

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

Prison Rape Elimination Act Resource Center Solicitation

April 26, 2023

This webinar will begin shortly



BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

Presenters

Tom Talbot

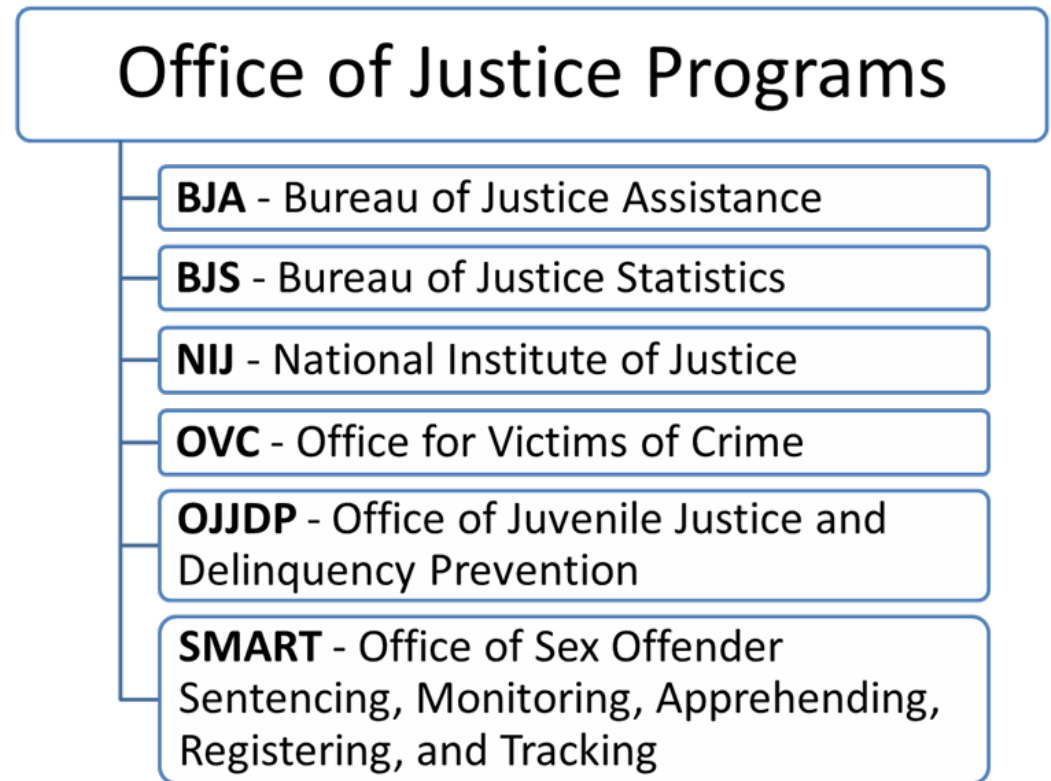
BJA Senior Policy Advisor

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BJA Policy Advisor

What is the Office of Justice Programs?

- The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) provides grant funding, training, research, and statistics to the criminal justice community.
- OJP is one of three grant-making components of the Department of Justice along with the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).



U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance

Mission: BJA's mission is to provide leadership and services in grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support state, local, and Tribal justice strategies to achieve safer communities. BJA works with communities, governments, and nonprofit organizations to reduce crime, recidivism, and unnecessary confinement, and promote a safe and fair criminal justice system.

BJA

Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

<https://bjaojp.gov>





**BJA Director
Karhlton F. Moore**

Appointed by President Biden in February 2022, Director Moore leads BJA’s programmatic and policy efforts on providing a wide range of resources, including training and technical assistance, to law enforcement, courts, corrections, treatment, reentry, justice information sharing, and community-based partners to address chronic and emerging criminal justice challenges nationwide.

Policy Office

provides national leadership to criminal justice organizations that partner with BJA to identify effective program models for replication and infuse data-driven, evidence-based strategies into operational models, practices, and programs.

Programs Office

administers state, local, tribal, and territorial grant programs. It acts as BJA’s direct line of communication to states, local jurisdictions, territories, and tribal governments by providing customer-focused grants management support and careful stewardship over federal funds.

Operations Office

coordinates all communication, formulates and executes the budget, manages contracts, measures grantees’ performance, and provides administrative support to BJA.

Public Safety Officer Benefits Office

provides death and education benefits to survivors of fallen law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other public safety officers, and disability benefits to officers catastrophically injured in the line of duty.

Five Major Strategic Focus Areas

Improve public safety through measures which build trust with the community and ensure an effective criminal justice system

Reduction in recidivism and prevention of unnecessary confinement and interactions with the criminal justice system

Integration of evidence-based, research-driven strategies into the day-to-day operations of BJA and the programs BJA administers and supports

Increasing program effectiveness with a renewed emphasis on data analysis, information sharing, and performance management

Ensuring organizational excellence through outstanding administration and oversight of all of BJA's strategic investments

Fund – Invest diverse funding streams to accomplish goals.

