



The [U.S. Department of Justice](#), [Office of Justice Programs](#), [Bureau of Justice Assistance](#) is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications for funding under the Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program: National Initiatives. This program furthers the Department's mission by assisting state and local jurisdictions in improving the criminal justice system and assisting communities in preventing drug abuse and crime.

Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program: National Initiatives FY 2008 Grant Announcement

Eligibility

Applicants are limited to national, regional, state, or local public and private entities, including for-profit (commercial) and nonprofit organizations, faith-based and community organizations, institutions of higher education, tribal jurisdictions, and units of local government that support national initiatives to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system.

(See "Eligibility," page 1)

Deadline

All applications are due by 8:00 p.m. e.t. on June 11, 2008

(See "Deadline: Applications," page 1)

Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, contact BJA toll-free at 1-866-859-2687 or e-mail Byrne.Discretionary@usdoj.gov.

This application must be submitted through Grants.gov. For technical assistance with submitting the application, call the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 1-800-518-4726.

Grants.Gov number assigned to announcement: BJA-2008-1866

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Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program: National Initiatives FY 2008 Grant Announcement CDFA #16.751

Overview of the Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program: National Initiatives

Authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008, the Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program (Byrne Competitive Program) helps local communities improve the capacity of local justice systems and provides for national support efforts including training and technical assistance programs strategically targeted to address local needs. Funds can be used for national scope replication, expansion, enhancement, training, and/or technical assistance programs. The FY 2008 Grant Announcement focuses on national initiatives to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system.

Deadline: Registration

Registering with Grants.gov is a one-time process; if you are a first-time registrant, however, it could take up to several weeks to have your registration confirmed and to receive your user password. It is recommended you start the registration process as early as possible to prevent delays in submitting your application package to our agency by the deadline specified. There are three steps that you must complete before you are able to register: 1) register with Central Contractor Registry (CCR), 2) register yourself as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR), and 3) be authorized as an AOR in your organization. For more information, go to www.grants.gov/. **Note: Your CCR registration must be renewed once a year. Failure to renew your CCR registration will prohibit submission of a grant application through Grants.gov.**

Deadline: Applications

The due date for applying for funding under this announcement is 8:00 p.m. e.t. on June 11, 2008.

Eligibility

Applications are solicited from national, regional, state, or local public and private entities, including for-profit (commercial) and nonprofit organizations, faith-based and community organizations, institutions of higher education, tribal jurisdictions, and units of local government that support national initiatives to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system. Preference will be given to statutorily authorized organizations. For-profit organizations must agree to waive any profit or fees for services. Joint applications are permissible, with one agency being the applicant agency.

Faith-Based and Other Community Organizations: Consistent with President George W. Bush's Executive Order 13279, dated December 12, 2002, and 28 C.F.R. Part 38, it is DOJ policy that faith-based and other community organizations that statutorily qualify as eligible applicants under DOJ programs are invited and encouraged to apply for assistance awards to fund eligible grant activities. Faith-based and other community organizations will be considered for awards on the same basis as other eligible applicants and, if they receive assistance awards, will be treated on an equal basis with all other grantees in the administration of such awards. No eligible applicant or grantee will be discriminated for or against on the basis of its religious character or affiliation, religious name, or the religious composition of its board of directors or persons working in the organization.

Faith-based organizations receiving DOJ assistance awards retain their independence and do not lose or have to modify their religious identity (e.g., removing religious symbols) to receive assistance awards. DOJ grant funds, however, may not be used to fund any inherently religious activity, such as prayer or worship. Inherently religious activity is permissible, although it cannot occur during an activity funded with DOJ grant funds; rather, such religious activity must be separate in time or place from the DOJ-funded program. Further, participation in such activity by individuals receiving services must be voluntary. Programs funded by DOJ are not permitted to discriminate in the provision of services on the basis of a beneficiary's religion.

If your organization is a faith-based organization that makes hiring decisions on the basis of religious belief, it may be entitled, under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, 42 U.S.C. § 2000bb, to receive federal funds and yet maintain that hiring practice, even if the law creating the funding program contains a general ban on religious discrimination in employment. For the circumstances under which this may occur, and the certifications that may be required, please go to www.usdoj.gov/fbci/effect-rfra.pdf.

American Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Tribes and/or Tribal Organizations: All tribal applications must be accompanied by a current authorizing resolution of the governing body of the tribal entity or other enactment of the tribal council or comparable government body. If the grant will benefit more than one tribal entity, a current authorizing resolution or other enactment of the tribal council or comparable government body from each tribal entity must be included. If the grant application is being submitted on behalf of a tribal entity, a letter or similar document authorizing the inclusion of the tribal entity named in the application must be included.

Byrne Competitive Program: National Initiatives-Specific Information

All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

The Byrne Competitive Program: National Initiatives, administered by the Office of Justice Programs' (OJP) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), helps improve the capacity of local adult criminal justice systems and provides for national support efforts such as training and technical assistance projects to strategically address needs. The FY 2008 program will focus on funding national efforts within five major categories. National significance refers to the value that may be gleaned or the applicability that may be seen in one project that may assist another project.

Because federal funding may not be available in the future, applicants should avoid using funds for hiring personnel, although use of funds for overtime is allowable. While match is not required under this program, a voluntary match is encouraged. Program sustainability must be

addressed by every applicant under this program. Applicants are strongly encouraged to avoid unsubstantiated requests for equipment purchases.

Award Categories

Applicants may submit their proposal under any one of the following categories. Applicants must clearly indicate on the front page of the program narrative which category they are applying under and which categorical priority(ies) is being addressed. Should a proposal span multiple categories, select one category which best describes the project. Applications must discuss the national significance offered by the program under the chosen category.

CATEGORY I: PREVENTING CRIME AND DRUG ABUSE

Applications are solicited under Category I to prevent crime and drug abuse in the United States. Applications are solicited for crime prevention efforts designed to enhance Neighborhood Watch capacity-building tools; support the replication of promising strategies to prevent crime such as the “High Point Initiative,” and training programs designed to improve safety on school, college, and university campuses. Applications are also solicited for programs designed to identify promising crime prevention strategies and lessons learned, develop crime prevention materials and resources for practitioners; and programs that help build partnerships among law enforcement and community-based organizations. BJA is also soliciting applications for programs to educate the public on prescription drug abuse and assist in engaging parents and others in prevention.

CATEGORY II: ENHANCING LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

Applications are solicited under Category II to improve or enhance the administration and operations of the law enforcement function in local adult criminal justice systems. Applications are solicited for programs that build national capacity to prevent and investigate motor vehicle title fraud and theft (including Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) cloning), programs that address the issue of law enforcement officer suicide prevention through training, multimedia programs that engage communities in the prevention of terrorism, programs that support law enforcement efforts to reduce crime through traffic enforcement using innovative strategies such as intelligence-led policing, programs designed to collaboratively assess and offer recommendations to improve law enforcement gang investigations, programs to support law enforcement task force performance measurement and effectiveness, and programs to identify lessons learned and success stories in BJA’s Targeting Violent Crime Initiative (TVCI) as well as programs to provide training and technical assistance to participating task forces on issues such as task force operations and intelligence-led policing. In addition, BJA is soliciting applications in support of a violent crime corridor initiative to be modeled after the BJA-supported I-95 Corridor initiative, which aims to prevent crime and improve enforcement operations along the I-95 corridor. BJA is considering similar initiatives along various interstate corridors across the U.S. and invites applications to support and coordinate these efforts.

CATEGORY III: ENHANCING LOCAL COURTS

Applicants are solicited under Category III to improve or enhance the administration and operations of the court function in local adult criminal justice systems. Applications are solicited for programs designed to support BJA’s community prosecution and problem-solving initiatives through training and technical assistance, programs to provide training and technical assistance support to criminal courts around the U.S. at BJA’s direction, programs to provide state and local prosecutor training, and programs to improve the information sharing capacity of state and local court systems by adapting BJA’s data models and developing key exchanges needed for court system improvement.

CATEGORY IV: ENHANCING LOCAL CORRECTIONS AND OFFENDER REENTRY

Applicants are solicited under Category IV to improve or enhance the administration and operations of the corrections function and offender reentry initiatives in local adult criminal justice systems. Applications are solicited for programs that address the issue of justice system and mental health needs through training and technical assistance, and programs that improve correctional system access to necessary criminal intelligence and support greater collaboration between law enforcement and correctional system personnel for purposes of reducing crime and managing offender populations. BJA is also soliciting applications for training and technical assistance programs that further BJA's justice reinvestment initiative, a strategic approach to corrections and justice system planning.

