

Questions and Answers Regarding the Competitive Grants to Establish Zero Tolerance of Sexual Abuse in Local Adult and Juvenile Detention Facilities (last updated December 14, 2012)

1. **What is the available pool of funds?** The total funds available will be approximately \$5 million.
2. **Do you know when the awards for the Competitive Grant Announcement to Establish “Zero Tolerance” Cultures for Sexual Abuse in Local Adult and Juvenile Detention Facilities will be announced?** The anticipated award date is no later than March 1, 2013.
3. **Is a state agency eligible to apply for this grant?** State agencies are not eligible for this funding opportunity. Prior year Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) grant solicitations have been open ONLY to state agencies. This solicitation is the opportunity for locally or tribally governed jails, lock-ups, and juvenile detention facilities to obtain direct funding to establish or enhance zero-tolerance cultures of sexual abuse and move toward implementation of the PREA standards. As a consequence, eligibility is limited to local and tribal government agencies.
4. **If we are collaborating with the state agency on the grant application, is the state agency considered an eligible entity or is it only the local agency?** State agencies may be included as collaborative partners in the grant application, but they are not considered eligible entities. Only local and tribal agencies that operate adult or juvenile detention facilities are eligible for this grant.
5. **Are the awards contingent on future funding or are the funds currently allocated and available?** BJA has allocated funding for this grant opportunity, and will make the funds available for the PRC to distribute by the anticipated award date.
6. **Will funds be available beyond this 12-month grant opportunity?** The Bureau of Justice Assistance has allocated funds for this opportunity, and applicants should assume this is a one-time opportunity.
7. **Will the PRC require a Memorandum of Understanding covering all agencies involved in a collaborative approach as a response to the solicitation?** The grant application requires all eligible entities in a collaborative application to provide a letter of commitment. Letters of support from or Memorandum of Understanding that include community partners or other agencies identified in the application may strengthen the application but are not required. As an example, if an adult jail and a juvenile detention facility in the same community want to partner with the local rape crisis center on policy development and training of staff and volunteers, the agency that runs the adult jail and the agency that runs the juvenile detention

facility must provide letters of commitment. A letter of support from the local rape crisis center may strengthen the application, but it is not required.

8. **Regarding sustainability of positions and activities funded through this grant opportunity, what is the requirement once the funds are gone? Will the facility be required to fund any positions obtained via the grant?** Applications that include clear plans for sustainability of staffing and activities after the award expires will be given priority consideration, as stated on page five of the grant announcement; however there is no "requirement" that positions obtained via grant funds be maintained.
9. **Could the funding be used for construction cost of new jail cells or major renovations of existing facilities?** These funds may not be used for construction costs, or renovations costs.
10. **Could grant funds be used for PREA auditor fees?** No.
11. **Are matching funds required?** No matching funds are required.
12. **What qualifies as a "jail" or "confinement facility" for the purpose of this solicitation? Our organization has a "jail" which is officially named the "Temporary Holding Facility" as individuals are held there pending transport to a longer term facility.** This grant opportunity is for adult jails, lock-up and community confinement facilities, and juvenile detention facilities as they are defined in the Prison Rape Elimination Act standards. Facilities of any size that are looking to establish or enhance a culture of zero tolerance for sexual abuse are welcome to apply. *Jail* means a confinement facility of a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency whose primary use is to hold persons pending adjudication of criminal charges, persons committed to confinement after adjudication of criminal charges for sentences of one year or less, or persons adjudicated guilty who are awaiting transfer to a correctional facility. *Lockup* means a facility that contains holding cells, cell blocks, or other secure enclosures that are: (1) Under the control of a law enforcement, court, or custodial officer; and (2) Primarily used for the temporary confinement of individuals who have recently been arrested, detained, or are being transferred to or from a court, jail, prison, or other agency.
13. **The Police Department has an adult detention center as part of its main facility. It is run by judicial marshals who are employees of the State Judicial Branch. The Police Department provides a booking officer. Since the eligibility for this funding is limited to the city, would it be possible for the Police Department to be the lead agency in a partnership with the State Judicial Branch to develop an application for the city's detention center?** Yes, the Police Department is eligible to apply for these funds and the application certainly could include a partnership with the State Judicial Branch.
14. **Would a local residential correctional facility operated by a community corrections agency be considered eligible to apply under this grant?** Yes, the local community correction agencies that run local residential correctional facilities are eligible for these grants funds.
15. **We are a nonprofit agency with funding from the state department of corrections. We operate several licensed community-based residential facilities—community correction**

halfway houses for adult offenders. Are we eligible to apply for this grant? Only local and tribal government agencies are eligible to apply for this grant. If you have an agreement or contract with a local or tribal government agency to operate community correction facilities, the local or tribal government agency may apply on your behalf or in a collaborative application with your agency. However, your agency cannot independently apply for these funds, nor can the state corrections agency.

