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# National Institute of Justice

## S o l i c i t a t i o n

*Julie E. Samuels, Acting Director*

*August 2000*

### Data Resources Program: Funding for the Analysis of Existing Data

#### **APPLICATION DEADLINES:**

September 25, 2000

January 25, 2001

May 25, 2001

**U.S. Department of Justice**  
**Office of Justice Programs**  
810 Seventh Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 20531

**Janet Reno**  
*Attorney General*

**Daniel Marcus**  
*Acting Associate Attorney General*

**Mary Lou Leary**  
*Acting Assistant Attorney General*

**Julie E. Samuels**  
*Acting Director, National Institute of Justice*

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For grant and funding information, contact:  
**Department of Justice Response Center**  
800-421-6770

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**Office of Justice Programs**  
**World Wide Web Site:**  
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov>

**National Institute of Justice**  
**World Wide Web Site:**  
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij>

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## Data Resources Program: Funding for the Analysis of Existing Data

### Introduction

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) requests proposals to conduct original research using data from the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD). NACJD houses quantitative and qualitative data from NIJ sponsored research, and makes it available online for downloading machine-readable copies (in SPSS, SAS or ASCII), together with data dictionaries and study abstracts. The archive is maintained by the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at the University of Michigan, and supported by NIJ. Of particular interest are projects that will utilize data sets resulting from projects supported by the NIJ, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), and by other Office of Justice Programs (OJP) offices and agencies. Awards of up to \$35,000 will be made to support research to be conducted within a one year period.

*There are three due dates for applications for this solicitation: September 25, 2000, and January 25, and May 25, 2001.*

### Priority Topics

Applicants should note that replication of original findings is in itself viewed as an important goal. In addition, the Institute is particularly interested, although not exclusively, in innovative proposals that address the following issues:

- # Sentencing, sentencing guidelines, intermediate sanctions, and consequences of sentencing policy
- # Adjudication
- # Corrections

- # Violence against women and family violence
- # Drugs and crime
- # Violence, including examination of the correlates of violent criminal behavior
- # Policing, including community-oriented policing, problem-oriented policing, and other issues related to policing practices

### Of Particular Interest Are:

- # Studies that test original hypotheses by replicating and verifying original findings and comparing results with those obtained by applying new statistical methods
- # Studies that test original hypotheses using sensitivity analysis (e.g., "If I add socioeconomic status to my model, or change the cut point in the indices I am using, do my findings change?")
- # Studies that test new hypotheses using existing NACJD data sets by applying new statistical methods.
- # Studies that use and/or combine archived data sets containing similar information collected at different times or from different sites.
- # Applications of alternative or emerging statistical techniques and methodologies to archived data sets that extend the understanding of criminal justice processes and criminal behavior.

# Research on archived data sets that explores the development of applications of direct benefit to practitioners and/or policy makers.

## To Obtain Data

More than 300 NIJ-sponsored data sets, covering a wide range of criminal justice issues, are currently available at NACJD. Data collections (and abstracts and codebooks) are now available for downloading via the World Wide Web pages of the NACJD at ICPSR. Connect to the NACJD home page using the following URL:

<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/nacjd>

For information about obtaining data sets other than through the NACJD Web site, call 800-999-0960. Questions or comments can also be sent to [nacjd@icpsr.umich.edu](mailto:nacjd@icpsr.umich.edu).

Copies of user guides and codebooks are available at no charge from NACJD, ICPSR, Box 1248, Ann Arbor, MI 48106, 800-999-0960, or 734-998-9825

## Recently Archived Data

Many data sets that hold great potential for secondary analysis have been archived at NACJD in the past year. Some of these studies are:

*United Nations World Surveys of Crime Trends and Criminal Justice Systems, 1970-1994: Restructured Five-Wave Data.* Burnham, R.W., and H. Burnham (ICPSR 2513).

*Violence and Threats of Violence Against Women and Men in the United States, 1994-1996.* Tjaden, P., and N. Thoennes (ICPSR 2566).

*National Survey of Weapon-Related Experiences, Behaviors, and Concerns of High School Youth in the United States, 1996.* Sheley, J.F., and J.D. Wright (ICPSR 2580).

*Evaluation of the Children At Risk Program in Austin, Bridgeport, Memphis, Savannah, and Seattle, 1993-1997.* Harrell, A.V., S. Cavanagh, and S. Sridharan (ICPSR 2686).

*Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods: Community Survey, 1994-1995.* Earls, F. (ICPSR 2766).

*Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring (ADAM) Program in the United States, 1998* (ICPSR 2826).

