



Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program

FY 2006 State Solicitation

ELIGIBILITY

JAG grants are allocated to states including the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa.

DEADLINE

All JAG applications are due by 8:00 p.m. eastern time on January 26, 2006.

FOR ASSISTANCE

JAG Solicitation Questions: Matthew D. Hanson,
Director's Special Assistant for Administration, at 202-616-0649 or Matthew.Hanson@usdoj.gov.

Technical Assistance: GMS Help Desk at 1-888-549-9901.

ABOUT OJP

Since 1984 the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) Office of Justice Programs (OJP) has provided federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, improve the criminal and juvenile justice systems, increase knowledge about crime and related issues, and assist crime victims. Through the programs developed and funded by its bureaus and offices, OJP works to form partnerships among federal, state, and local government officials to control drug abuse and trafficking; reduce and prevent crime; rehabilitate neighborhoods; improve the administration of justice in America; meet the needs of crime victims; and address problems such as gang violence, prison crowding, juvenile crime, and white collar crime. OJP's senior management team—comprised of the Assistant Attorney General, the Deputy Assistant Attorney Generals, and the five bureau heads—works together with dedicated managers and line staff to carry out this mission.

ABOUT BJA

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, supports law enforcement, courts, corrections, treatment, victim services, technology, and prevention initiatives that strengthen the nation's criminal justice system. BJA provides leadership, services, and funding to America's communities by emphasizing local control; building relationships in the field; developing collaborations and partnerships; promoting capacity building through planning; streamlining the administration of grants; increasing training and technical assistance; creating accountability of projects; encouraging innovation; and ultimately communicating the value of justice efforts to decision makers at every level.

ABOUT THE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM

Proposed to streamline justice funding and grant administration, the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program (42 U.S.C. 3750) allows states, tribes, and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own local needs and conditions. JAG blends the previous Byrne Formula and Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) Programs to provide agencies with the flexibility to prioritize and place justice funds where they are needed most.

Formula

The JAG formula includes a *state allocation* consisting of a minimum base allocation with the remaining amount determined on population and Part 1 violent crime statistics, and a *direct allocation* to units of local government. Once the state allocation is calculated, 60 percent of the funding is awarded to the state and 40 percent to eligible units of local government. State allocations also have a required *variable pass through* to units of local government, calculated by the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) from each state's crime expenditures.

Purpose Areas

JAG funds can be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, training, personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, and information systems for criminal justice for any one or more of the following purpose areas:

- Law enforcement programs.
 - Prosecution and court programs.
 - Prevention and education programs.
 - Corrections and community corrections programs.
 - Drug treatment programs.
 - Planning, evaluation, and technology improvement programs.
- ★ Any law enforcement or justice initiative previously eligible for funding under Byrne or LLEBG is eligible for JAG funding.

SAA Responsibilities

In each state, the Governor or other chief executive officer designates a state agency (State Administering Agency, or SAA) to apply for and administer these funds. The SAA will be responsible for:

- Coordination between JAG funds and other state and local justice initiatives.
- Preparation and submission of the state JAG application.
- Administration of JAG funds including establishing funding priorities; distributing funds; monitoring awards; submitting reports including performance measure and program assessment data; and providing ongoing assistance to subrecipients.

Administrative Funds

An SAA may use up to 10 percent of the state award for costs associated with administering JAG funds.

Eligibility

JAG grants are awarded to states including the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa.

Application Reviews

The SAA must make the grant application available for review to the governing body of the state, or to an organization designated by that governing body, not fewer than 30 days before the application is submitted to BJA. Also, an SAA must provide an assurance that the application or any future amendment was made public and an opportunity to comment was provided to citizens and to neighborhood or community organizations to the extent applicable law or established procedure makes such an opportunity available.

Supplanting

Federal funds must be used to supplement existing funds for program activities and cannot replace, or supplant, nonfederal funds that have been appropriated for the same purpose.

Award Amount

States including the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa are entitled to an award of 60 percent of the initial state allocation plus any funds from the 40 percent of the initial state allocation for units of local government whose allocation would be less than \$10,000. Funds from these "less than \$10,000 jurisdictions" must be distributed to state police departments that provide criminal justice services to units of local government and/or to any units of local government whose allocations would be less than \$10,000.

Length of Awards

Awards are made in the first fiscal year of the appropriation and may be expended during the following 3 years, for a total of 4 years. Extensions beyond this period may be made on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Director of BJA.

