

# FY25 DNA CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT FOR BACKLOG REDUCTION (CEBR) – FORMULA GRANTS PROGRAM

## IMPORTANT DEADLINES



**GRANTS.GOV:**  
OCTOBER 22, 2025

**JUSTGRANTS:**  
OCTOBER 29, 2025

### Who may apply:

City or township, county, or state governments; public and state-controlled institutions of higher education with an existing crime laboratory that conducts DNA analysis of samples for entry into the FBI's Combined DNA Index System (CODIS).

### Why Apply:

If your jurisdiction has an existing crime laboratory that conducts DNA analysis of samples for entry into the FBI's Combined DNA Index System (CODIS), receive funding—based on a formula—to conduct, and increase capacity to conduct, analyses of DNA samples for entry into CODIS in order to reduce the number of forensic DNA and DNA database samples awaiting analysis and/or prevent a backlog of forensic and database DNA samples. This program is for **Formula** funding only.

### Maximum per award:

- Up to \$3,500,000, based on a formula.

### BJA encourages the following entities to apply:

- Agencies that have not previously received BJA funding.

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

- Increase laboratory capacity and efficiency to process CODIS- eligible crime scene samples.
- Purchase/implement new and more efficient instruments/ robotics to automate routine laboratory processing steps.
- Evaluate, validate, and implement improved workflows.
- Provide salaries, benefits, overtime, and limited training and travel for laboratory staff.
- Purchase and upgrade software to more efficiently manage DNA laboratory operations.

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

Visit [bja.ojp.gov/program/dna-cebr/overview](https://bja.ojp.gov/program/dna-cebr/overview) for more information about the CEBR Program and [bja.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/o-bja-2025-172460](https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/o-bja-2025-172460) for full funding information.



## 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 Notice of Funding Opportunity at [www.ojp.gov/funding/docs/bja-2025-172460.pdf](https://www.ojp.gov/funding/docs/bja-2025-172460.pdf).
- Visit the **BJA Funding Webinars** page at [bja.ojp.gov/events/funding-webinars](https://bja.ojp.gov/events/funding-webinars) for applicant and grantee trainings.
- **Subscribe** for email notifications from BJA about funding opportunities and other news at: [bja.ojp.gov/subscribe-news-bja](https://bja.ojp.gov/subscribe-news-bja).
- To be in the know about funding opportunities across the Office of Justice Programs, sign up to receive **Justice Programs News & Funding** at [www.ojp.gov/news/justice-programs-news-funding](https://www.ojp.gov/news/justice-programs-news-funding) 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 the SF-424 form by October 22, 2025.
2. Then complete the full application in [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](https://JustGrants.usdoj.gov) by October 29, 2025. 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.