*National Survey of Adolescents in the United States, 1995.* Kilpatrick, D.G., and B.E. Saunders (ICPSR 2833).

*Intensive Supervision for High-Risk Offenders in 14 Sites in the United States, 1987-1990.* Petersilia, J., S. Turner, and E.P. Deschenes (ICPSR 6358).

*Drug Use Forecasting in 24 Cities in the United States, 1987-1997* (ICPSR 9477).

## Award Information

Researchers from all disciplines who are interested in basic research, and/or addressing topical criminal justice practice or policy concerns through the exploration and analysis of archived data are encouraged to apply. Particular consideration will be given to proposals that suggest innovative applications of emerging statistical techniques and analytic methodologies.

Awards will not be made to individuals to conduct additional analyses on data they collected under a previous NIJ grant or contract.

Applicants should demonstrate familiarity with the data that they propose to analyze and with literature related to the data. Of particular importance is demonstrating that the data are appropriate for proposed analyses, and that measures necessary to conduct proposed analyses are available. Applicants who propose the use of older data sets are encouraged to address the implications for theoretical, policy and practice inferences.

Competitive applications will propose reproducing the major analyses of the original study to ensure comparability and better appreciate how the data were used previously, before embarking on new analyses. NIJ recognizes that the ability to reproduce findings is in part a function of how complete the supporting documentation from the previous study is, and that this preliminary analysis may not always be possible.

Awards of up to \$35,000 will be made to support research to be conducted within a one year period. Indirect charges for these awards will be limited to 20 percent of direct costs. Applicants are encouraged to specify what resources they have in place to complete the proposed project (e.g., physical plant, computer hardware and software).

For more information, contact Cynthia A. Mamalian, Data Resources Program, National Institute of Justice, 810 Seventh Street, NW, Washington, DC 20531. (202-514-5981, or [mamalian@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:mamalian@ojp.usdoj.gov))

## Most Recent Data Resource Program Awards

*Investigating Intimate Partner Violence Using National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) Data* (2000-IJ-CX-0013) Colin Loftin, State University of New York, Albany, \$34,996.

*Black-White Homicide Differentials: Analysis by Race and Homicide Type* (2000-IJ-CX-0015) Ruth Peterson, Ohio State University Research Foundation, \$35,000.

*Trends in Substance Abuse and Treatment Needs Among Intimates* (2000-IJ-CX-0019) Steven Belenko, The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, \$34,885.

*Is Job Accessibility Relevant to Crime Patterns? A GIS Approach* (2000-IJ-CX-0023) Fahui Wang, Northern Illinois University, \$34,996.

## How to Apply

Those interested in submitting proposals in response to this solicitation must complete the required application forms and submit related required documents. (See below for how to obtain application forms and guides for completing proposals.) Applicants must include the following information/forms to qualify for consideration:

- Standard Form (SF) 424—application for Federal assistance
- Proposal abstract
- Table of contents
- Program narrative
- References
- Geographic Areas Affected Worksheet
- Assurances
- Certifications Regarding Lobbying, Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (one form)
- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities
- Budget Detail Worksheet

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- Budget Narrative
- Negotiated indirect rate agreement (if appropriate)
- Names and affiliations of all key persons from applicant and subcontractor(s), advisors, consultants, and advisory board members. Include name of principal investigator, title, organizational affiliation (if any), department (if institution of higher education), address, phone, and fax
- Résumés
- List of previous NIJ awards, their status, and products in NIJ or other publications
- Privacy certificate
- Form 310 (Protection of Human Subjects Assurance Identification/ Certification/ Declaration)
- Environmental Assessment (if required)
- Letters of cooperation from organizations collaborating in the research project
- Appendixes, if any

**Proposal abstract.** The proposal abstract, when read separately from the rest of the application, is meant to serve as a succinct and accurate description of the proposed work. Applicants must concisely describe the research goals and objectives, research design, and methods for achieving the goals and objectives. Summaries of past accomplishments are to be avoided, and proprietary/confidential information is not to be included. Length is not to exceed 400 words. Use the following two headers:

## **Project Goals and Objectives:**

## **Proposed Research Design and Methodology:**

**Page limit.** The number of pages in the “Program Narrative” part of the proposal must not exceed 15 (double-spaced pages). Use of tables, charts, and figures are encouraged and will not be counted in page limitations.

**Due date.** Ten (10) copies of completed proposals **must be received** at the National Institute of Justice by 5:00 p.m. on September 25, 2000, January 25, or May 25, 2001. Extensions of these deadlines will not be permitted. Faxed or E-mailed applications will not be accepted.

