

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

***IMPLEMENTING THE PREA STANDARDS,
PROTECTING INMATES, AND
SAFEGUARDING COMMUNITIES***

FY 2021 Competitive Grant Announcement Webinar

February 17, 2021



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



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Program Associate

National PREA Resource Center

National PREA Resource Center Mission

- The mission of the PRC is to assist adult prisons and jails, juvenile facilities, lockups, community corrections, and tribal facilities in their efforts to eliminate sexual abuse by increasing their capacity for prevention, detection, monitoring, responses to incidents, and services to victims and their families.

Logistics

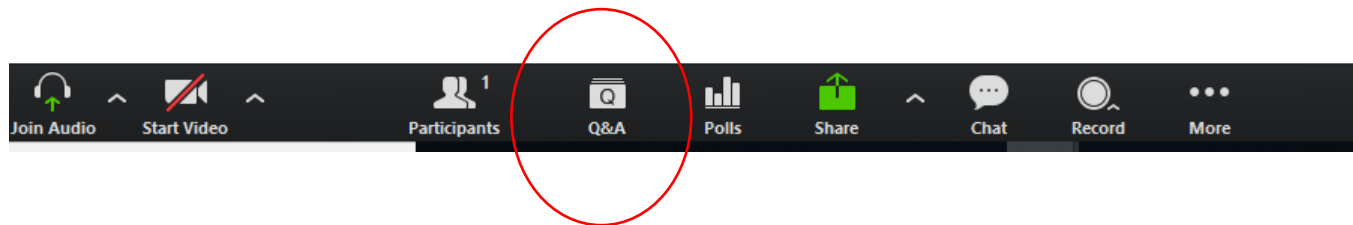
Technical Support

- Please contact the ZoomPro Webinar support line at (888-799-9666)—select “2” when prompted to get support with technical difficulties.
- When asked please provide the Webinar ID (994-9830-3426) so they know which event is associated with your technical issues.
- If you have trouble using this function, please contact Zack Ali at: zali@impactjustice.org.

Logistics

Submitting questions

- To submit a question during the webinar, use the Q&A feature on your webinar toolbar, as seen below.
- Presenters will address the questions at the end of the presentation.



COVID-19 disclaimer

This webinar is designed to provide guidance related to the FY 2021 BJA Competitive Grant Announcement Opportunity and will not specifically address concerns or answer questions related to COVID-19.

The PREA Resource Center (PRC) recognizes that coming into compliance or maintaining compliance with this Standard and others during the COVID-19 crisis presents specific challenges that you may not have faced before. If you have questions related to compliance during this crisis, please direct them to the PRC via “Contact Us,” and they will be shared with the PREA Management Office (PMO).

Or you may contact the PMO directly at PREACompliance@usdoj.gov.



Jessa Wilcox

Policy Advisor

PREA Management Office, Bureau of Justice,
Department of Justice

Agenda

1. Solicitation Overview
2. Eligibility
3. Allowable Use of Grant Funds and Required Deliverables
4. Application Requirements and Priority Considerations
5. Federal Award Information
6. Match Requirement: Cash, In-Kind, or Waiver
7. How and When to Apply

SECTION 1

SOLICITATION OVERVIEW

Solicitation Overview

- The PREA Statute directs DOJ to provide grants to jurisdictions nationwide to “protect inmates (particularly from prison rape) and to safeguard communities to which inmates return.” 34 USC § 30305(a).
- To fulfill this statutory obligation, BJA provides grant funding to:
 - Support efforts in state, local, and tribal jurisdictions to prevent, detect, and respond to sexual abuse in confinement facilities covered by the National PREA Standards.
 - Promote comprehensive implementation of the standards.
 - Enhance community safety by decreasing the likelihood that inmates, residents, and detainees are sexually victimized in confinement facilities prior to release.

Solicitation Overview (cont.)

- Objectives from DOJ's PREA standards addressed in this program include:
 - Reducing sexual abuse and sexual harassment in confinement facilities.
 - Increasing staff capacity for preventing sexual abuse in confinement facilities.
 - Promoting integration of the National PREA Standards into the day-to-day operations and cultures of confinement facilities.
 - Identifying and documenting PREA innovations and promising practices to inform and support similar efforts across the nation.
 - Creating cultures of “zero tolerance” for sexual abuse in confinement facilities.