Match

While match is not required with the JAG Program, match is an effective strategy for states and local units of government to expand justice funds and build buy-in for local criminal justice initiatives.

Pass Through

JAG requires that states pass through a variable amount of funds to local units of government, such as a city, county, township, town, tribe, or community- or faith-based group. Calculated by BJS, this amount is established by assessing the total criminal justice expenditures by the state and units of local government. If an SAA believes its assessment is incorrect, the SAA may appeal the percentage by providing alternate, verifiable data to BJA.

- ★ If an SAA wishes to fund a project that will be administered by the state but be counted as variable

pass through for JAG purposes, it may do so if the project will directly benefit a unit(s) of local government, and each local jurisdiction to benefit voluntarily signs a waiver. This waiver must certify that the local jurisdiction recognizes that the funds in question are set aside for local government use; believes that the proposed project will provide a direct local benefit; and agrees that funding the project at the state level is in the best interests of the unit of local government.

Trust Fund

The SAA must establish a trust fund in which to deposit JAG funds. The trust fund may or may not be an interest bearing account.

Prohibited Uses

JAG funds cannot be used directly or indirectly for security enhancements or equipment to nongovernmental entities not engaged in criminal justice or public safety. Based on extraordinary and exigent circumstances making the use of funds essential, BJA may certify a state's request to use funds for:

- Vehicles, vessels, or aircraft.
- Luxury items.
- Real estate.
- Construction projects, other than penal or correctional institutions.

HOW TO APPLY

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for this solicitation is 16.738, titled "Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program." OJP requires that funding applications be submitted through the OJP Grants Management System (GMS). Faxed or mailed applications will not be accepted.

To access the system, go to <https://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov>. Applications submitted via GMS must be in one of the following formats: Microsoft Word (.doc), PDF file (.pdf), or text (.txt). If you experience difficulties at any point in this process, call the GMS Help Desk at 888-549-9901 between 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. eastern time. New GMS users must create a new account before submitting an application. All JAG applications are due on or before 8:00 p.m. eastern time on January 26, 2006.

Step 1: Signing On

- If you already have a GMS user ID, proceed to GMS sign in. Even if your organization already has a user ID, you will not be registered for the solicitation until you have signed onto GMS and entered the appropriate solicitation. To do so, please proceed to step 2.
- If you do not have a GMS user ID, select "New User?" Register Here." After you have completed all of the required information, click "Create Account" at the bottom of the page and note your user ID and password, which are case sensitive.
- A Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number must be included in every application for a new award or renewal of an award. Individuals who would personally receive a grant or cooperative agreement from the federal government are exempt from this requirement. Organizations should verify that they have a DUNS number or take the steps necessary to obtain one as soon as possible. Applicants can receive a DUNS number at no cost by calling the dedicated toll-free DUNS number request line at 866-705-5711.

Step 2: Selecting/Registering for the Program

- After you have logged onto the system using your user ID and password, click on "Funding Opportunities."
- Select "Bureau of Justice Assistance" from the drop-down list, and click "Search." This will narrow the list of solicitations within the Office of Justice Programs to those in BJA.

- From the list of BJA grants, find “FY 2006 Justice Assistance Grant Program,” and click “Apply Online.”
- Confirm that your organization is eligible to apply for this program by reading the text on the screen. If eligible, proceed by clicking “Continue.”

Step 3: Completing the Overview Information

- Select the type of application you are submitting by choosing “Application Non-Construction” in the “Type of Submission” section.
- Select “New” in the drop-down box for “Type of Application.”
- If your state has a review and comment process under Executive Order 12372 (<http://policy.fws.gov/library/rgeo12372.pdf>), then select either “Yes” and enter the date you made this application available under that review or “N/A” because this program has not been selected by your state for such a review. If your state does not have such a process, then select “No. Program Not Covered by E.O. 12372.”
- Click “Save and Continue.”

Step 4: Completing the Applicant Information

- Answer “Yes” or “No” to the question about whether your organization is delinquent on any federal debt.
- The rest of this page will prepopulate based on the information you submitted during the registration process. Check this information for accuracy and relevance to your organization, and make any needed changes.
- Click “Save and Continue.”