CATEGORY V: FACILITATING JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING

Applicants are solicited under Category V to improve or enhance the sharing of information within the criminal justice system. Applications are solicited for programs to continue the technical development of the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM), programs that support the work of the Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative (Global), programs to provide national training and technical assistance on the intelligence-led policing and fusion center concepts and initiatives, programs to improve law enforcement officer access to information consistent with the "one-stop" approach, programs that support local justice system use of BJA's Justice Information Exchange Model (JIEM), and programs that build national connectivity between gang intelligence systems/fusion centers and pointer files in use by both federal and state and local investigators. BJA is also soliciting applications for the development and use of information systems to accelerate the automation of fingerprint identification processes and criminal justice data.

Amount and Length of Awards

Approximately \$15 million is available under the FY 2008 Byrne Competitive Program. The project period for awards under this program is up to 12 months. The project start date should be on or after November 1, 2008.

Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver: No portion of any award of more than \$250,000 made under this solicitation may be used to pay any portion of the total cash compensation (salary plus bonuses) of any employee of the award recipient whose total cash compensation exceeds 110 percent of the maximum annual salary payable to a member of the Federal government's Senior Executive Service (SES) at an agency with a Certified SES Performance Appraisal System for that year. (The salary table for SES employees is available at www.opm.gov.) This prohibition may be waived at the discretion of the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs. An applicant that wishes to request a waiver should include a detailed justification in the budget narrative of the application.

Performance Measures

To assist in fulfilling the Department's responsibilities under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), Pub. L. 103-62, applicants who receive funding under this solicitation must provide data that measures the results of their work. Performance measures for this solicitation are as follows:

Objective	Performance Measures	Data Grantee Provides
To improve the capacity of local justice systems and provide for national support efforts.	Percent increase in program accomplishments as a result of capacity building.	The number of project goals identified in grantee's application. The number of project goals completed cumulatively during the life of the grant.

How To Apply

DOJ is participating in the e-Government initiative, one of 25 initiatives included in the President's Management Agenda. Part of this initiative—Grants.gov—is a “one-stop storefront” that provides a unified process for all customers of federal grants to find funding opportunities and apply for funding.

Grants.gov Instructions: Complete instructions can be found at www.grants.gov. If you experience difficulties at any point during this process, please call the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at **1-800-518-4726**.

Note: Grants.gov does not support the Microsoft Vista Operating system. The PureEdge software used by Grants.gov for forms is not compatible with Vista. Also, Grants.gov cannot yet process Microsoft Word 2007 documents saved in the new default format with the extension ".DOCX." Please ensure the document is saved using "Word 97-2003 Document (*.doc)" format.

Please also note: OJP's Grants Management System (GMS) does not accept executable file types as application attachments. OJP's Grants Management System (GMS) downloads applications from Grants.gov and is the system in which OJP reviews applications and manages awarded grants. These disallowed file types include, but are not limited to, the following extensions: ".com," ".bat," ".exe," ".vbs," ".cfg," ".dat," ".db," ".dbf," ".dll," ".ini," ".log," ".ora," ".sys," and ".zip."

CFDA Number: The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for this solicitation is 16.751, titled “Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program,” and the funding opportunity number is BJA-2008-1866.

A DUNS number is required: The Office of Management and Budget requires that all businesses and nonprofit applicants for federal funds include a DUNS (Data Universal Numeric System) number in their application for a new award or renewal of an award. Applications without a DUNS number are incomplete. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and keeping track of entities receiving federal funds. The identifier is used for tracking purposes and to validate address and point of contact information. The DUNS number will be used throughout the grant life cycle. Obtaining a DUNS number is a free, simple, one-time activity. Obtain one by calling 1-866-705-5711 or by applying online at www.dunandbradstreet.com. Individuals are exempt from this requirement.

What an Application Must Include

Standard Form 424

Program Narrative (Attachment 1)

Program Abstract: Applicants must provide an abstract identifying the applicant's name, title of the project, dollar amount requested, and category for which the applicant is applying (e.g., Category I: Preventing Crime and Drug Abuse). The abstract must include goals of the project, a description of the strategies to be used, a numerical listing of key/major deliverables, and coordination plans. Applicants should use a standard 12-point font (Times New Roman is preferred) with 1-inch margins. The abstract must not exceed ½ page, and does not count against the program narrative's 10-page limit.