SECTION 2

ELIGIBILITY



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Eligibility

- Eligible applicants are:
 - States
 - Units of local government
 - Federally-recognized Indian tribal governments, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior
- BJA strongly encourages all eligible agencies to submit applications, regardless of how much progress they have made in addressing sexual abuse and sexual harassment in confinement facilities, and in implementing the National PREA Standards.

SECTION 3

ALLOWABLE USES OF GRANT FUNDS & REQUIRED DELIVERABLES



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Examples of Allowable Uses of Funds

- Designation of staff positions responsible for PREA implementation.
- Methods to report sexual abuse when it occurs in confinement facilities.
- Intake, screening, and classification processes designed to identify potential sexual abuse victims and perpetrators, and to make housing, placement, and programming decisions in response.
- Inmate/Detainee/Resident education programs on topics such as available sexual abuse reporting mechanisms and services available to victims.
- Formal partnerships between confinement agencies/facilities and community-based organizations such as rape crisis centers and sexual abuse coalitions, intended to provide services and support to victims.

Examples of Allowable Uses of Funds (cont.)

- Plans to purchase “limited” equipment and/or supplies (using less than 40 percent of the total federal award amount) that are necessary to prevent, detect, or respond to sexual abuse.
- Actions related to conducting PREA audits, such as preparing for audits, carrying out mock or practice audits, selecting and entering into contracts/agreements with DOJ-certified PREA auditors, and covering the costs associated with audits and corrective action plans. All audits funded under this grant program must comply with DOJ’s auditing requirements in the PREA Auditor Handbook.

Coaching Support

- To support the efforts of the selected PREA grantees to achieve the objectives of this program, BJA will assign each grantee a Technical Assistance (TA) coach.
- TA coaches are PREA subject matter experts whose work with the PREA grantees is funded under the BJA Fiscal Year 2019 solicitation, Comprehensive Corrections Training and Technical Assistance.

Coaching Support (cont.)

- TA coaches will:
 - Support the efforts of BJA’s PREA grantees to finalize their PREA implementation plans.
 - Guide the work of the PREA grantees to operationalize their PREA implementation plans, and maintain or achieve compliance with the National PREA Standards.
 - Identify ways for the PREA grantees to utilize existing resources to support their efforts.
 - Match, as needed, the PREA grantees to other subject matter experts who possess the skills and knowledge the grantees need to make PREA implementation progress.

Required Deliverables

1. A comprehensive, individualized PREA implementation plan that will guide the grantee's PREA-related activities.

Implementation plans must be finalized during the first six months of approval of the grant budget and be supported, in close consultation with BJA, by a TA coach.

Required Deliverables (cont.)

- Implementation plans will include:
 - a description of high-priority issues and challenges related to sexual abuse in confinement,
 - a description of how funding will be used to address the priority issues and challenges,
 - a description of how the proposed plan will be managed and monitored to support successful implementation,
 - steps to be taken by the grantee to help ensure that the activities supported by program resources are sustained,
 - continuing support for the project by agency leadership, and
 - letters of commitment from external organizations that are expected to participate in the project.

Required Deliverables (cont.)

2. A sustainability plan, developed with guidance provided by the designated TA coach, which ensures that the BJA-funded PREA strategies and activities continue after the grant period ends.
3. Documentation, developed in conjunction with the TA coach, of innovative and promising work accomplished during the grant period, which will be made publicly available.

SECTION 4

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS & PRIORITY CONSIDERATIONS



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Application Requirements

- See starting on page 11 of the solicitation for all application requirements.
- Applications must include:
 - Program Abstract
 - Program Narrative
 - Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative, and
 - Executive-level letter(s) of commitment from the agency or agencies that are proposed to receive funding.

Priority Considerations

- In Category 1: Units of state government agencies, priority consideration will be given to applications that:
 - state that the governor of the state in which the applicant’s jurisdiction lies was unable to certify to DOJ full compliance with the PREA standards for Audit Year 1 of Cycle 3 (August 20, 2019 – August 19, 2020),
 - describe the specific difficulties that prevented the jurisdiction from coming into full compliance with the PREA standards; and
 - detail how this federal award will be used to address these barriers.

Priority Considerations (cont.)

- For all categories, priority consideration will be given to applications that:
 - address specific findings in BJS reports or other available data that describe the characteristics of sexual abuse in applicant facilities, such as variations in victimization rates among sub-populations of inmates/residents/detainees and contextual circumstances surrounding victimization and the dynamics of sexual abuse.
 - applicants may also focus on confinement facilities that demonstrate high rates of sexual abuse, based on data reported annually to BJS, or other data that suggest past problems with sexual abuse within the facility.

