

**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Office of Justice Programs  
*Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention*



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## **OJJDP FY 2019 Second Chance Act Youth Offender Reentry Program**

### **FY 2019 Competitive Grant Solicitation**

**CFDA #16.812**

**Grants.gov Solicitation Number:** OJJDP-2019-15036

**Solicitation Release Date:** April 23, 2019

**Application Deadline:** 11:59 p.m. eastern time (ET) on June 24, 2019

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The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#) is seeking applications for funding for states, local governments, territories or Indian tribes in partnership with interested persons (including Federal corrections and supervision agencies), service providers, and nonprofit organizations for the purpose of strategic planning and implementation of juvenile offender reentry projects to provide comprehensive reentry services before, during, and after release from confinement. This program furthers the Department's mission by supporting state and local efforts to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for youth returning to their communities after detention or out-of-home placement.

This solicitation incorporates the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) by reference. The OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants on how to prepare and submit applications for funding to OJP. If this solicitation expressly modifies any provision in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation as to that provision.

#### **Eligibility** (Who may apply):

Eligible applicants are limited to states (including territories), local governments, or federally recognized Indian tribal governments as determined by the Secretary of the Interior in partnership with interested persons (including Federal corrections and supervision agencies), service providers, and nonprofit organizations.

All recipients and subrecipients (including any for-profit organization) must forgo any profit or management fee.

OJJDP will consider applications under which two or more entities would carry out the federal award; however, only one entity may be the applicant. Any others must be proposed as subrecipients (subgrantees). The applicant must be the entity that would have primary responsibility for carrying out the award, including administering the funding and managing the

entire program. Under this solicitation, only one application by any particular applicant entity will be considered. An entity may, however, be proposed as a subrecipient (subgrantee) for more than one application. For additional information on subawards, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

For additional information on eligibility, see "[Section C. Eligibility Information](#)."

### Contact Information

For technical assistance with submitting an application, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726 or 606-545-5035, at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html>, or at [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov). The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

An applicant that experiences unforeseen Grants.gov technical issues beyond its control that prevent it from submitting its application by the deadline must email the National Criminal Justice Reference Service Response Center (Response Center) at [grants@ncjrs.gov](mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov) **within 24 hours after the application deadline** to request approval to submit its application after the deadline. Additional information on reporting technical issues appears under "Experiencing Unforeseen Grants.gov Technical Issues" in the How to Apply (Grants.gov) section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact the Response Center by telephone at 800-851-3420 or TTY: 301-240-6310 (hearing impaired only) or by email at [grants@ncjrs.gov](mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov). Response Center hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET on the solicitation close date. General information on applying for OJJDP awards can be found at <https://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/funding.html>. Answers to frequently asked questions that may assist applicants are posted at <https://www.ojjdp.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2019/FAQ/SCAYOR.pdf>.

A solicitation webinar will be held on May 20, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. ET. This call will provide a detailed overview of the solicitation and allow an opportunity for interested applicants to ask questions. Preregistration is required for all participants. Register by clicking [here](#) and following the instructions. Due to the limited time, OJJDP encourages participants to review the solicitation and submit any questions they may have in advance and no later than May 15, 2019. Submit your questions to [grants@ncjrs.gov](mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov) with the subject as "Questions for OJJDP FY 2019 Second Chance Act Youth Offender Reentry Program webinar."

### Post-Award Legal Requirements Notice

If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the OJP-approved application, the recipient must comply with all award conditions and all applicable requirements of federal statutes and regulations (including applicable requirements referred to in the assurances and certifications executed in connection with award acceptance). OJP strongly encourages prospective applicants to review information on post-award legal requirements and common OJP award conditions **prior** to submitting an application. For additional information on these legal requirements, see the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

### Deadline Details

Applicants must register with Grants.gov at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html> prior to submitting an application. All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. ET on June 24, 2019.

To be considered timely, an application must be submitted by the application deadline using Grants.gov, and the applicant must have received a validation message from Grants.gov that indicates successful and timely submission. OJP urges applicants to submit applications at least 72 hours prior to the application due date, to allow time for the applicant to receive validation messages or rejection notifications from Grants.gov, and to correct in a timely fashion any problems that may have caused a rejection notification.

An applicant must use the **Add Attachment** button to attach a file to its application. Do not click the paperclip icon to attach files. This action will not attach the files to the application. After adding an attachment, select the **View Attachment** button to confirm you attached the correct file. To remove the file, select the **Delete Attachment** button.

OJP encourages all applicants to read this [Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov](#).