Step 5: Completing the Project Information

- Provide a title that is descriptive of your project.
- List the geographic areas to be affected by the project.
- Enter a start date for the project that is on or after October 1, 2005 and an end date that is not more than 48 months later.
- Select all of the Congressional districts that are affected by this application. To select multiple districts, hold down the CTRL key while making your selections.
- Enter your state’s allocation in the federal line under the “Estimated Funding” section. For a listing of state allocations, go to www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/jagallocations.html.
- Click “Save and Continue.”

Step 6: Uploading the Attachments

- You will be asked to upload three attachments to the online application system. (See the Attachments section for detailed instructions.)
 1. Program Narrative (Attachment 1).
 2. Budget Narrative (Attachment 2).
 3. Review Narrative (Attachment 3).

Click “Attach” to upload these documents. A new window will open. To continue, click “Browse” and find the file on your computer or the network drive from which you wish to upload, then click on “Upload Your Document.” A window that says “File Upload Successful” should appear. Next to the upload list, the notation should change to “Attachment OK.” Repeat these steps for all three uploads.

- If you encounter any difficulties uploading your file, click on “Tips for Successful Upload.” This document will explain the usual problems with uploading files and will help you through them.
- Click “Save and Continue.”

- ★ Depending on the size of the attachment and/or your computer's Internet connection, the uploading process can take several hours. The system will shut down promptly at the deadline. Incomplete applications will not be accepted and no exceptions will be granted.

Step 7: Completing the Assurances and Certifications

- You will need to accept both the assurances document and the certifications document. To do this, click on "Assurances" and "Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements."
- Read both documents. At the bottom of each one, click the "Accept" button.
- After you have accepted both documents, enter the correct personal information for the person submitting the application.
- Click the box next to the text at the bottom of the page to certify that the person submitting the application is authorized to accept these assurances and certifications.
- Click "Save and Continue."

Step 8: Reviewing the SF-424

- By answering the questions contained in GMS, you have completed the Standard Form 424 (SF-424) and other forms required to apply for grant funding. Take a moment to review the SF-424 to ensure that it is accurate.
- If you need to make changes to any portion of the application, simply click on that section along the left side of the screen. Be sure to click "Save and Continue" after making any changes.
- When you are sure that the information is accurate, click "Continue."

Step 9: Submitting the Application

- A list of application components will appear on the screen. It should say "Complete" before each component. If it says "Incomplete" then click on the word and it will take you back to the section that needs to be completed. An explanation of what is missing will be at the top of that screen.

ATTACHMENTS

Program Narrative (Attachment 1)

Applicants must submit a program narrative that generally describes the proposed program activities for the 4-year grant period. The narrative must outline the types of programs the SAA will fund with JAG, and provide a brief analysis of the need for the programs. Narratives must also identify statewide priorities and planning, and anticipated coordination efforts involving JAG and related justice funds.

Budget Narrative (Attachment 2)

Applicants must submit a budget narrative outlining how JAG administrative funds will be used to support and implement the program.

Review Narrative (Attachment 3)

Applicants must submit information documenting that their JAG application was available for review to the governing body of the state not less than 30 days before being submitted to BJA. The attachment must specify that an opportunity to comment was provided to citizens and neighborhood or community organizations to the extent applicable law or established procedure makes such opportunity available.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

To ensure compliance with the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), Public Law 103-62, JAG grantees are required to collect and report data that measures the results of program performance. Grantees are required to submit performance data for the applicable measures, which can be found at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/jag.html.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Applications for this program are due by 8 p.m. eastern time on January 26, 2006. Faxed or mailed applications or supplemental materials will not be accepted.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Successful applicants must agree to comply with certain requirements prior to receiving grant funding, including Civil Rights Compliance, Anti-Lobbying Act, Funding to Faith-Based and Community Organizations (if applicable), Information Technology Compliance (if applicable), Confidentiality and Human Subjects Protection (if applicable), and the National Environmental Policy Act (if applicable). For more information, go to www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/OtherReq.pdf.

The OJP *Financial Guide*, which contains information on allowable costs, methods of payment, audit requirements, accounting systems, and financial records, is available on the OJP web site at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/FinGuide/. This document governs the administration of funds by all successful applicants and their contractors.

For general information about BJA programs, training, and technical assistance, contact BJA at 202-616-6500 or toll free at 1-866-859-2687, or visit the BJA home page at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA.

For assistance with the JAG solicitation, contact Matthew D. Hanson, Director's Special Assistant for Administration, at 202-514-0649 or Matthew.Hanson@usdoj.gov.

For assistance with GMS, contact the GMS Help Desk at 1-888-549-9901.