BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

# VETERANS TREATMENT COURT DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM

### **FY 2022 Competitive Grant Announcement**

April 26, 2022 1:00-2:30 PM ET





### **Important Information for Today's Webinar**

- Having difficulties hearing? If listening via computer, click the arrow
  next to the Mute/Unmute icon to make adjustments. Still can't hear? Dial in by your
  location using the phone numbers provided on your webinar calendar confirmation.
- Zoom features Chat, Q&A, Raise Hand.
- Live-captioning Available for the deaf or hard-of-hearing individuals. Click on the Live Transcript arrow icon to access.
- Questions about the presentation? Submit at any time during the presentation by using the Q&A box, or Chat box and selecting Hosts and Panelists.
- The recording, transcript, and PPT will be posted to the BJA website.



BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

### **FY 2022 Competitive Grant Announcement**

### Panelists:

Gregory Torain, Policy Advisor Dr. Courtney Stewart, Policy Advisor Nicko Taylor, State Policy Advisor



 Overview of the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) and the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)

- BJA Veteran Treatment Court Appropriations
- OJP and BJA Priority Areas
- Grant Eligibility, Categories, and Requirements
- Review Application Sections
- Tips for Applicants
- Application Resources
- Questions and Answers





### What is 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).

### Office of Justice Programs

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



### **OJP Goals**

OJP strives to prevent and reduce crime through a comprehensive approach, engage and empower those in at-risk environments, advance systemic improvements in the justice system, and deliver effective and outcome-driven capabilities and programs.

### **BJA Mission Statement**

BJA provides leadership and services in grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support local, state, and tribal justice strategies to reduce violent crime and strengthen communities.



# Veterans Treatment Court Discretionary Grant Program





### **Veterans Treatment Court Appropriation for FY2022**

**\$29,000,000** for Veterans Treatment Courts to support the following:

- Veterans Treatment Court Grant Programs estimated grant awards based on appropriation amount (Projection FY22: 26 awards) – Stand-alone VTCs
- National Veterans Treatment Court Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) –
  TTA support all operational veteran treatment courts (priority to BJA funded
  veteran treatment courts)



### **OJP Priority Areas**

In FY 2022, and in addition to executing any statutory prioritization that may be applicable, OJP will give priority consideration to applications as follows:

- Applications that Support Executive Order 13985, Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government
  - o address issues related to **racial equity** and the removal of barriers to access and opportunity for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized and adversely affected by inequality.
- Applications that include at least one sub-recipient (that will receive at least 30% of requested funds) which identifies as a culturally specific organization.
- Applications that seek to provide resources to rural and tribal jurisdictions.



### **BJA Veterans Treatment Court Priorities**

- Serve high-risk/high-need participants as determined by the use of a validate risk assessment tool
- Adhere to the 10 key components of Veterans Treatment Courts published by Justice for Vets and BJA
- Ensure equity and inclusion

- Coordination with the VA (Veterans Affairs) and local VJO (Veterans Justice Outreach) specialist
- Engage law enforcement
- Support veterans and tribal communities
- Early and accurate identification of veterans in the criminal justice through the use of the VRSS System (Veterans Reentry Search Service)



### **Program Goal**

To provide veterans treatment courts and criminal justice professionals with the resources needed to implement, enhance, and sustain evidence-based treatment and recovery support programs and systems for justice-involved veterans who have substance use disorder



### **GRANT CATGORIES**

The FY 2022 VTC Discretionary Grant Program solicitation offers the following three grant categories:

Category 1: Planning and Implementation

Category 2: **Enhancement** 

Category 3: Statewide

Note: Applicants requesting funds to support a veterans treatment court track of an Adult Drug Court (ADC) program should apply for funding under the ADC solicitation.

