

# FY 2023 PAUL COVERDELL FORENSIC SCIENCE IMPROVEMENT GRANTS PROGRAM – FORMULA AND COMPETITIVE

## IMPORTANT DEADLINES



GRANTS.GOV:  
MAY 24, 2023

JUSTGRANTS:  
MAY 31, 2023

### Who May Apply:

- State governments for formula-based grants
- City or township, county, and state governments for competitively awarded grants

### Why Apply:

Receive funding to improve forensic science and medical examiner/coroner services, including services provided by forensic science laboratories operated by states and units of local government.

### Maximum per Award:

For the formula-based program, the amounts per state are available at: <https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/fy23-coverdell-estimated-funding-amounts.pdf>.

Up to \$500,000 per award under the competitive program

### BJA encourages the following entities to apply:

- Agencies that have not received BJA funding before.
- Convening or governing bodies that can apply on behalf of one or more entities.

### Examples of strategies/ activities that can be funded:

- Improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science or medical examiner/coroner services.
- Eliminate any backlog in the analysis of forensic science evidence.
- Train, assist, and employ forensic laboratory personnel and medicolegal death investigators.
- Address emerging forensic science issues and technology.
- Educate and train forensic pathologists.
- Facilitate accreditation.
- Address the specific challenges related to the proliferation of opioids and synthetic drugs.

### Where to get more information about this opportunity:

Visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/coverdell/overview> for more information about the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program. Funding information about the formula-based program is at: <https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/o-bja-2023-171701>, and information about the competitively awarded program is at: <https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/o-bja-2023-171700>.



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## Tips for Success:

- **Start early!** To apply, you must first have a valid registration in the System for Award Management (SAM). **Registration and renewal can take up to 10 business days** to complete. Register at: [sam.gov/content/home](https://sam.gov/content/home).
- For questions about the program's requirements or the application process, see the full solicitation's cover page at: <https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/O-BJA-2023-171701.pdf> and the competitive at: <https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/O-BJA-2023-171700.pdf> for information on who to contact.
- Visit **BJA Funding Webinars** at: [bja.ojp.gov/events/funding-webinars](https://bja.ojp.gov/events/funding-webinars) and review the "Federal Funding Process: First Steps to Applying, How to Prepare Now, and Other Considerations."
- **Subscribe** for email notifications from BJA about funding opportunities and other news at [bja.ojp.gov/subscribe-newsfrombja](https://bja.ojp.gov/subscribe-newsfrombja).
- To be in the know about funding opportunities across the Office of Justice Programs, sign up to receive **JUSTINFO** at: [www.ojp.gov/news/justinfo](https://www.ojp.gov/news/justinfo) and/or the weekly **Funding News** at: [public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDOJOJP\\_COMMS/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=USDOJOJP\\_COMMS\\_25](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDOJOJP_COMMS/subscriber/new?topic_id=USDOJOJP_COMMS_25).

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## How to apply and when:

Submit a two-step application.

- (1) Register in [Grants.gov](https://grants.gov) and follow the prompts to submit two forms by May 24, 2023.
- (2) Then complete the full application in [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](https://JustGrants.usdoj.gov) by May 31, 2023. The application's major elements are:
  - (a) The **proposal abstract** that summarizes the problem you wish to address with your project (no more than 400 words).
  - (b) The **proposal narrative** that describes your project's strategies, activities, and major deliverables as well as your capacity to address the problem.
  - (c) The **web-based budget** form that details how you will allocate the grant funds by task, date, and responsible person.

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## ABOUT BJA

BJA helps America's state, local, and tribal jurisdictions reduce and prevent crime, lower recidivism, and promote a fair and safe criminal justice system. BJA provides a wide range of resources—including grants, funding, and training and technical assistance—to law enforcement, courts and corrections agencies, treatment providers, reentry practitioners, justice information sharing professionals, and community-based partners to address chronic and emerging criminal justice challenges nationwide. To learn more about BJA, visit [bja.ojp.gov](https://bja.ojp.gov) or follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/DOJBJA](https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA)) and Twitter ([@DOJBJA](https://twitter.com/DOJBJA)). BJA is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.

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