

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

FY25 Investigating and Prosecuting Sexual Assaults in Confinement Facilities Program Notice of Funding Opportunity

March 27, 2026



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Presenter

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Agenda

- OJP Overview
- Program Overview
- NOFO Information
- OJP Funding Process Overview
- Application Resources
- Q&A



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OJP Overview

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)**.

BJA Bureau of Justice Assistance



BJS Bureau of Justice Statistics



NIJ National Institute of Justice



OVC Office for Victims of Crime



OJJDP Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention



SMART Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking



Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Assistance

BJA strengthens the Nation's criminal justice system and helps America's state, local, and tribal jurisdictions reduce and prevent crime, reduce recidivism, and promote a fair and safe criminal justice system.



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<https://bja.ojp.gov/>

Tammie M. Gregg
Acting Director

How BJA Supports the Field



Investments

Provide funding to accomplish goals.



Sharing Knowledge

Research, develop, and deliver what works to build capacity and improve outcomes.



Engagement

Connect with the field.





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Program Overview

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

PREA was signed into law in 2003 to make the prevention of, and response to, sexual assault a priority in confinement facilities across the nation.



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PREA Standards

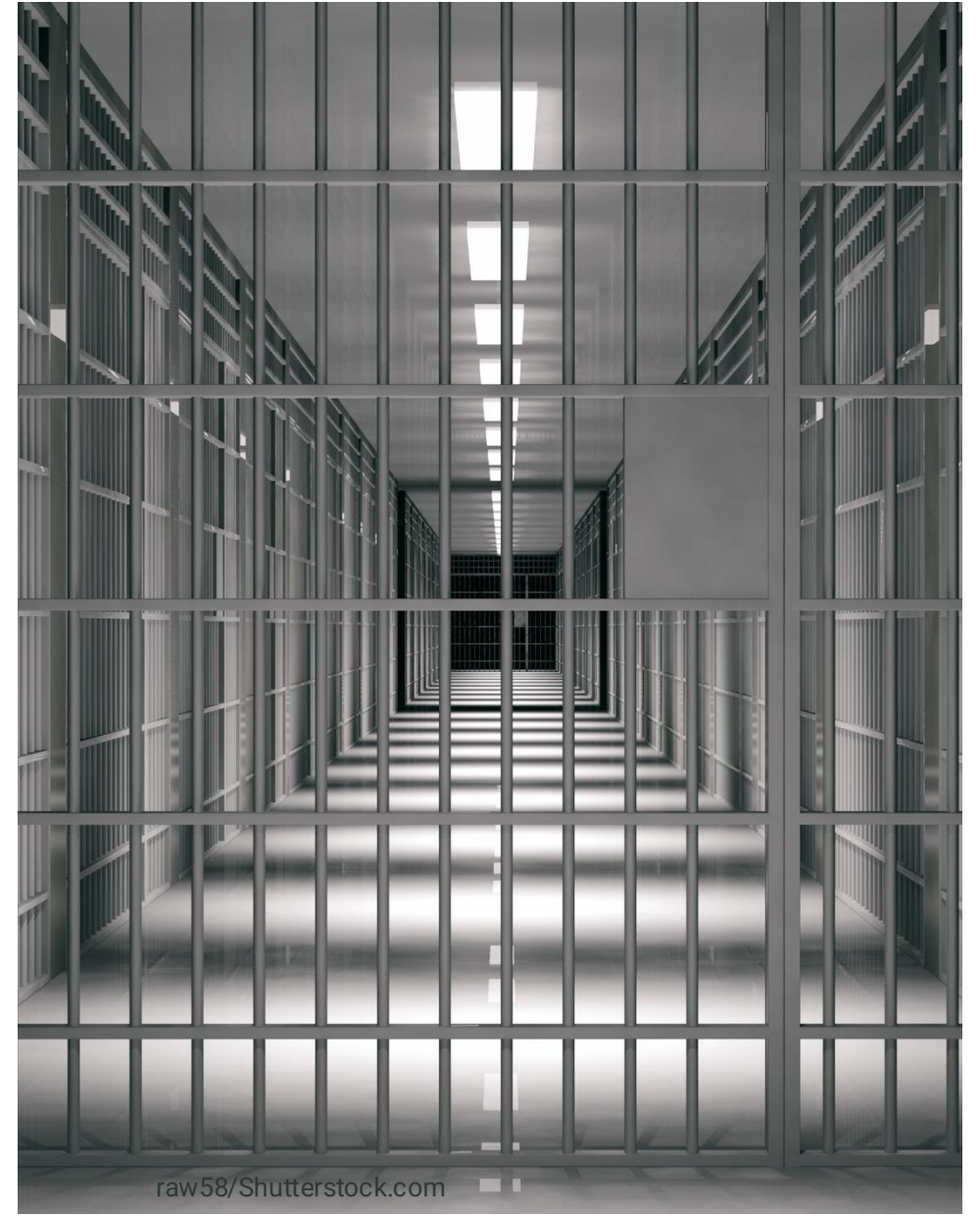
The PREA Standards provide guidance and mandatory minimum requirements for confinement facilities with the goals of preventing sexual abuse in confinement and having trained professionals and established protocols in place to respond to reports of sexual abuse in confinement.