The FY22 VTC Discretionary Grant Program solicitation offers the following three grant categories:

#### CATEGORY 1 PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION: Competition ID: C-BJA-2022-00020-PROD

Planning and Implementation grants are available to eligible jurisdictions ready to commit to a 6-month planning phase followed by an implementation phase of an evidence-based veteran treatment court with core capabilities to provide critical treatment services, case management, and coordination, judicial supervision, sanctions, and incentive services, and other key resources such as transitional housing, relapse prevention, and employment to reduce recidivism.

Note: The 6-month planning phase will incorporate Veteran Treatment Court Planning Initiative (VTCPI) foundational training. VTCPI trains court teams on the skills necessary to build a program that integrates court and treatment functions and adheres to best practice standards. See https://www.justiceforvets.org/resource/training/foundational-training/.

#### CATEGORY 2 ENHANCEMENT: Competition ID: C-BJA-2022-00021-PROD

Enhancement grants are available to eligible jurisdictions with an operational VTC court. Funding may be used to assist a jurisdiction to scale up its existing court program's capacity; provide access to or enhance treatment capacity or other critical support services; enhance court operations; expand or enhance court services; or improve the quality and/or intensity of services based on needs assessments.

Note: It is recommended that an eligible entity (i.e., unit of local government or county) applying to Categories 1 and 2 on behalf of an veteran treatment court attach a fiscal agent memorandum of understanding (MOU). See Additional Application Components in the Proposal Narrative discussion.

#### CATEGORY 3 STATEWIDE: Competition ID: C-BJA-2022-00022-PROD

State applicants may apply for funding to improve, enhance, or expand veteran treatment court services statewide. Statewide activities may include:

- Scaling up the VTC court program's capacity
   Launching a VTC court
   Expanding treatment and services
   Conducting an audit of the practice and the technical assistance for adherence to
- standards

  Data collection and analysis to assess the practice and track recidivism
- Delivering training and technical assistance (TTA)



# **Eligibility**

**Ensure** that your agency is eligible to apply. This information is located on the first page of the solicitation.

For **Categories 1-2**, the following entities are eligible to apply:

- State governments (including territories)
- City or township governments
- County governments
- Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)
- Other State, city, township, county, or tribal governments acting directly or through agreements with other public or private entities on behalf of a single drug court.

OMB No. 1121-0329 Approval Expires 12/31/2023

U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Assistance



#### FY 22 BJA Veterans Treatment Court Discretionary Grant Program

Assistance Listing Number # 16.043

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-BJA-2022-171054

Solicitation Release Date: March 24, 2022 3:00 PM

Grants.gov Deadline: May 20, 2022 8:59 PM

Application JustGrants Deadline: May 25, 2022 8:59 PM

#### Solicitation Categories

Competition ID	Category *	Number of Awards	Dollar Amount for Award	Performance Start Date	Performance Duration (Months)
C-BJA-2022-00020- PROD	Planning & Implementation	7	\$700,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	48
C-BJA-2022-00021- PROD	Enhancement	12	\$750,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	48
C-BJA-2022-00022- PROD	Statewide	3	\$2,000,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	48



# **Eligibility**

For **Category 3**, the following entities are eligible to apply:

- State agencies such as the State
   Administering Agency, the
   Administrative Office of the Courts, and the State Substance Abuse Agency
- State criminal justice agencies and other state agencies involved in the provision of substance abuse and/or mental health services, or related services, to veterans in the criminal justice system.

OMB No. 1121-0329 Approval Expires 12/31/2023

U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Assistance



#### FY 22 BJA Veterans Treatment Court Discretionary Grant Program

Assistance Listing Number # 16.043

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-BJA-2022-171054

Solicitation Release Date: March 24, 2022 3:00 PM

Grants.gov Deadline: May 20, 2022 8:59 PM

Application JustGrants Deadline: May 25, 2022 8:59 PM

#### Solicitation Categories

Competition ID	Category *	Number of Awards	Dollar Amount for Award	Performance Start Date	Performance Duration (Months)
C-BJA-2022-00020- PROD	Planning & Implementation	7	\$700,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	48
C-BJA-2022-00021- PROD	Enhancement	12	\$750,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	48
C-BJA-2022-00022- PROD	Statewide	3	\$2,000,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	48



# **Type of Courts**









**VETERANS DRUG COURTS** 

**DUI/DWI** 

CO-OCCURRING DISORDER (substance use & mental health disorders)

TRIBAL HEALING TO WELLNESS COURTS

#### Note:

- These funds are for a stand-alone veteran treatment court.
- Funding cannot be used for planning, implementing, or supporting veteran tracks. If interested in developing a VTC track, you need to apply for the Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant.