For additional information, see the “How to Apply (Grants.gov)” section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

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# OJJDP FY 2019 Second Chance Act Youth Offender Reentry Program CFDA # 16.812

## A. Program Description

### Overview

In 2016, more than 45,000 juvenile offenders were held in residential placement facilities nationwide, with an additional 3,500 juveniles held in adult jails and nearly 1,000 held in adult prisons.<sup>1,2</sup> Although the rate of youth incarceration has continued to decline over the past 10 years<sup>3</sup>, the development of comprehensive approaches for reducing recidivism remains challenging for most state and local agencies. They require access to data, changes to service delivery, and coordination with multiple systems and organizations.

The Second Chance Act Youth Offender Reentry Program encourages collaboration between state agencies, local government, and community- and faith-based organizations to address the challenges that reentry and recidivism reduction pose for moderate to high-risk juvenile offenders returning to their communities from juvenile residential or correctional facilities. Section 101 of the Second Chance Act authorizes the Department of Justice to award grants to state, local, and tribal juvenile justice agencies to improve reentry outcomes for incarcerated youth.

**Statutory Authority:** This program is authorized pursuant to Section 101 of the Second Chance Act of 2007, Pub. L. No. 110–199; Pub. L. No. 115-391; 34 U.S.C. § 10631.

### Program-Specific Information

The Second Chance Act Youth Offender Reentry Program supports states, local governments, and tribal governments in partnership with interested persons (including Federal corrections and supervision agencies), service providers, and nonprofit organizations to provide comprehensive reentry services for moderate to high-risk youthful offenders before, during, and after release from confinement. Within the context of this initiative, reentry is viewed as an evidence-based process that begins while the offender is still confined and ends with their successful reintegration into the community. Successful reintegration is denoted by no criminal behavior, to include but not be limited to rearrests, at 6-month increments for up to 24 months post-release.

This solicitation will support the development and implementation of a comprehensive reentry plan to promote the successful transition of youth as they return to the community following

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<sup>1</sup> Development Services Group, Inc. 2017. “Juvenile Reentry.” Literature review. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Available at <https://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/litereviews/Aftercare.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Child Trends: Juvenile Incarceration. Available at <https://www.childtrends.org/indicators/juvenile-detention?search-indicators=youth+released+from+incarceration>.

<sup>3</sup> National Center for Juvenile Justice. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Statistical Briefing Book, Juveniles in Corrections. Available at <https://www.ojjdp.gov/ojstatbb/>.

release from a detention or residential facility. As part of program services within the facility, youth are expected to be screened and assessed for needs and risk of reoffending. Based upon results of risk and needs assessment, it is expected that appropriate community-based program services are identified and coordinated at least 90-days prior to release. During the post-release phase of the reentry program, youth should receive case management services and be connected to evidence-based programming designed to ensure continuity of services and a safe and successful transition from placement to the community. Case management services and evidence-based programming should begin during the pre-release phase.

## **Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables**

### **Goals**

Enhance the capacity of states, local government, and federally recognized Indian tribes to implement comprehensive evidence-based reentry programs that involve collaboration with interested persons (including Federal corrections and supervision agencies), service providers, and nonprofit organizations to increase public safety and reduce recidivism of moderate to high-risk youth who are reentering communities from a residential placement facility.

For the purposes of this program, recidivism is defined as “a return to a residential placement facility, jail, or prison with either a new conviction or as the result of a violation of the terms of supervision within 24 months of initial release.”

### **Objectives**

- Increase public safety and reduce recidivism among moderate to high-risk youth before and following release from a juvenile residential facility.
- Develop information-sharing processes to carry out comprehensive case management plans that directly address the criminogenic risks and needs of young offenders as identified by validated risk and needs assessments.
- Convene a juvenile reentry task force with interested persons (including Federal corrections and supervision agencies), service providers, and nonprofit organizations, juvenile justice, probation, behavioral health, social service, health providers, corrections, law enforcement, housing providers, agencies serving children and families, job training and employment services, and other state or local reentry stakeholders that provide reentry services to assist in the implementation and measurement of progress toward increasing public safety by reducing rates of recidivism and enabling returning youth to transition successfully to communities.
- Expand coordinated supervision and comprehensive services following release from confinement, including but not limited to, transitional and permanent housing and mental and physical healthcare provided by interested persons (including Federal corrections and supervision agencies), service providers, and nonprofit organizations, if practical.
- Integrate family strengthening practices that encourage returning youth to develop safe, healthy, and responsible family relationships and involve the entire family in a comprehensive reentry process.