Reducing the incidence of sexual abuse also necessitates collaboration between correctional institutions, agencies, and prosecutors to conduct thorough investigations that result in successful prosecutions.



Goal

Enhance prosecutorial and investigative operations and capacity for the processing and disposition of sexual assault cases in confinement settings.



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Objectives

Increase number of sexual assault incidents that are investigated and referred for potential prosecution.

Increase rate of successful prosecutions of cases involving sexual assault in confinement facilities.

Improve collaboration and operations among state agencies, correctional institutions, law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies investigating instances of sexual assault in confinement facilities.



Permissible Uses of Funding



Establishing or enhancing prosecution units for sexual assault.



Supporting evidence collection, retention, and victim/witness interviewing.



Acquiring resources or equipment to support sexual assault investigations.



Establishing or supporting existing coordinated interagency responses, such as multidisciplinary sexual assault response teams (SARTs) in confinement facilities.



Educating and training law enforcement, prosecutors' offices, and their partners in responding to, investigating, and prosecuting cases involving sexual assault in confinement settings.



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NOFO Information



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Eligibility

- State governments
- County governments
- City or township governments
- Native American Tribal governments (federally recognized)
- Native American Tribal governments (other than federally recognized)
- Other units of local government
- State and local prosecuting agencies
- Publicly-funded law enforcement agencies



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Federal Award Information

Anticipated amount of funding

- \$6,118,302

Anticipated number of awards to be funded

- Up to 4 awards

Period of performance start date

- June 1, 2026

Period of performance duration

- 36 months

Anticipated maximum dollar amount per award

- Up to \$2,000,000



Agency Funding Priorities

- (a) Directly supporting law enforcement operations (including immigration law enforcement operations)
- (b) Combatting violent crime
- (c) Supporting services to American citizens
- (d) Protecting American children
- (e) Supporting American victims of trafficking and sexual assault



Unallowable Uses of Funds

NOFO

Unallowable Uses of Funds

The following are certain unallowable costs and certain activities that are out of the program scope and will not be funded.

1. Out of program scope is any program or activity, at any tier that, directly or indirectly, violates (or promotes or facilitates the violation of) federal immigration law (including 8 U.S.C. § 1373) or impedes or hinders the enforcement of federal immigration law—including by failing to comply with 8 U.S.C. § 1373, give access to DHS agents, or honor DHS requests and provide requested notice to DHS agents.
2. Out of program scope is any program or activity, at any tier that violates any applicable Federal civil rights or nondiscrimination law. This includes violations that— (1) indirectly violate the law, including by promoting or facilitating violations; or (2) unlawfully favor individuals in any race or protected group, including on a majority or minority, or privileged or unprivileged, basis, within a given area, population, or sector.
3. As specified in the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#), in Chapter 3.13 “Unallowable Costs” (“Legal Services for Aliens”), any obligations of funds, at any tier, under this award to provide (or to support the provision of) legal services to any removable alien or any alien otherwise unlawfully present in the United States shall be unallowable costs for purposes any award made under this notice, but the foregoing shall not be understood to apply— (1) to legal services to obtain protection orders for victims of crime; or (2) to immigration-related legal services that may be expressly authorized or required by any law, or any judicial ruling, governing or applicable to the award.

DOJ Grants Financial Guide

Legal Services for Aliens

Except as indicated in the following sentence, costs of providing legal services (that is, professional services of the kind lawfully provided only by individuals licensed to practice law) to any removable alien (see 8 U.S.C. § 1229a(e)(2)) or any alien otherwise unlawfully present in the United States are disallowed and may not be charged against the award.

Costs for legal services disallowed under the preceding sentence do not include costs for legal services— (1) to obtain protection orders for victims of crime (including associated or related orders (e.g., custody orders), arising from the victimization); (2) that are associated with or relate to actions under 18 U.S.C. ch. 77 (peonage, slavery, and trafficking in persons); (3) to obtain T-visas, U-visas, or “continued presence” immigration status (see, e.g., 8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)(15)(T) & (U); 22 U.S.C. § 7105(c)(3)(A)); or (4) as to which such disallowance would contravene any express requirement of any law, or of any judicial ruling, governing or applicable to the award.