# **Application Deadlines**

**Ensure** that you have enough time to develop your application. The due date is also listed on the first page. Take into account the time required to register to apply, prepare the application, gather the required attachments, and complete any local, state, or tribal review processes.

Important: Applications have <u>two</u> deadlines. The first is in Grants.gov and the second is in JustGrants.

Veteran Treatment Court Solicitation was released on

March 24, 2022

Grants.gov deadline: May 20, 2022, 8:59 PM ET JustGrants deadline: May 25, 2022, 8:59 PM ET

U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Assistance OMB No. 1121-0329 Approval Expires 12/31/2023



#### FY 22 BJA Veterans Treatment Court Discretionary Grant Program

Assistance Listing Number # 16.043

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-BJA-2022-171054

Solicitation Release Date: March 24, 2022 3:00 PM

Grants.gov Deadline: May 20, 2022 8:59 PM

Application JustGrants Deadline: May 25, 2022 8:59 PM

#### Solicitation Categories

Competition ID	Category *	Number of Awards	Dollar Amount for Award	Performance Start Date	Performance Duration (Months)
C-BJA-2022-00020- PROD	Planning & Implementation	7	\$700,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	48
C-BJA-2022-00021- PROD	Enhancement	12	\$750,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	48
C-BJA-2022-00022- PROD	Statewide	3	\$2,000,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	48



### **Allowable Use of Funds**

**Read** the program-specific section to understand how funds can be used.

**Category 1:** Planning & Implementation

- Grant maximum: \$700,000
- Period of performance: Up to 48 months
- Awards: 7

Planning and Implementation grants are available to eligible jurisdictions ready to commit to a **6-month planning phase** followed by an **implementation phase** of an evidence-based veteran treatment court with the core capabilities to provide critical treatment services, case management, and coordination, judicial supervision, sanctions and incentive services, and other key resources such as transitional housing, relapse prevention, and employment to reduce recidivism.

Note: The 6-month planning phase will incorporate Veteran Treatment Court Planning Initiative (VTCPI) foundational training. VTCPI trains court teams on the skills necessary to build a program that integrates court and treatment functions and adheres to best practice standards.



### Allowable Use of Funds

**Read** the program-specific section to understand how funds can be used.

Category 2: Enhancement

- Grant maximum: \$750,000.
- Period of performance: Up to 48 months
- Awards: 12

Enhancement grants are available to eligible jurisdictions with an operational veteran treatment court.

Funding may be used to assist a jurisdiction to:

- scale up its existing court program's capacity;
- provide access to or enhance treatment capacity or other critical support services;
- Enhance court operations; expand or enhance court services; or
- improve the quality and/or intensity of services based on needs assessments.

**Note:** It is recommended that an eligible entity (i.e., unit of local government or county) applying to Categories 1 and 2 on behalf of a veteran treatment court attach a fiscal agent memorandum of understanding (MOU).



### Allowable Use of Funds

Category 3: Statewide

Funding supports statewide efforts to enhance or expand services for VTC.

- Grant maximum: \$2,000,000
- Period of performance: Up to 48 months
- Awards: 3

State applicants may apply for funding to improve, enhance, or expand veteran treatment court services statewide. Statewide activities may include:

- scaling up the veteran treatment court program's capacity
- launching an veteran treatment court
- expanding treatment and services
- conducting an audit of the practice and the technical assistance for adherence to standards
- data collection and analysis to assess the practice and track recidivism
- delivering training and technical assistance (TTA)

**Note:** Applicants may request funds to support a stand-alone veteran treatment court; however, funding to specifically plan, implement, and enhance a(VTC) docket and veteran-related services is available under the BJA Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant solicitation.