- Improve transition planning procedures to ensure that linkages to needed services and benefits are available.
- Track data on recidivism rates, school-related behaviors, substance abuse treatment, family reunification progress, employment opportunities, pre-release planning, and post-release services and supervision, and identify other changes experienced by youth to measure implementation progress. These data should be shared with the reentry task force and used to guide and track implementation improvements.

## **Mandatory Requirements**

Section 101 of the Second Chance Act outlines the following mandatory requirements that applicants must include in their applications to be eligible to secure Section 101 funding. Applicants under this solicitation requesting funding must provide and demonstrate all of the following:

- Development of a comprehensive reentry strategic plan which describes the long-term strategy and incorporates a detailed implementation schedule, including the plans of the applicant to fund the program after Federal funding is discontinued. The comprehensive reentry strategic plan should contain a plan to assess inmate reentry needs and measurable annual as well as 3-year performance outcomes using, to the maximum extent possible, randomly assigned and controlled studies or rigorous quasi-experimental studies with matched comparison groups to determine the effectiveness of the funded program;
- Identifies the local government role and the role of governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations that will be coordinated by, and that will collaborate on, the offender reentry strategy of the applicant, and certifies the involvement of such agencies and organizations;
- Describes the evidence-based methodology and outcome measures that will be used to evaluate the program funded with a grant under this subsection, and specifically explains how such measurements will provide valid measures of the impact of that program and how the project could be broadly replicated if demonstrated to be effective;
- Documentation that reflects explicit support of the chief executive officer, or their designee, of the State, unit of local government, territory, or Indian tribe applying for a grant under this subsection;
- Discussion of the role of Federal corrections, State corrections departments, community corrections agencies, juvenile justice systems, and tribal or local jail systems will play in ensuring successful reentry of offenders into their communities;
- Provide evidence of collaboration with State, local, or tribal law enforcement agencies and government agencies overseeing health, housing, child welfare, education, substance abuse prevention and treatment, victims services, and employment services;
- Provide a plan for analysis of the statutory, regulatory, rules-based, and practice-based hurdles to reintegration of offenders into the community;

- Include the use of a State, local, territorial, or tribal juvenile reentry task force to carry out activities funded under the grant;
- Provide a plan for continued collaboration with a local evaluator, as necessary to meet the requirements under for evaluation under this grant program.
- Demonstrate that the applicant participated in the planning grant process or engaged in comparable planning for the reentry project.

### **Priority Consideration**

Priority consideration will be given to grant applications that best:

- Demonstrate a commitment to partner with a local evaluator to identify and analyze data that will enable the grantee to target the intended offender population and serve as a baseline for purposes of the evaluation;
- Demonstrate a focus initiative on geographic areas with a disproportionate population of offenders released from prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities;
- Include input from nonprofit organizations, in any case where relevant input is available and appropriate to the grant application; consultation with crime victims and offenders who are released from prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities; input and coordination with families of offenders; the juvenile justice coordinating council of the region; the reentry coordinating council of the region; or from other interested persons;
- Demonstrate effective case assessment and management abilities in order to provide comprehensive and continuous reentry, including planning for prerelease transitional housing and community release that begins upon admission for juveniles and jail inmates, and, as appropriate, for prison inmates, depending on the length of the sentence;
- Establishing prerelease planning procedures to ensure that the eligibility of an offender for Federal, tribal, or State benefits upon release is established prior to release, subject to any limitations in law, and to ensure that offenders obtain all necessary referrals for reentry services, including assistance identifying and securing suitable housing;
- Delivery of continuous and appropriate mental health services, drug treatment, medical care, job training and placement, educational services, vocational services, and any other service or support needed for reentry;
- Review the process by which the applicant adjudicates violations of parole, probation, or supervision following release from prison, jail, or a juvenile facility, taking into account public safety and the use of graduated, community-based sanctions for minor and technical violations of parole, probation, or supervision (specifically those violations that are not otherwise, and independently, a violation of law);
- Provide for an independent evaluation of reentry programs that include, to the maximum extent possible, random assignment and controlled studies to determine the effectiveness of such programs; or



- Target moderate and high-risk offenders for reentry programs through validated assessment tools; or target offenders with histories of homelessness, substance abuse, or mental illness, including prerelease assessment of the housing status of the offender and behavioral health needs of the offender with clear coordination with mental health, substance abuse, and homelessness services systems to achieve stable and permanent housing outcomes with appropriate support service.

## **Deliverables**

Applicants will be required to address the following mandatory requirements in their proposal.