<https://www.ojp.gov/funding/financialguidedoj>



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Deliverables

- Quarterly financial reports
- Semi-annual performance reports
- Final financial and performance reports



Important Application Attachments



Provide **resumes of key personnel** proposed or a description of the experience and skills of key personnel



Upload the **Tribal Authorizing Resolution** documentation as an attachment in JustGrants, if applicable



Provide a 36-month **timeline** of key activities and milestones



Letters of Support and Memorandum of Understanding, if applicable



Application Review Process

- Must be submitted by an **eligible type of applicant**.
- Must request funding within programmatic funding constraints
- Must be **responsive to the scope** of the NOFO.
- Must include all items necessary to meet the **basic minimum requirements**.



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Merit Review Criteria

- Statement of the Problem/Description of the Issue (15%)
- Project Goals and Objectives (5%)
- Project Design and Implementation (45%)
- Capabilities and Competencies (20%)
- Budget (15%)



Application Checklist



APPLICATION CHECKLIST

BJA FY25 Investigating and Prosecuting Sexual Assaults in Confinement Facilities Program

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. For more information, reference the [“OJP Application Submission Steps”](#) in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) and the [DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#).

SAM.gov Registration/Renewal

- Confirm that your entity’s registration in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) is active through the NOFO period. Submit a new or renewal registration in SAM.gov, if needed (see [Application Resource Guide](#)).

Grants.gov Registration

- Acquire an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and a Grants.gov username and password (see [Application Resource Guide](#)).
- Acquire AOR confirmation from the E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) (see [Application Resource Guide](#)).

Grants.gov Opportunity Search

- Search for the funding opportunity in Grants.gov using the opportunity number, assistance listing number, or keyword(s).
- Select the correct Competition ID.
- Access the funding opportunity and application package (see Step 7 under [“OJP Application Submission Steps”](#) in the [Application Resource Guide](#)).
- Sign up for Grants.gov email notifications (optional) (see [Application Resource Guide](#)).

Funding Opportunity Review and Project Planning

- Review all sections of the NOFO.
- Confirm your entity is eligible to receive funding (see [Eligibility: Eligible Applicants](#)).
- Confirm your proposed budget is within the allowable limits (see [Basic Information: Funding Details](#)), includes only allowable costs (see [Application Contents, Submission Requirements, and Deadlines: Budget Detail Form](#)), and includes cost sharing if applicable (see [Eligibility: Cost Sharing/Match Requirement](#)).
- Review the performance measures for this funding opportunity and confirm you will be prepared to collect and report on this data (see [Program Description: Performance Measures](#)).
- Review the [“Legal Overview—FY 2025 Awards”](#) in the [OJP Funding Resource Center](#) and confirm you are prepared to follow the requirements.
- Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting under [“Listing of Costs Requiring Prior Approval”](#) in the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#) or see the [Application Resource Guide](#).





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OJP Funding Process Overview

Before You Apply For Funding

SAM.gov Registration – recommend beginning at least 30 days before the first application deadline

- Register/confirm “active” registration status
 - First-time registration – may take several weeks
 - Existing registration – annual renewal required
- Obtain/confirm **Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)**
- Identify current SAM.gov points of contact



Apply For OJP Funding: Overview

Step 1: Grants.gov – complete *at least* 48 hours before deadline in NOFO

- Register/confirm registration
- Submit Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

Step 2: JustGrants – complete *at least* 48 hours before deadline in NOFO

- Register/confirm access
- Submit full application, including required attachments



Apply For OJP Funding: Step 1

Step 1: Grants.gov

- Register/confirm registration
- Add/confirm users and their roles
- Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

You can complete the first two actions at any time. Check the [Grants.gov Quick Start Guide](#) for more tips.



Apply For OJP Funding: Step 2

Step 2: JustGrants

Complete the full application in JustGrants

- Standard Applicant Information
- Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Narrative
- Budget and Associated Documentation
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Other Supportive Documents
- Additional Application Components
- Disclosures and Assurances



What Happens Next?

After the JustGrants application deadline, OJP starts its review process:

- Basic Minimum Requirements
- Peer Review
- Programmatic and Financial Review
- Risk Review



Award Notices

Visit the OJP Grant Awards public website: ojp.gov/funding/ojpgrantawards

Successful applicants notified by JustGrants:

- Accept or decline award within 45 days
- Follow steps in [DOJ Award Acceptance Checklist](#)





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Application Resources



OJP Grant Application Resource Guide

February 6, 2025

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to assist OJP grant applicants in applying for OJP funding. It complements notices of funding opportunities (NOFOs) by providing more detail about policies, statutes, and regulations that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP funding applicants or to grants and cooperative agreements awarded in fiscal year (FY) 2025. For detailed instructions on using the JustGrants system to submit applications, review the [Application Submission Resources](#). Some OJP NOFOs expressly modify a provision of this guide; in such cases, the applicant should follow the guidelines in the NOFO.