Educate – Research, develop, and deliver what works.

Equip – Create tools and products to build capacity and improve outcomes.

Partner – Consult, connect, and convene.

Prison Rape Elimination Act Resource Center

- BJA seeks to fund the continuation of the PREA Resource Center (PRC) to ensure continued progress toward meaningful implementation of the PREA standards in the nation's confinement facilities and to strengthen the commitment of staff members in these facilities and the agencies that oversee them to eliminate sexual abuse and sexual harassment of persons who are confined.
- This solicitation prioritizes efforts to create and enhance cultures in confinement facilities and agencies that do not tolerate sexual victimization.



Eligibility

- For profit organizations other than small businesses
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education
- Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education

Solicitation Objectives

The PRC solicitation objectives focuses on four priority areas:

- PREA training & PREA technical assistance
- Clearinghouse for PREA information and resources
- Strategic outreach to and communication with PREA stakeholders
- Implementing and enhancing zero tolerance cultures in confinement facilities and agencies

PREA Training & Technical Assistance Goals

- Develop and deliver targeted, high-quality training to the stakeholders who are responsible for promoting sexual safety and achieving and maintaining compliance with the PREA standards in confinement facilities/agencies across the nation.
- Provide cost-effective, targeted TA to state, local, and tribal agencies across the nation that promotes sexual safety in confinement facilities and supports efforts to achieve and maintain compliance with the PREA standards.
- Provide field-initiated TA to requesting confinement facilities, agencies, and individual PREA implementation stakeholders responsible for carrying out the requirements under the PREA standards.
- Provide intensive TA to confinement facilities/agencies facing complex, longstanding PREA implementation challenges that require onsite/face-to-face support and a substantial investment of time and resources.

PREA Training & Technical Assistance Key Deliverables*

- Finalize, in the first 2 months of the project period, a comprehensive PREA Training Plan to be approved by BJA that will guide the delivery of PREA training throughout the project period. Applicants must propose an initial PREA Training Plan that:
 - *Focuses specifically on topics that reflect the greatest needs of PREA implementation stakeholders across the country.*
 - *Defines the methods (i.e., online/virtual, an in-person/classroom) to be used to deliver PREA training on these topics.*
 - *Identifies subject matter experts and faculty members to develop and/or deliver the training. Sequences the delivery of PREA training strategically throughout the project period.*
 - *Maximizes the funding available under this cooperative agreement to conduct targeted, high quality PREA training.*
- Assign, in consultation with BJA, an expert coach to each BJA PREA grantee to assess and identify the grantee's TA needs and guide the grantee's PREA implementation work throughout the grant program.
- Communicate, in collaboration with BJA, with all states and territories currently in receipt of PREA reallocation awards under BJA's Byrne JAG Program about the sunset of the PREA assurance option and the implications of this sunset for Governors on December 16, 2024.
- Develop a comprehensive process to market the availability of field-initiated TA, and to receive, review, and triage requests for this assistance from the field at large on an ongoing basis.

Clearinghouse for PREA Information and Resources

Goal & Deliverables

Clearinghouse for PREA Information Goal:

- Serve as a comprehensive national clearinghouse for current, user-friendly PREA resources and information.

Clearinghouse for PREA Information Deliverables:

- Work with BJA to host, maintain, and update, as needed, the PRC website.
- Communicate on a regular, consistent basis with thousands of stakeholders involved in PREA implementation efforts across the country via newsletters, emails and e-blasts, special announcements, and other methods to keep them apprised of new PREA developments, emerging and promising practices related to PREA implementation, and available PREA resources.
- Develop, expand, and enhance the communities of practice (e.g., PREA coordinators, stakeholders who advocate on behalf of survivors of sexual victimization and on behalf of persons who are incarcerated and their family members, etc.) that the PRC supports.
- *Applicants must propose specific communities of practice that will be a focus of the work under this solicitation; describe how these communities will be developed, expanded, and/or enhanced; and explain how these communities will support PREA implementation efforts across the country.*

Clearinghouse for PREA Information and Resources

Goal & Deliverables (cont.)

Clearinghouse for PREA Information Deliverables:

- Compose memoranda detailing first impression questions from the field at large related to the meaning of specific PREA standards for consideration by the DOJ PREA Working Group and post answers to these questions on the FAQs page of the PRC website.
- Work with BJA to update/revise, as needed, FAQs that were previously released. Use the PRC website to communicate with the field at large about the other work that is required under this solicitation (e.g., PREA training, TA, etc.).

Strategic Outreach and Communication with PREA stakeholders Goals & Deliverables

Outreach and Communication Goal:

- Enhance and inform the efforts of BJA and the PRC to identify and address the PREA implementation needs and challenges of the field at large.