16. **If a facility is commission based and the commission crosses multiple localities, would the facility apply for this grant or would one of the localities be the eligible entity?** One of the localities (city or county) would be the lead applicant for the grant.
17. **If the PREA standards define “jail” as a facility with the primary function of holding individuals for one year or less; would a locally operated jail that holds inmates for two years up to five years be eligible?** Yes, as long as the facility is locally managed and operated, the local government agency operating the agency is eligible for this grant opportunity.
18. **If two agencies apply together and request \$200,000, does the budget have to divide the monies evenly between the two agencies?** The funding and project activities should have equal impact on establishing or enhancing zero tolerance of sexual abuse in both agencies, but the budget does not have to be split equally between the two agencies. As an example, one agency may hire a trainer and receive funds for salary and benefits for that position, but both agencies would benefit from the training activities.
19. **Can an agency that runs more than one facility apply for \$100,000 per facility, or is it per agency?** The government agency is the eligible entity, not the facility. The limit is \$100,000 per agency, regardless of the number or size of facilities operated.
20. **Can an eligible agency submit a stand-alone application and be an eligible entity in a collaborative application?** An entity will be considered an eligible agency in only one application. That agency may be listed as a collaborative partner in a second application, but the second application will not receive any additional grant funds based on the inclusion of the agency that also submitted their own application.
21. **Is there an upper size limit for facilities run by agencies applying for these funds?** There is no upper size limit for facilities operated by local or tribal agencies interested in applying for these funds. Within the grant announcement, there is a note specifically encouraging the participation of agencies that operate smaller facilities because their capacity to respond to grant opportunities can be more limited; but any size agency is welcome and encouraged to apply. All applications will be equally considered.
22. **What is the review process for evaluating the proposals—will it be a BJA peer review or something else?** There will be a streamlined peer review process that will use a standard scoring rubric for all complete applications received in response to the solicitation.
23. **Who will be overseeing the review of the solicitations—will it be the PRC, BJA, or a combination of the two?** PRC will oversee the peer review process; BJA will approve final award decisions.

24. **Is there a tool kit for community confinement or lockups?** Currently, no tool kit specific to PREA implementation for community confinement or lockups is available. Agencies that operate these types of facilities may find the tool kit for adult jails to be a useful resource. While not specific to the PREA standards for community confinement or lockups, a great deal of similarity exists between the PREA standards for these different adult detention settings; the structure for agency self-assessment would be similar as well.
25. **Are applicants required to use the OJP fillable budget template for this grant application, or can we use an Excel worksheet in the same format?** A budget Excel spreadsheet in the same format as the OJP fillable budget template is acceptable.
26. **In completing the budget worksheet for the grant, where should costs associated with training personnel be reflected?** Applicants need to break down costs based on the budget categories in the identified template. All costs should be included in a budget category based on the type of cost (personnel, travel, contractual). Training costs may fall into any of these categories: personnel costs if a staff position is dedicated full or part time to providing training, consultant costs if someone outside the agency is paid to provide the training, or travel costs if staff and/or a trainer need to travel to the training site.
27. **Can funds be used to supplement staff salaries?** Grant applications may include employees' salaries and benefits proportional to the time employees will dedicate to activities that establish or enhance zero-tolerance cultures of sexual abuse. Examples of this include, but are not limited to, establishing a PREA coordinator position, supporting trainer positions for the time they will develop and become competent at providing PREA-related training, and providing PREA-related training to staff and volunteers. However, costs such as employee overtime to allow direct line employees to attend training or to meet supervision ratios will not be considered competitive.
28. **Can grant funds be used for televisions and monitors that will be used to show videos and for other inmate training activities?** No, this is considered equipment and is not allowed.
29. **Can grant funds be used for the printing of posters or other educational materials for inmates?** Yes, this is an allowable use of funds.
30. **Can grant funds be used for production of videos that would be used for inmate education and orientation?** Yes. It should be noted that videos of these type have already been developed for a number of PREA topics. Production of videos that duplicate this work may not be as competitive as other uses of these funds.

Additional questions or clarifications may be submitted via email to Deirdre O'Connor at doconnor@nccdglobal.org.