DOJ Grant Application Process Overview [↗](#)

See the [YouTube Terms of Service](#) ¹¹ and [Google Privacy Policy](#) ¹²

DOJ Grant Application Process Overview

Initiate an application

Initiate an application in Grants.gov and submit required documents

Note: Complete and submit the required documents in Grants.gov at least 48–72 hours prior to the Grants.gov deadline.

Watch on YouTube

Want to apply for Department of Justice (DOJ) funding? This video offers a quick look at the systems you'll use to complete your grant application—SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants—and shows you where to find assistance with any step in the grant application process.

<https://grants.gov/applicants/grant-applications/how-to-apply-for-grants>

HOW TO APPLY FOR GRANTS
How to Apply for Grants Getting Started

Step	Check	Book	Ready	Done	Task
1. Register	Check	Book	Ready	Done	Task
2. Create Account	Check	Book	Ready	Done	Task
3. Complete Profile	Check	Book	Ready	Done	Task
4. Review and Submit	Check	Book	Ready	Done	Task

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 - [Funding Opportunity Review and Project Planning](#)
- [How To Apply: Application Contents, Submission Requirements, and Deadlines](#)
 - [Unique Entity Identifier \(UEI\) and SAM.gov Registration/Renewal](#)
 - [First-Time Registration](#)
 - [Renewing an Existing Registration](#)
 - [Applying as an Individual](#)
 - [Applying as a Small Business](#)
 - [Submission Step 1: SF-424 in Grants.gov](#)
 - [First-Time Registration](#)
 - [Renewing an Existing Registration](#)
 - [Guidance for Specific SF-424 Fields](#)
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- [Other Information](#)
 - [Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities](#)
 - [Note on Project Evaluations](#)
 - [Freedom of Information and Privacy Act \(5 U.S.C. § 552 and § 552a\)](#)
 - [Provide Feedback to OJP](#)
 - [OJP Peer Reviewers](#)



JustGrants Resources Website

Share Your Feedback

⚠ SAM.gov Entity Registration and Renewal Requirement

All entities seeking Department of Justice (DOJ) grant funding must have an "active" registration in [SAM.gov](#). **Begin the SAM.gov registration or renewal process 30 days prior to any deadlines** to allow time to complete the full process.

For additional support, visit [SAM.gov Help](#).



Video: DOJ Grant Application Process Overview

Want to apply for Department of Justice (DOJ) funding? This video offers a quick look at the systems you'll use to complete your grant application—SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants—and shows you where to find assistance with any step in the grant application process.

[Watch the Video](#)

See the [YouTube Terms of Service](#) and [Google Privacy Policy](#)

LOGIN



JustGrants Login

Select the access graphic above to log in to the Justice Grants System (JustGrants).

TRAINING



Training

Learn to navigate JustGrants effectively and complete various essential grants management tasks.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



FAQs

Find answers to frequently asked questions regarding the Justice Grants System (JustGrants) and the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP).

USER SUPPORT



User Support

Access self-service, topic-specific, and technical support options for assistance in using the JustGrants System.

RESOURCES



Resources

Links to resource guides, financial and administrative resources for grant management, funding opportunities, and ASAP training and resources.

NEWS & UPDATES



News & Updates

View the latest information and updates on DOJ's grants management and payment management systems and sign up for JusticeGrants Updates emails from the COPS Office, OJP, and OVW.

Application Assistance

Grants.gov

Assistance with submitting the **SF-424**.

- **Customer Support Hotline**
 - 800-518-4726 or 606-545-5035
 - Operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.
- **Web and Email**
 - <https://www.grants.gov/support>
 - support@grants.gov

JustGrants

Assistance with submitting the full application in DOJ's Justice Grants System (JustGrants).

- **Customer Support Hotline**
 - 833-872-5175
 - Monday – Friday between 7am and 9pm ET
 - Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays from 9am – 5pm ET
- **Web and Email**
 - <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/user-support>
 - JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov



OJP Response Center

9am to 5pm ET, Monday - Friday

**Additional
Questions?**



Email: OJP.ResponseCenter@usdoj.gov



Toll free: 800-851-3420



TTY: 202-353-5556
(hearing impaired only)



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- **X:** <https://x.com/DOJBJA>
- **YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/dojbja>
- Use the QR code to subscribe to “**Justice Matters**” and “**News From BJA**” to receive the latest information from BJA and the field.
- For information on funding opportunities, publications, and initiatives, visit **BJA’s website:** www.bja.ojp.gov.
- Subscribe to **Justice Programs News & Funding** <https://www.ojp.gov/news/justice-programs-news-funding>.