Program Narrative: The program narrative must respond to the solicitation and the Selection Criteria (1–3, 5) in the order given. Submissions that do not adhere to the format will be deemed ineligible. The program narrative must be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point font (Times New Roman is preferred) with 1-inch margins, and must not exceed 10 pages. Please number pages "1 of 10," "2 of 10," etc.

Budget and Budget Narrative (Attachment 2)

Applicants must provide a budget that is allowable and reasonable. Applicants must submit a budget worksheet and budget narrative in one file. A fillable budget detail worksheet form is available on OJP's web site at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/forms/budget_detail.pdf. Applicants may submit the budget and budget narrative in a different format but it must contain all categories listed within the fillable budget detail worksheet available at the above web site.

Project Timeline and Position Descriptions (Attachment 3)

Attach a project timeline with each project goal, related objective, activity, expected completion date, and responsible person or organization, and project descriptions for key positions.

Selection Criteria

1. Statement of the Problem (15 percent of 100)

Identify the precise problem to be addressed by the project. Provide specific data where available.

2. Program Design and Implementation (30 percent of 100)

Fully describe how the project will reach the stated goals and objectives by providing a complete description of its design and proposed implementation. Discuss the national significance of the program to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system and to assist victims of crime (other than compensation). Tie program activities to goals, objectives, and the performance measures applicable to the project. Include a comprehensive timeline that identifies milestones, numerically listed deliverables, and who is responsible for each activity (as Attachment 3).

3. Capabilities/Competencies (25 percent of 100)

Fully describe the applicant(s) capabilities to implement the project and the competencies of the staff assigned to the project to oversee it.

4. Budget (10 percent of 100)

Provide a comprehensive budget that is complete, allowable, and justified based on the proposed project (as Attachment 2). Applicants are strongly encouraged to avoid unsubstantiated equipment purchases.

5. Impact/Outcomes, Evaluation, and Sustainment (20 percent of 100)

Explain how the program's effectiveness will be demonstrated. Discuss the national significance of the program's impact to improve the functioning of the criminal justice system. Describe how program data will be collected and how it will be assessed to measure the impact of proposed efforts. Outline a strategy for sustaining the project when the federal grant ends.

Review Process

The Office of Justice Programs is committed to ensuring a standardized process for awarding grants. The Bureau of Justice Assistance will review the application to make sure that the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, and achievable, as well as consistent with program or legislative requirements as stated in the solicitation.

Peer reviewers will be reviewing the applications submitted under this solicitation as well. BJA may use either internal peer reviewers, external peer reviewers, or a combination of both to review the applications under this solicitation. An external peer reviewer is an expert in the field of the subject matter of a given solicitation who is NOT a current U.S. Department of Justice employee. An internal reviewer is an expert in the field of the subject matter of a given solicitation who is a current U.S. Department of Justice employee. Applications will be screened initially to determine whether the applicant meets all eligibility requirements. Only applications submitted by eligible applicants that meet all other requirements will be evaluated, scored, and rated by a peer review panel. Peer reviewers' ratings and any resulting recommendations are advisory only. In addition to peer review ratings, considerations may include, but are not limited to, underserved populations, strategic priorities, past performance, and available funding.

After the peer review is finalized, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO), in consultation with BJA, will conduct a financial review of all potential discretionary awards and cooperative agreements to evaluate the fiscal integrity and financial capability of applicants; examine proposed costs to determine if the budget and budget narrative accurately explain project costs; and determine whether costs are reasonable, necessary, and allowable under applicable federal cost principles and agency regulations. OCFO also reviews the award document and verifies the OJP Vendor Number.

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final grant award decisions will be made by the Assistant Attorney General (AAG), who may also give consideration to factors including, but not limited to, underserved populations, strategic priorities, past performance, and available funding when making awards.

Additional Requirements

We strongly encourage you to review the information pertaining to these additional requirements prior to submitting your application. Additional information for each can be found at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/funding/other_requirements.htm.

- Civil Rights compliance.
- Confidentiality and Human Subjects Protections regulations.
- Anti-Lobbying Act.
- Financial and Government Audit requirements.
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance.
- DOJ Information Technology Standards.
- Single Point of Contact Review.
- Non-Supplanting of State or Local Funds.
- Criminal Penalty for False Statements.
- Compliance with Office of the Comptroller *Financial Guide*.
- Suspension or Termination of Funding.
- Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA).
- Rights in Intellectual Property.
- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) if 2006.