OJP Policy Priority Areas

- Applications that address specific challenges that rural communities face.
- Applications that demonstrate that the individuals who are intended to benefit from the requested grant reside in high poverty areas or persistent-poverty counties.
- Applications that offer enhancements to public safety in economically distressed communities (Qualified Opportunity Zones).

SECTION 5

FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION



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Federal Award Information

- BJA expects to make up to 18 awards of up to \$250,000 each, with an estimated total amount awarded of up to \$4,500,000.
- All awards are for a 30-month period of performance.
- The funding during the initial 6-month period must support planning activities, followed by 24 months of implementation activities.
 - Implementation activities may begin early, subject to approval by BJA of the grantee's PREA implementation plan.

Federal Award Information (cont.)

- Applicants must apply in one of four categories, depending upon their jurisdictional status:
 - Category 1 – Units of state government agencies.
 - Category 2 – Units of county or city local government agencies.
 - Category 3 – Federally recognized Indian tribes and Alaska Native tribes and/or tribal organizations.

SECTION 6

MATCH REQUIREMENT: CASH, IN-KIND, OR WAIVER



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Match Requirement (Cash or In-Kind)

- Federal funds awarded may not cover more than 50 percent of the total costs of the project.
- Example:
 - If federal grants funds are \$250,00 >> total costs of the project \$500,00
 - Grantees are required to provide a 50% match of the total project costs = \$250,000
- Grant recipients may satisfy the match requirement with either cash or in-kind services.

Match Requirement: Waiver

- Request a match waiver with application due to “fiscal hardship
- “Fiscal hardship” may be defined as a reduction in the overall correctional budget, furloughing or reduction in number of correctional staff, or other similar documented actions which have resulted in severe budget reductions.

SECTION 7

HOW AND WHEN TO APPLY



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Dual Deadlines

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

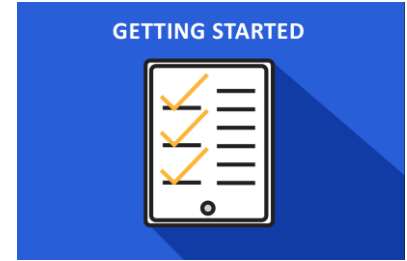
- **April 20, 2021**: Step 1: Applicants submit an SF-424 and an SF-LLL at [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov).
- **May 4, 2021**: Step 2: Applicants submit the full application, including attachments, at JusticeGrants.usdoj.gov.

Read the solicitation document carefully for further guidance.

JustGrants

- Offers a streamlined, end-to-end process, enabling applicants and grantees to move seamlessly through the full grants management life cycle
- Gives applicants and award recipients new ways to manage their own entity information and that of users in the system

Application Submission



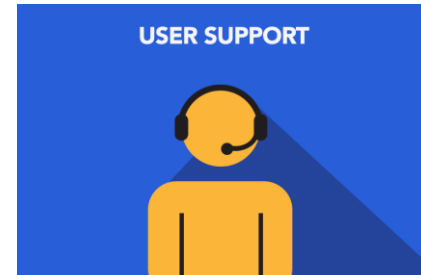
- ✓ Identify the forms needed to submit an application.
- ✓ Complete a web-based budget form.
- ✓ Complete an application, including certifying the information.
- ✓ Submit the application.

JustGrants Support



Register
now!

**Access tutorials and
sign up for training
alerts.**



Learn more about DOJ's
grants management and
financial systems.

<https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov>

JustGrants Support



[Register for an “Application Mechanics: Submitting an Application” Webinar](#)

Webinars in February and March will show applicants how to use JustGrants to apply for funding, including:

- To search and find open DOJ funding opportunities
- The steps/actions that applicants need to take prior to applying for funding (e.g., SAM.gov)
- The JustGrants roles (e.g., Entity Administrator, Application Submitter, etc.) needed to submit an application
- How to navigate and use the system (e.g., save your work, etc.)

Recommended Resources on the Web

- 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>
- National Institute of Justice's CrimeSolutions.gov
<https://www.CrimeSolutions.gov>

Important Contacts



Application Submission Technical Assistance

Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline

1-800-518-4726 | support@grants.gov

Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week



Solicitation Assistance Contact Information

National Criminal Justice Reference Service

Response Center

1-800-851-3420 | grants@ncjrs.gov

Open 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, EST, M-F

PREA solicitation available at:

<https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/O-BJA-2021-41003.pdf>

Good luck!



**Register now for
a JustGrants
Application
Webinar**