through this solicitation. 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 no more than two awards depending on funds available and number of high-quality applications. If you propose a project that exceeds the amount of money that may be available for this solicitation, we recommend that you divide the project into phases, stages, or tasks so that NIJ can consider making an award for a specific portion of the work. NIJ cannot guarantee that subsequent phases, stages, or tasks will be funded. Such additional funding depends on NIJ's resources and your satisfactory completion of each phase, stage, or task. Note: Deliverables (e.g., a final report) will be required at the end of each phase, stage, or task.

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."

### **Performance Measures**

To assist in fulfilling the Department's responsibilities under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), P.L. 103–62, applicants who receive funding under this solicitation must provide data that measure the results of their work. Performance measures for this solicitation are as follows:

Objective	Performance Measures	Data Grantee Provides
Develop and analyze information and data having clear implications for criminal justice policy and practice.	<ol> <li>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 modifications to the scope.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>A final report providing a comprehensive overview of the project and a detailed description of the project design, data, and methods; a full presentation of scientific findings; and a thorough</li> </ol>

<ol> <li>Quality of the research as assessed by peer reviewers.</li> </ol>	discussion of the implications of the project findings for criminal justice practice and policy.
3. Quality of management as measured by whether significant interim project milestones were achieved, final deadlines were met, and costs remained within approved limits.	2. Quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports, and a final progress report.

## How to Apply

DOJ is participating in the e-Government initiative, one of 25 initiatives included in the President's Management Agenda. Part of this initiative—Grants.gov—is a "one-stop storefront" that provides a unified process for all customers of Federal grants to find funding opportunities and apply for funding.

**Grants.gov Instructions:** Complete instructions can be found at <a href="http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get\_registered.jsp">http://www.grants.gov/applicants/get\_registered.jsp</a>. If you experience difficulties at any point during this process, please call the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 1–800–518–4726.

**CFDA Number:** The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for this solicitation is 16.560, titled "Trafficking in Human Beings Research and Comprehensive Literature Review," and the Grants.gov funding opportunity number is 2007–NIJ–1582.

A DUNS number is required: The Office of Management and Budget requires that all businesses and nonprofit applicants for Federal funds include a DUNS (Data Universal Numeric System) number in their application for a new award or renewal of an award. 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. 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 <a href="http://www.dnb.com/us">http://www.dnb.com/us</a>. Individuals are exempt from this requirement.

## What an Application Must Include

#### Standard Form 424

#### Program Narrative

The Program Narrative includes:

- a. Abstract (not to exceed 400 words).
- b. Table of contents.
- c. Main body, which includes:

- Purpose, goals, and objectives.
- Review of relevant literature.
- Research design and methods.
- Implications for policy and practice.
- Management plan and organization.
- Dissemination strategy.
- For applicants applying for funding under Project 1: Trafficking in Human Beings Research, assurance that any victim of a severe form of trafficking discovered pursuant to research conducted under this solicitation will be directed to a qualified trafficking victim service provider. (Please contact Cornelia Sorensen Sigworth at NIJ at 202– 305–9776 for further information.)
- d. Appendixes (not counted against program narrative page limit) include:
  - Bibliography/References (if applicable).
  - 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

Templates for filling out the Budget Detail Worksheet may be found online at <a href="http://www.oip.usdoj.gov/Forms/budget\_fillable.pdf">http://www.oip.usdoj.gov/Forms/budget\_fillable.pdf</a>, OJP Standard Forms & Instructions. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the Comptroller's Customer Service Center at 1–800–458–0786.

#### **Budget Narrative**

#### 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 <u>http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/oc/indirectcosts.htm</u>.

#### Other Program Attachments

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

**Page Limit:** The program narrative section of your proposal must not exceed 30 doublespaced pages in 12-point font with 1-inch margins. Abstract, 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 proposal 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:

#### Understanding of the problem and its importance.

Applicant must demonstrate a clear understanding of the problem of trafficking in human beings. Applicants must also demonstrate past experience to complete tasks timely.

#### Quality and technical merit.

- 1. Awareness of the state of current research or technology.
- 2. Soundness of methodology and analytic and technical approach.
- 3. Feasibility of proposed project and awareness of pitfalls.
- 4. Innovation and creativity (when appropriate).

#### Impact of the proposed project.

- 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).

#### Capabilities, demonstrated productivity, and experience of applicants.

- 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).

#### Budget.

- 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.

#### Dissemination strategy.

- 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.

#### Relevance of the project for policy and practice.

Higher quality proposals clearly explain the practical implications of the project. They connect technical expertise with criminal justice policy and practice. To ensure that the project has strong relevance for policy and practice, some researchers and technologists collaborate with practitioners and policymakers. You may include letters showing support from practitioners, but they carry less weight than clear evidence that you understand why policymakers and practitioners would benefit from your work and how they would use it. While a partnership may affect State or local activities, it should also have broader implications for others across the country.

### **Review Process**

NIJ is firmly committed to the competitive process in awarding grants. All proposals under this solicitation will be subjected to independent peer-review panel evaluations. External peer-review panelists consider both technical and programmatic merits. Panelists are selected based on their expertise in subject areas pertinent to the proposals.

Peer-review panelists will evaluate proposals using the criteria listed above. NIJ staff then make recommendations to the NIJ Director. The Director makes award decisions.

**Reasons for rejection:** NIJ may reject applications that are incomplete, do not respond to the scope of the solicitation, do not comply with format requirements, or are submitted after the deadline. No additions to the original submission are allowed.

When awards will be made: All applicants, whether they are accepted or rejected, will be notified. Lists of awards are updated regularly on NIJ's Web site at <a href="http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm">http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm</a>.

## **Additional Requirements**

- Civil Rights Compliance
- Confidentiality and Human Subjects Protections regulations
- Anti-Lobbying Act
- Financial and Government Audit Requirements
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance
- DOJ Information Technology Standards
- Single Point of Contact Review
- Non-supplanting of State or Local Funds
- Criminal Penalty for False Statements

- Compliance with Office of the Comptroller Financial Guide
- Suspension or Termination of Funding
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)
- Rights in Intellectual Property

We strongly encourage you to review the information pertaining to these additional requirements prior to submitting your application. Additional information for each can be found at <u>http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/otherrequirements.htm</u>.

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

**Final substantive report:** The final report should be a comprehensive overview of the project and should include a detailed description of the project design, data, and methods; a full presentation of scientific findings; and a thorough discussion of the implications of the project findings for criminal justice practice and policy. It must contain an abstract of no more than 400 words and an executive summary of no more than 2,500 words.

A draft of the final report, abstract, and executive summary must be submitted 90 days before the end date of the grant. The draft final 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 report, abstract, and executive summary by the end date of the grant. The abstract, executive summary, and final report must be submitted in both paper and electronic formats.

For program evaluation studies, the final 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.)

**Interim reports:** Grantees must submit quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports, a final progress report, and, if applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent.