



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20531

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MEMORANDUM FOR: United States Attorneys

FROM: Karol V. Mason *K. Mason*
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SUBJECT: Open Grant Program Solicitations from the Office of Justice Programs

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) provides federal leadership in developing the Nation’s capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice, and assist victims. In this capacity, OJP administers the majority of the Department of Justice (DOJ) grant funding as appropriated by Congress. In an effort to keep United States Attorneys informed of open FY 2016 grant solicitations, we are providing the following information.

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FY 2016 Grant Program Solicitations

National Institute of Justice (NIJ)

Solicitation Title: NIJ, [Research and Evaluation for the Testing and Interpretation of Physical Evidence in Publicly Funded Forensic Laboratories](#)

Who Can Apply? Applicants are limited to states (including territories), units of local government, Federally recognized Indian tribal governments (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior), and publicly funded forensic science laboratories that are currently accredited by an independent accrediting or certifying forensic science organization. Publicly funded forensic science laboratories include state, regional, county, municipal, and tribal agencies. This solicitation excludes federal agencies.

What's It For? NIJ will award funding to direct the findings of the research and evaluation toward the identification of the most efficient, accurate, reliable, and cost-effective methods for the identification, analysis, and interpretation of physical evidence for criminal justice purposes. NIJ is seeking quality applications for research and evaluation studies to produce practical knowledge that has the potential to improve the examination and interpretation of physical evidence in forensic science laboratories.

When's It Due? Applications are due April 6, 2016.

Solicitation Title: NIJ, [Postconviction Testing of DNA Evidence to Exonerate the Innocent](#)

Who Can Apply? Applicants are limited to states, units of local government, and public institutions of higher education. For the purposes of this solicitation, the term "state" includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands. Foreign governments, foreign organizations, and foreign institutions of higher education are not eligible to apply.

What's It For? NIJ will award funding to assist in defraying the costs associated with post-conviction DNA testing in cases of violent felony offenses (as defined by state law) in which actual innocence might be demonstrated. Funds may be used to identify and review such post-conviction cases and to locate and analyze associated biological evidence.

When's It Due? Applications are due April 7, 2016.

Solicitation Title: NIJ, [Developing Improved Means to Collect Digital Evidence](#)

Who Can Apply? Applicants are limited to states (including territories), units of local government, Federally recognized Indian tribal governments (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior) that perform law enforcement functions, non-profit and for-profit organizations (including tribal non-profit and for-profit organizations), institutions of higher education

(including tribal institutions of higher education), and certain qualified individuals. Consistent with OJP fiscal requirements, for-profit organizations are not permitted to make a profit as a result of this award or charge a management fee for the performance of this award. Foreign governments, foreign organizations, and foreign institutions of higher education are not eligible to apply.

What's It For? NIJ will award funding to support research and technology development that leads to the practice of new and innovative tools to: process large-scale computer networks for digital evidence; process mobile devices voluntarily surrendered to law enforcement by witnesses or victims of an alleged crime; and, automatically detect children in pornographic videos of varying quality.

When's It Due? Applications are due April 14, 2016.

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

Solicitation Title: [SMART, FY 2016 Support for Adam Walsh Act Implementation Grant](#)

Who Can Apply? Applicants are limited to states, the District of Columbia, the principal U.S. territories, and federally recognized Indian tribes that are eligible under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) section 127 to carry out the functions of SORNA and have elected to do so. Jurisdictions that have not previously received funding under this program are strongly encouraged to apply. Tribal applicants must identify eligibility status by indicating that the tribe is eligible to and has elected to carry out the requirements of SORNA under section 127 and has not delegated its duties since its election. Tribes that have elected to carry out the requirements of SORNA must submit the tribal resolution which documents the tribe's election to do so.

What's It For? The SMART Office will award funding to assist jurisdictions with developing, enhancing, or maintaining programs designed to implement requirements of SORNA, which was enacted to protect the public by establishing a comprehensive national system of standards for the registration and notification of convicted sex offenders. The SMART Office is interested in proposals that facilitate, enhance and maintain jurisdictional implementation of SORNA.

When's It Due? Applications are due April 7, 2016.

Please review the requirements set forth in the solicitations above and encourage eligible entities to submit applications for funding. For more information, please visit OJP's website, www.ojp.gov and the OJP Program Plan webpage at data.ojp.gov/services/PPI/includes/ppi/Home.htm?Year=2016. Open solicitations are posted at www.grants.gov and ojp.gov/funding/Explore/CurrentFundingOpportunities.htm.

If you have any questions, please contact Ralph E. Martin, Director, Office of Audit, Assessment, and Management at (202) 305-1802, or by e-mail at ralph.martin@usdoj.gov.

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