# Capacity

**Determine** if your agency has the capacity to do the work or if you need additional resources.

**Helpful Hint:** Identify if you need partners and, if so, reach out to them as soon as possible.

Identify community-based organizations and agencies to partner with to address potential gaps in capacity.

The FY22 VTC Discretionary Grant Program solicitation offers the following three grant categories:

#### CATEGORY 1 PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION: Competition ID: C-BJA-2022-00020-PROD

Planning and Implementation grants are available to eligible jurisdictions ready to commit to a 6-month planning phase followed by an implementation phase of an evidence-based veteran treatment court with core capabilities to provide critical treatment services, case management, and coordination, judicial supervision, sanctions, and incentive services, and other key resources such as transitional housing, relapse prevention, and employment to reduce recidivism.

Note: The 6-month planning phase will incorporate Veteran Treatment Court Planning Initiative (VTCPI) foundational training. VTCPI trains court teams on the skills necessary to build a program that integrates court and treatment functions and adheres to best practice standards. See https://www.justiceforvets.org/resource/training/foundational-training/.

#### CATEGORY 2 ENHANCEMENT: Competition ID: C-BJA-2022-00021-PROD

Enhancement grants are available to eligible jurisdictions with an operational VTC court. Funding may be used to assist a jurisdiction to scale up its existing court program's capacity; provide access to or enhance treatment capacity or other critical support services; enhance court operations; expand or enhance court services; or improve the quality and/or intensity of services based on needs assessments.

Note: It is recommended that an eligible entity (i.e., unit of local government or county) applying to Categories 1 and 2 on behalf of a veterans treatment court attach a fiscal agent memorandum of understanding (MOU). See Additional Application Components in the Proposal Narrative discussion.

#### CATEGORY 3 STATEWIDE: Competition ID: C-BJA-2022-00022-PROD

State applicants may apply for funding to improve, enhance, or expand veteran treatment court services statewide. Statewide activities may include:

- Scaling up the VTC court program's capacity
   Launching a VTC court
   Expanding treatment and services
   Conducting an audit of the practice and the technical assistance for adherence to standards
- Data collection and analysis to assess the practice and track recidivism
- Delivering training and technical assistance (TTA)



### **Planning and Organizing**

### Review all section of the application

- Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) (<u>required</u>)
- 2. Proposal Abstract (<u>required</u>; including affirmation of evidence-based program features and total budget amount)
- 3. Proposal Narrative (required)
- Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative (required)
- 5. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)
- 6. Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire
- 8. Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)
- 9. Additional Attachments

#### Content of Application Submission: Critical Application Elements

The following items are critical application elements required to pass the basic minimum requirements review. If OJP determines that an application does not include the following elements; it will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.

- □ Proposal Abstract
- □ Proposal Narrative
- □ Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form)
- □ Time Task Plan

#### Content of Application Submission

**Budget and Associated Documentation** 

- □ Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based form)
- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see QJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see <u>OJP Grant Application</u> Resource Guide)
- □ Disclosure of Process related to Executive Compensation

#### Additional Application Components

- Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable) (see O.IP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource</u> Guide)
- □ Documentation of Advancing DOJ Priorities (if applicable)
- 1 Memorandum of Understanding Signed by Key Drug Court Team Members or by a Designated Agency Representative (recommended)
- Fiscal Agent MOU Signed by Applicant and Drug Court Administrator (recommended)
- State Substance Abuse Agency Director or Designee Letter (recommended).
- ☐ Chief Justice, State Court Administrator, or Designee Letter (recommended)

#### Disclosures and Assurances

- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) (see QJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (Pending Applications) (see <u>OJP Grant Application</u> Resource Guide)
- DOJ Certified Standard Assurance (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (see QJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see <u>QJP Grant Application</u> Resource Guide)



### **Basic Minimum Requirements**

This solicitation identifies basic minimum requirements that an application must meet to move forward to peer review.

