

**Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)  
Prescription Drug Monitoring Program  
FY 2010 Competitive Grant Announcement  
Frequently Asked Questions**

**1. What is the deadline for applications?**

All applications are due by 8:00 p.m. eastern time on April 1, 2010. The Office of Justice Programs highly recommends starting the registration process as early as possible to prevent delays in the application submission by the specified deadline.

**2. How do I apply for this funding?**

Applications will be submitted through OJP's Grants Management System ([GMS](#)). [GMS](#) is a web-based, data-driven computer application that provides cradle to grave support for the application, award, and management of grants at OJP. Applicants should begin the process immediately to meet the [GMS](#) registration deadline, especially if this is the first time they have used the system. Complete instructions on how to register and submit an application in [GMS](#) can be found at [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/gmscbt/](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/gmscbt/).

If you experience technical difficulties at any point during this process, please e-mail [GMSHelpDesk@usdoj.gov](mailto:GMSHelpDesk@usdoj.gov) or call 1-888-549-9901 (option 3), Monday-Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 midnight eastern time.

Please read the instructions provided in the announcement regarding "How to Apply" on page 8 of the announcement.

**3. Who is eligible to apply for this grant program?**

States (the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Northern Mariana Islands, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa) are eligible for **implementation and enhancement grants** if they have in place an enabling statute or regulation requiring the submission of controlled substance prescription data to an authorized state agency. State governments are eligible for **planning grants** if they do not have enabling statutes or regulations in place.

**4. May a state that has legislation pending, but not enacted, apply for an Implementation grant?**

States with pending legislation or regulations may apply for an implementation grant, but will not be awarded an implementation grant unless the legislation or regulations are in place at the time that funding decisions are made. If legislation or regulations are not passed, these applicants may be eligible for a planning grant.

**5. What are the funding categories?**

States may submit an application in one of three categories: 1) Planning: grants which have an award maximum of \$50,000 and a project period of 18 months; 2) Implementation: grants which have an award maximum of \$400,000 and a project period of 24 months; and 3) Enhancement: grants which have an award maximum of \$400,000 and a project period of 24 months.

**6. Can any portion of the Enhancement grant be used towards operating expenses?**

Up to 25% of an enhancement grant can be used towards PDMP operating expenses. The remaining funds should be used to enhance the functioning of an existing program. Examples of enhancements to systems are included in the announcement. As noted, within category III, Within Category 3 in FY 2010, funding priority will be given to applicants who propose to implement information sharing with other state PDMPs within the grant period using the PMIX specifications.

**7. What is PMIX?**

The PMIX project allows states to share data seamlessly back and forth across state borders. The specific technology used, known informally as the PMIX hub server, significantly reduces the cost and effort that would be required to implement a communications link with every single exchange partner

state. This single link allows a state PDMP to process a request for information from one of its authorized users to additional states by transmitting one request to the PMIX hub server; rather than transmitting individual requests to each state being queried. While providing a central query and routing mechanism simplifies the process of interstate sharing, the PMIX hub retains no prescription or confidential data whatsoever, thus protecting each state's ability to control access to its own data. Guidance materials and technical assistance are available to all state PDMPs who have the authority to exchange data beyond their state border.

**8. If my state received an Enhancement grant in fiscal year 2009, is my state eligible to apply for Enhancement funding in fiscal year 2010?**

States which received FY 2009 enhancement grants are not eligible to apply for enhancement funding in FY 2010 unless specifically proposing to implement information sharing with other states.

**9. What is a Logic Model?**

Applicants are required to include a logic model as an attachment to their proposals. A logic model shows a picture of how an organization/program does its work. It is a systematic and visual way to present the resources being requested to plan, implement, or expand the PDMP program, the activities planned, and the changes or results that will logically result. BJA has prepared an example of a programmatic logic model for an enhancement to a PDMP which is available at: [link to program specific logic model](#).

**10. What type of technical assistance is available for grantees?**

Currently, technical assistance for the BJA Prescription Drug Monitoring Program is provided by Brandeis University and the Alliance of States with Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs ([www.pmpalliance.org](http://www.pmpalliance.org)). Please contact Chris Baumgartner at (360) 556-7152 with any technical assistance needs.

**11. Instructions state that the budget worksheet and narrative should be submitted in one file. The worksheet is a fill-in-the-blanks form. Where will the narrative appear?**

The budget worksheet and narrative must be submitted as one document under the other attachments form. The budget worksheet form provided can be copied and saved into a Word document, with the narrative added after the worksheet, or the two documents can be combined into one PDF file.

**12. When is the funding start date?**

Proposed project start dates should be on or after October 1, 2010.