Outreach and Communication Deliverables:

- Develop and implement, in collaboration with BJA, strategies to successfully identify and engage PREA implementation stakeholders whose confinement facilities/agencies have not submitted an application for funding under BJA's PREA site-based grant program or requested assistance from the PRC. Use various methods (e.g., focus groups, surveys, etc.) to collect information from these stakeholders regarding their PREA implementation needs and challenges.
- Identify ways (e.g., PREA training, TA, etc.) that can be used to assist these stakeholders.
- Provide guidance to BJA on how to enhance and improve communication with other key PREA implementation stakeholders, including, but not limited to: Individuals who advocate on behalf of survivors of sexual abuse, persons who are confined, and their family members. Leaders and members of organizations such as the American Correctional Association, Correctional Leaders Association, Council of Juvenile Justice Administrators, American Jail Association, National Sheriffs' Association, American Probation and Parole Association, International Community Corrections Association, and others.
- Applicants are encouraged to identify all relevant organizations, including those that operate on a regional or state level, and to propose strategies to initiate and/or enhance and improve communication with them in ways that position and equip BJA and the PRC to address the PREA implementation needs and challenges of the field at large.
- Conduct outreach to impacted individuals (i.e., persons who are currently, or were previously, confined and their family members) and provide opportunities for them to provide input and guidance on—and to be involved in—the PREA work of PRC and BJA.
- Assist BJA's ongoing efforts to identify and communicate with procurement officials at the state and local/county levels across the country to educate them about the requirements related to the PREA audit function.

Implementing and Enhancing Zero Tolerance Cultures in Confinement Facilities and Agencies Goals & Deliverables

Zero Tolerance Goal:

- Promote and support the implementation and enhancement of cultures in confinement facilities/agencies across the country that do not tolerate the sexual abuse and sexual harassment of persons who are confined.

Zero Tolerance Deliverables:

- Finalize, for review by BJA, a draft culture assessment/inventory that integrates the perspectives of and input from persons who are confined (and/or were previously confined), confinement facility, agency staff members, PRC staff members, and PRC partners. This tool must identify targets for change related to implementing and enhancing a zero-tolerance culture.
- Pilot test the final draft culture assessment/inventory process in two to four local and state confinement facilities/agencies. *Applicants must describe how their identified project partners will be involved in the proposed pilot test and define a process to select confinement facilities/agencies to be involved in it.*
- Integrate lessons and learnings from the pilot test into the culture assessment/inventory and finalize it for review and approval by BJA.
- Use the finalized culture assessment/inventory to promote culture change in additional local and/or state confinement facilities/agencies.

Things to Keep in Mind – Application

Supporting the PREA Audit Function to be Awarded via a Separate BJA Contract in FY 2023

BJA will compete all of the activities related to the management and expansion of the PREA audit function via a contract in FY 2023. As a result, applications submitted under this solicitation should not include the following tasks related to PREA auditing activities:

- *Training, certifying, and recertifying PREA auditors.*
- *Supporting the PREA Audit Oversight Program and related efforts to enhance the quality and integrity of audits, including making needed updates to the PREA Auditor Handbook.*
- *Administering the PREA Online Audit System.*
- *Managing the use of and enhancing the PREA Audit Instrument.*
- *Administering the PREA Audit Assignment System.*
- *Running the process established by BJA to assist the nation's Governors in annually submitting the PREA certifications, PREA assurances, and related information and data to DOJ.*

Collaborating with Key Partners

BJA understands that applicants may not possess all of the substantive expertise and knowledge necessary to carry out the significant work required under this solicitation, and BJA prioritizes collaboration on the PREA implementation efforts it supports. Therefore, BJA is **requiring** applicants to identify and propose partners (both organizations and individuals) who can lead, be involved in, and support the range of approaches and strategies they propose. Applicants must explain how these partners will be involved in the work they define and identify the specific areas of expertise they will bring to the PRC.

Things to Keep in Mind – Application (cont.)

Supporting PREA Implementation Efforts in Juvenile Confinement Facilities/Agencies and Tribal Confinement Facilities/Agencies

- The BJS study referenced in the solicitation reinforces the importance of continuing to support PREA implementation efforts in juvenile confinement facilities/agencies. Applicants must propose strategies to support PREA implementation in these facilities/agencies.
- In addition, addressing the unique PREA implementation challenges in tribal confinement facilities/agencies and agencies who have not yet received a PREA audit remains a priority for BJA. Applicants must also demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the unique challenges that exist in such facilities/agencies and discuss how they will address them.
- Applicants must define strategies they will use to develop and deliver tailored assistance, support, and information that reflects the diverse, specialized PREA implementation challenges and considerations in these unique facilities/agencies.