The critical elements of this solicitation includes:

- Proposal Abstract,
- Proposal Narrative,
- Timeline/Task Plan, and
- Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative.

Important Note: Applications that do not contain ALL elements designated by BJA as critical in the solicitation will not be submitted to peer review.

# Proposal Abstract (required)



- Funding category requested (1, 2, or 3)
- Pre- or post-adjudication
- Type of veteran-related services that will be implemented
- Name, location, & address of the court where the proposed program is or will be operating.
- Names and contact information for the designated VTC judge and local coordinator
- Amount of funding requested (requested amount should not exceed grant amount for the category applying)
- # of participants proposed to receive services over the life of the grant

- average length of program participation.
- Describe the target population & affirm whether the court has access to MAT.
- Describe the plan to provide treatment and services to reduce opioid, stimulant, and other substance use disorder needs.
- Indicate whether the jurisdiction is leveraging any other federal funding sources to support the VTC.
- Indicate whether the applicant jurisdiction has an active VTC or adult drug court grant with OJP, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, or the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (include grant number).

### **Proposal Abstract (required)**



- Indicate which of the NADCP Adult Drug Court Best Practice Standards will be addressed and the page numbers where each item is described.
- If seeking priority consideration:
  - Identify which priority consideration 1(A), 1(B), or both are you applying.
  - Identify which pages in the program narrative the applicant provides its plan to respond to the priority consideration.

- If 1(B), note the sub-awardee to receive funding and the proposed amount
- Note if the applicant is a rural or tribal jurisdiction seeking priority consideration.

**Note:** 400-word maximum, written in 3<sup>rd</sup> person, and entered into the JustGrants webbased form.



# **Proposal Narrative (required)**

Make sure you understand and follow the instructions about page limits for the program narrative.

### Proposal Narrative must be:

- Double-spaced
- Standard 12-point font (Times New Roman preferred)
- 1-inch margins, and
- Should not exceed 20 pages.
- Number pages "1 of 20," etc.

Helpful Tip: A table can be single spaced and can be put in an attachment if it is not a required component of the program narrative.

### Hints:

If the proposal narrative fails to comply with these length restrictions, BJA may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decision.

### **Proposal Narrative sections\*:**

- a) Description of the Issue (20%)
- b) Project Design & Implementation (40%)
- c) Capabilities & Competencies (20%)
- d) Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (15%)

<sup>\*</sup>Budget Narrative & Budget Detail Worksheet is remaining 5%.



20%

40%

20%

15%

Note: Budget and Budget worksheet are remaining 5%

Proposal Narrative (red	quired)	
Section	Category 1	Category 2

20%

40%

20%

15%

Proposal	Narrative (	(req	uired
Section			Category

Description of the Issue

Project Design and Implementation

Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this

Solicitation's Performance Measures

Capabilities and Competencies

- **Category 3**

20%

40%

20%

15%



# **Proposal Narrative (required)**

### **Description of the Issue (20%)**

 See RFP for specific bullet points to be addressed (based on category for which you're applying)

### **Project Design and Implementation (40%)**

- Demonstrate that eligible veteran treatment court participants will have access to & promptly enter the veteran's treatment court program following a determination of their eligibility.
- Demonstrate access to medication-assisted treatment.
- Describe the plan to provide treatment and services to address opioid, stimulant, and other substance use disorder needs.
- If priority category 1(A), how the project will address issues related to racial equity and/or remove barriers to access and provide greater access to services for those who have been historically marginalized, underserved, and adversely affected by inequality.
- See RFP for specific bullet points to be addressed (based on the category for which you're applying)



# **Proposal Narrative (required)**

### **Capabilities and Competencies (20%)**

- See RFP for specific bullet points to be addressed (based on the category for which you're applying)
- If priority category 1(B), describes how being a culturally specific organization will enhance its ability to implement the proposed project

# Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (15%)

- Describe the court's current ability to collect and analyze client-level demographic, performance measurement (PMT), and outcome data.
- See RFP for specific bullet points to be addressed (based on the category for which you're applying)



# Time Task Plan (required)

### Time Task Plan should include:

- Outline goals & objectives to be met during project period
- Summarize major activities, expected date of completion, and responsible agencies
- Indicate number of program participants to be served quarterly

### Sample Time Task Plan

A time task plan must be submitted as part of the Other Program Attachments section (see attachment 3). The following is a sample of a partial time task plan.

#### Goal #1

Establish coordination among agencies involved in developing, implementing, and maintaining the drug court program.

Objectives	Activities and Timeframe	Person Responsible
Identify agencies and key representatives needed for a drug court program.	Establish roles and responsibilities for individuals involved in implementing the drug court program.  March 1, 2009.	All invited agencies: judiciary, district attorney, defense bar, treatment agencies, court administrator, law enforcement, school administrator.
Establish communications with key stakeholders from partner agencies.	Make initial contact with the drug court judge, assistant district attorney, drug court coordinator, and treatment provider.  March 1, 2009. Subsequent meeting to follow. April 4, 2005.	Drug court coordinator will plan the initial meeting. The second meeting will be located at the outpatient treatment provider's facility.
	Establish memorandums of	Judge.



# Planning and Organizing Your Writing

**Draft your budget early** in the process, before you make commitments. Make sure you carefully read and understand any required budget expenses detailed in the application — especially required grantee meetings.

Also make sure you read carefully to understand any caps on expenses or expenses that are not allowed.

Resource: DOJ Grants Financial Guide <a href="https://ojp.gov/financialguide/doj/index.htm">https://ojp.gov/financialguide/doj/index.htm</a>

Applicants will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.



### **Budgets and the Budget Narrative**

- The budget narrative should relate directly to the project design.
  - There should be no expenses in the budget that are not referenced in the project/program
    narrative (e.g., do not ask for drug testing supplies if you have not included drug testing as a
    component in your project description).
- Personnel costs should relate to the key personnel for the project.
- Sub-recipients should be categorized as either sub-awards or procurement contracts and be clearly stated in the project/program narrative. Please refer to OJP guidance on this topic: <a href="https://ojp.gov/training/subawards-procurement.htm">https://ojp.gov/training/subawards-procurement.htm</a>.
- The budget should include adequate funding to fully implement the project, but not more than the amount listed in the solicitation as the available funding amount.
- The budget narrative should leave no questions for a reviewer about the purpose of the requested funds.
- The total federal request entered in the SF-424 should match the total federal request in the application budget for the entire project period.

# **Budget and Budget Narrative (required)**



- Itemized budget for each year of the grant.
- Applicants should budget to have up to three team members attend up to two conferences or trainings during the grant period to support ongoing capacity and success in implementation.
- Prior approval, planning, and reporting of conference/meeting/ training costs



# **Planning and Organizing Your Writing**

Do not forget about the additional attachments when you are preparing your application!

**Tip:** Make sure you triple check your checklist and make sure you have everything.

#### Content of Application Submission: Critical Application Elements

The following items are critical application elements required to pass the basic minimum requirements review. If OJP determines that an application does not include the following elements, it will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.

- □ Proposal Abstract
- □ Proposal Narrative
- □ Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form)
- ☐ Time Task Plan

#### **Content of Application Submission**

**Budget and Associated Documentation** 

- □ Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based form)
- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see O.IP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see <u>OJP Grant Application</u> Resource Guide)
- □ Disclosure of Process related to Executive Compensation

#### Additional Application Components

- Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable) (see QJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement (see O.IP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Documentation of Advancing DOJ Priorities (if applicable).
- Memorandum of Understanding Signed by Key Drug Court Team Members or by a Designated Agency Representative (recommended)
- Fiscal Agent MOU Signed by Applicant and Drug Court Administrator (recommended)
- □ State Substance Abuse Agency Director or Designee Letter (recommended)
- □ Chief Justice, State Court Administrator, or Designee Letter (recommended)

#### Disclosures and Assurances

- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) (see QJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (Pending Applications) (see <u>OJP Grant Application</u> Resource Guide)
- □ DOJ Certified Standard Assurance (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying, Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see <u>OJP Grant Application</u> Resource Guide)

### **Additional Attachments**



- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement
- Documentation of Advancing DOJ Priorities (if applicable)
- Memorandum of Understanding Signed by Key Veteran Treatment Court Team Members or by a Designated Agency Representative (recommended)
- Fiscal Agent Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Signed by Applicant and Drug Court Administrator (recommended)
- State Substance Abuse Agency Director or Designee Letter (recommended)
- Chief Justice, State Court Administrator, or Designee Letter (recommended).

## **Grant Requirement**



### **Substance Use Disorders**

The focus of the VTC Discretionary Grant Program is to reduce the misuse of opioids, stimulants, and other substances. In the *Proposal Narrative*, all applicants are required to describe a plan to serve justice-involved individuals with substance use disorders.

# **Grant Requirement**



### **Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)**

The applicant <u>must</u> demonstrate that the veteran treatment court for which funds are being sought <u>will not</u> deny any eligible client access to the program because of their use of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved medications for the treatment of substance use disorders.

For more information regarding BJA's provisions on MAT, visit: <a href="https://www.bja.gov/Funding/adc-faq-medication-assisted-treatment.pdf">https://www.bja.gov/Funding/adc-faq-medication-assisted-treatment.pdf</a>

# **Grant Requirement**



## **Medical Marijuana**

Award recipients are prohibited from using federal funds to support programs or activities that violate the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. § 801, et seq. Programs or activities funded under a BJA veteran treatment court award must ensure that veteran treatment court participants are tested periodically for the use of controlled substances, including medical marijuana. See 34 U.S.C. § 10611, et seq.

# **Grant Requirement**



## **Violent Offenders Prohibition**

Under the veteran treatment court funds, applicants can serve veterans charged with violent or nonviolent offenses using these funds.

# Tips for Applicants



Follow these tips to avoid the most common mistakes we have seen backed on past years:

- JustGrants: Please carefully read the "How to Apply" instructions linked in the solicitation and give yourself plenty of time to complete the grants.gov and JustGrants submissions by the established deadlines.
- SF-424/DUNS/SAM: Make sure the correct DUNS or UEI # is entered in the SF-424 and that it is registered in SAM. The specific agency registered under this DUNS or UEI # in SAM will be responsible for submitting the full application in JustGrants and administering the award if it is funded.
- **SF-424/federal request amount:** The federal request amount entered in the SF-424 should match the total federal request in your application budget for the entire grant project period.
- Budget/Allowable Costs: Do not include any of the prohibited costs listed on page 14 of the solicitation.

# Tips for Applicants (Continued)



- Budget/Subawards versus Procurement Contracts: You should carefully review
  the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide (linked in the solicitation) subsection
  titled "Information on Proposed Subawards (if any) and Proposed Procurement
  Contracts (if any)" and the resources linked to therein to ensure you properly
  categorize your costs in these sections. If BJA has questions about the
  identification of a particular relationship in the budget, we may place a hold on
  funds.
- Application Attachments/General: Follow the instructions exactly in the
   "Application and Submission" section beginning on page 15. It is helpful for
   reviewers if you upload each required attachment as a separate file
   named/numbered to match the solicitation. If you combine files, please include
   a table of contents.

# Tips for Applicants (Continued)



## **Application Attachments/Common issues:**

- The disclosure of pending applications is required for all applicants.
- The Fiscal Agent MOU is required for any City or County applying for funds on behalf of a court.
- The Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement attachment is required if you are proposing to use federal funds to pay an outside evaluator.
- The Time Task Plan must indicate the number of program participants to be served quarterly to demonstrate how the total number of anticipated participants will be served before the end of the grant period.



# BJA FY 2022 Resources Available for Grant Applicants



## **BJA Veteran Treatment Court Resources**

- National Drug Court Resource Center (NDCRC). BJA-Sponsored, the NDCRC provides treatment court
  professionals with the resources needed to design and implement programs that align with bestpractice standards, expand and enhance court operations, as well as collect and analyze program
  data.
- <u>Drug Court Best Practice Standards.</u> National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP),
   2018. NADCP identified 10 best-practice standards, volumes I and II. These standards represent the cumulative body of the most current evidence-based practices available to drug courts to effectively operationalize the drug court's 10 key components.
- <u>Ten Key Components for Veteran Treatment Courts.</u> BJA-Sponsored, NADCP, January 2004. The key components provide the foundation for the successful operation of a veterans treatment court program.
- <u>Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance</u>. Assist adult drug courts and veterans treatment courts with the development and implementation of program practices to improve program effectiveness and long-term participant success.



## **BJA Grant Applicant Education Series**

To access previous webinar recordings, transcripts, and slides visit: <a href="https://www.bja.gov/funding/webinars.html">https://www.bja.gov/funding/webinars.html</a>.

## **Funding Webinars**

#### The Funding Process: First Steps to Applying, How to Prepare Now, and Other Considerations

Date/Time: January 26, 2022, 1 p.m. ET

In this webinar, attendees learn what registrations are necessary to apply, how to navigate Grants.gov and JustGrants, and what resources are available for applicants.

Watch the Recording | Access the Presentation | Read the Transcript

#### **Application Mechanics: Submitting an Application**

Webinar held: Various Dates

Watch the Recording | Access the Presentation

#### **Grant Writing Workshop: Selling Your Treatment Court Program**

Webinar held: October 6, 2020, 2 p.m. ET

This webinar provided an overview of the major components of BJA's request for proposals, as well as provide examples of each required section.

Watch the Recording

## **Funding Webinars**

**Veteran Treatment Court Solicitation: Does and Don'ts** Webinar date: April 29, 2022, 1 p.m. ET This webinar will provide courts with ideas on what to apply for funding to address emerging issues or add new tools to your toolbox to improve operations and meet the client's needs.

Register for the Webinar



## **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
    - <u>support@grants.gov</u>
- 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 EST.
    - Saturday, Sunday, and Federal holidays from 9:00 AM 5:00 PM EST.
  - Email
    - <a href="https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/user-support">https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/user-support</a>
    - <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u>



## **Application Assistance and Support (cont.)**

## **OJP Response Center**

- Provides solicitation support and general assistance.
- email grants@ncjrs.gov
- web chat <a href="https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp">https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp</a>
- **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 <a href="https://www.ojp.gov/subscribe">https://www.ojp.gov/subscribe</a> and be sure to select "Grants/funding" as an area of interest.



# **Resources for FY 2022 Grant Applicants**

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



## **Stay Connected**



## **Email Updates**

Text OJP [your email address] to 468-311 to subscribe.
 \*Message and data rates may apply.

#### **Social Media**

- Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA">https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA</a>
- Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/DOJBJA">https://twitter.com/DOJBJA</a>

For information on funding opportunities, publications, and initiatives, visit

BJA's website - <a href="https://bja.ojp.gov">https://bja.ojp.gov</a>



# **Quick Reference: Important Contacts**



#### **Solicitation Content Assistance**

1-800-851-3420

Grants@ncjrs.gov

10-6 EST, M-F



#### Submit the SF-424 and SF- LLL

1-800-518-4726 Support@grants.gov

24 hours a day, 7 days a week



### **Submit full application**

1-833-872-5175

JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov

5-9 EST, M-F

9-5 EST, Weekends, Holidays



# **Questions?**

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