**Award period.** Awards will be made to support research to be conducted within a one year period. Applicants should anticipate a start date three months after the application deadline.

**Applying.** Applicants should obtain two packets: (1) application forms (including a sample budget worksheet) and (2) guidelines for submitting proposals (including requirements for proposal writers and requirements for grant recipients). To receive them, applicants can:

- Access the Justice Information Center on the Web: <http://www.ncjrs.org/fedgrant.htm#nij> or the NIJ Web site: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm>

These Web sites offer the NIJ application forms and guidelines as electronic files that may be downloaded to a personal computer.

- Request hard copies of the forms and guidelines by mail from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service at 800–851–3420 or from the Department of Justice Response Center at 800–421–6770 (in the Washington, D.C., area, at 202–307–1480).
- Request copies by fax. Call 800–851–3420 and select option 1, then option 1 again for NIJ. Code is 1023.

**Confidentiality of information and human subjects protection.** NIJ has adopted new policies and procedures regarding the confidentiality of information and human subjects protection. Please see the *Guidelines for Submitting Proposals for National Institute of Justice-Sponsored Research* for details on the new requirements.

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The Department of Justice (DOJ) regulations at 28 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 22 require recipients of NIJ research funds to protect personally identifiable information that is collected from all research participants. The regulations at 28 CFR Part 22 require applicants for NIJ funding to outline their plans for the protection of private information about individuals as part of a Privacy Certificate, which is submitted as part of their proposal.

In addition to the regulations in Part 22, DOJ has adopted policies on the protection of human subjects that are the same as those established by the Department of Health and Human Services in 45 CFR Part 46, Subpart A, also known as the "Common Rule." The DOJ regulations are set forth in 28 CFR Part 46. In general, 28 CFR Part 46 requires that all research involving human subjects conducted or supported by a federal department or agency be reviewed and approved by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) before federal funds are expended for that research. If IRB approval is required for this project, a copy of the IRB's approval as well as supporting documentation concerning the IRB's institutional affiliation, its policies and procedures, and necessary assurances must be submitted to the National Institute of Justice prior to the initiation of any research activities that are not exempt from the provisions of 28 CFR Part 46.

**Reporting Requirements.** NIJ has an established set of guidelines for grantees regarding project deliverables that include an Executive Summary, Project Abstract, Final Report, and a Final Data Set and Codebook. These requirements are described in NIJ's Guidelines for Submitting Proposals ([www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij)) and are included as special conditions in the award package. In order to accommodate the peer review of all grant products, the draft Final Report must be submitted 90 days before the end date of the grant. Applicants should ensure that their proposed time lines reflect these requirements.

In addition to the final products described above, grantees are required to submit quarterly financial status reports and semi-annual progress reports.

**Financial Status Reports.** Financial status reports (SF 269-A) are due quarterly on the 45th day following the end of each calendar quarter. A report must be submitted every quarter the award is active even if there has been no financial activity during that reporting period. The final report is due 120 days after the end date of the award. Future awards and fund drawdowns will be withheld if the financial status reports are delinquent.

**Categorical Assistance Progress Reports.** Recipients of funding are required to submit semi-annual Categorical Assistance Progress Reports. The progress report describes activities during the reporting period and the status or accomplishment of objectives as set forth in the approved application for funding. Progress reports must be submitted within 30 days after the end of the reporting periods, which are January 1 through June 30 and July 1 through December 31 for the life of the award. A final progress report, which provides a summary of progress toward achieving the goals and objectives of the award, significant results, and any products developed under the award, is due 120 days after the end date of the award. Report formats will be provided to the recipient by the Office of Justice Programs. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if the progress reports are delinquent.

**Guidance and information.** Applicants who wish to receive additional guidance and information may contact the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at 800-421-6770. Center staff can provide assistance or refer applicants to an appropriate NIJ professional. Applicants may, for example, wish to discuss their prospective research topics with the NIJ professional staff.

# S o l i c i t a t i o n

**Send completed forms to:**

Data Resources Program: Funding for the  
Analysis of Existing Data  
National Institute of Justice  
810 Seventh Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 20531  
[overnight courier ZIP code 20001]

SL 000437



For more information on the National Institute of Justice, please contact:

**National Criminal Justice Reference Service**

Box 6000  
Rockville, MD 20849-6000  
800-851-3420  
e-mail: askncjrs@ncjrs.org

You can view or obtain an electronic version of this document from the NCJRS Justice Information Center web site (<http://www.ncjrs.org>) or the NIJ web site (<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij>).

If you have any questions, call or e-mail NCJRS.