Addressing the Inter-Relatedness of the Different Types of Work Required under this Solicitation

- BJA appreciates that the work (e.g., PREA training, TA, etc.) required under this solicitation is related. For example, an agency that requests TA on investigating sexual abuse might benefit from an existing training on this topic. Or, a PREA coordinator who requests guidance developing a staffing plan that is consistent with the PREA standards may be able to use examples of such plans available in the clearinghouse of information and resources on the PRC website. Applicants must discuss the connections between the types of work they propose and explain how these connections will be used to maximize the effectiveness of their efforts.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Are the competitive programs under this solicitation meant for entities to apply to receive training and/or technical assistance?

A: No. Applicants under this solicitation must be proposing to develop and deliver training and/or technical assistance to the field.

Q: What should be included in my application?

A: Please review the “Application and Submission Information” section of the solicitation. Among what is needed: Abstract, Narrative, Budget Worksheet, Budget Narrative, Training Delivery Chart, Timeline, Resumes, etc.

Frequently Asked Questions (cont.)

Q: Can my organization propose to partner with other entities?

A: Yes. Partnering with other entities is required, but only one entity may submit the application and assume fiscal/management responsibilities. Applicants must identify partner organizations.

BJA FY 2023 Resources Available for Grant Applicants

Application Assistance

Grants.gov

- Provides technical assistance with submitting the SF-424 and SF-LLL.
 - **Customer Support Hotline** – 800-518-4726 or 606-545-5035
 - Operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.
 - **Email**
 - <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html>
 - support@grants.gov
- Provides information on available federal funding opportunities for various federal agencies.

Application Assistance (cont.)

JustGrants Technical Support

- Provides technical assistance with submitting the full application in DOJ's Justice Grants System (JustGrants).
 - **Customer Support Hotline – 833-872-5175**
 - Monday – Friday between 5:00 AM and 9:00 PM ET
 - Saturday, Sunday, and Federal holidays from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM ET
 - **Email**
 - <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/user-support>
 - JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov

Application Assistance and Support (cont.)

OJP Response Center

- Provides solicitation support and general assistance.
- email - grants@ncjrs.gov
- web chat - <https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp>
- toll free at 800–851–3420;
- TTY at 301–240–6310 (hearing impaired only)

The Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Subscribe

- Subscribe to receive email notifications of new funding opportunities and other resources.
 - Sign-up to receive the twice monthly **JUSTINFO** newsletter as well as the weekly **Funding News** email.
 - Subscribe at <https://www.ojp.gov/subscribe> and be sure to select “Grants/funding” as an area of interest.

Reminder: Dual Deadlines

Applications will be submitted in a two-step process, each with its own deadline:

- Step 1: Submit an SF-424 and an SF-LLL at [Grants.gov](https://www.Grants.gov)
 - **Deadline – June 5, 2023; 8:59pm ET**
- Step 2: Submit the full application, with attachments, at [JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov](https://www.JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov)
 - **Deadline – June 12, 2023; 8:59pm ET**

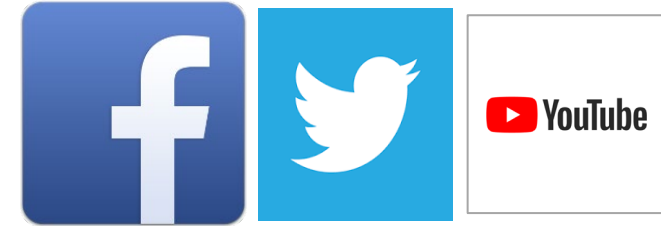
****NOTE: Submission deadline times for both Grants.gov and JustGrants are now 8:59pm ET, not 11:59pm ET as in past years.***

Read the solicitations carefully for further guidance.

Resources for FY 2023 Grant Applicants

- OJP Funding Resource Center
<https://ojp.gov/funding/index.htm>
- DOJ Grants Financial Guide
<https://ojp.gov/financilaguidedojo/overview>
- DOJ Grants Financial Management Online Training
<https://www.ojp.gov/training/financial-management-training>
- OJP Grant Application Resource Guide
<https://ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/Grant-App-Resource-Guide.htm>

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*Message and data rates may apply.

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- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DOJBJA>
- YouTube: www.youtube.com/dojbja

For information on funding opportunities, publications, and initiatives, visit **BJA's website** – <https://bjj.ojp.gov>

Quick Reference: Important Contacts



Technical Assistance Submitting the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL**
into Grants.Gov: 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035
support@grants.gov



Technical Assistance Submitting the **FULL APPLICATION**
into JustGrants: 833-872-5175
JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov



Technical Assistance with Programmatic Requirements
contact the OJP Response Center: 800-851-3420
grants@ncjrs.gov

Questions?

Enter in the Q&A box and send to All Panelists