- Grantees will be expected to submit a **Planning and Implementation Guide** to OJJDP for approval at the end of the 6-month planning phase. A comprehensive report assessing the effectiveness of implementation of collaborative efforts, services provided, summary findings of performance measures, and data collected will be submitted to OJJDP at the end of the program.
- **Report on implementation progress at least annually, including data on recidivism rates and other youth outcomes.** The lead agency will provide the task force with a minimum of annual reports and an in-person presentation that details progress made on the key deliverables of the implementation plan along with recidivism rates and other outcomes for the target population.
- **Convene or draw upon an existing statewide or local task force** to manage the implementation of the reentry strategic plan. This task force should be composed of state or local government partners as warranted such as but not limited to local or state mental health, child welfare, and educational agencies; state and local corrections; service providers; and nonprofit organizations. The task force will participate in the implementation of the strategic plan and should review progress reports, at least annually, on recidivism rates and other youth outcomes.

The Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables are directly related to the performance measures that demonstrate the results of the work completed, as discussed under [What an Application Should Include](#).

## **Evidence-Based Programs or Practices**

OJP strongly emphasizes the use of data and evidence in policymaking and program development in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. For additional information and resources on evidence-based programs or practices, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

## **Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities**

Applicants should note that OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the programs and activities funded under this solicitation. For additional information, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) section titled “Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities.”

## Encouraging Program Investments in Economically-Distressed Communities (Qualified Opportunity Zones)

Under this program, OJP will, as appropriate, give priority consideration in award decisions to applications that propose projects that directly benefit federally designated Qualified Opportunity Zones (QOZ).<sup>4</sup> In order to assist OJP in considering this factor, applicants should include information in the application that specifies how the project will enhance public safety in the specified QOZs. For resources on QOZs, and for a current list of designated QOZs, see the U.S. Department of the Treasury's resource webpage, accessible at <https://www.cdfifund.gov/pages/opportunity-zones.aspx>.

### B. Federal Award Information

Maximum number of awards OJJDP expects to make:	9
Estimated maximum dollar amount for each award:	\$750,000
Total amount anticipated to be awarded under solicitation:	\$7,000,000
Period of performance start date:	October 1, 2019
Period of performance duration:	36 months

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

#### Type of Award

OJJDP expects to make any award under this solicitation in the form of a grant. See the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section of the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for a brief discussion of important statutes, regulations, and award conditions that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP grants (and cooperative agreements).

#### Financial Management and System of Internal Controls

Award recipients and subrecipients (including recipients or subrecipients that are pass-through entities) must, as described in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements<sup>5</sup> as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.303, comply with standards for financial and program management. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

#### Budget Information

##### Cost Sharing or Match Requirement

This solicitation requires a **match based on federal award amount**. As required by the Second Chance Act, federal award funds require a 50 percent match from nonfederal sources; for each federal dollar awarded, the recipient must provide 50% of the total costs toward the project. If a successful applicant's proposed match exceeds the required match amount and OJP approves the budget, the total match amount incorporated into the approved budget becomes mandatory and subject to audit. ("Match" funds may be used only for purposes that would be allowable for the federal funds.) Recipients may satisfy this match requirement with either cash or in-kind

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<sup>4</sup> See Public Law 115-97, Title I, Subtitle C, Part IX, Subpart B, Sec. 13823.

<sup>5</sup> The "Part 200 Uniform Requirements" means the DOJ regulation at 2 C.F.R Part 2800, which adopts (with certain modifications) the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200.

services. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on this match requirement.

### **Preagreement Costs (also known as Preaward Costs)**

Preagreement costs are costs incurred by the applicant prior to the start date of the period of performance of the federal award.

OJP does **not** typically approve preagreement costs; an applicant must request and obtain the prior written approval of OJP for all such costs. All such costs incurred prior to award and prior to approval of the costs are incurred at the sole risk of the applicant. (Generally, no applicant should incur project costs **before** submitting an application requesting federal funding for those costs.) Should there be extenuating circumstances that make it appropriate for OJP to consider approving preagreement costs, the applicant may contact the point of contact listed on the title page of the solicitation for the requirements concerning written requests for approval. If approved in advance by OJP, award funds may be used for preagreement costs, consistent with the recipient's approved budget and applicable cost principles. See the section on Costs Requiring Prior Approval in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide (Postaward Requirements) at <https://ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/index.htm> for more information.

### **Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver**

For applicants seeking the waiver, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information.

### **Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs**

OJP strongly encourages every applicant that proposes to use award funds for any conference-, meeting-, or training-related activity (or similar event) to review carefully—before submitting an application—the OJP and DOJ policy and guidance on approval, planning, and reporting of such events. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information.

### **Costs Associated With Language Assistance (if applicable)**

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on costs associated with language assistance that may be allowable.

## **C. Eligibility Information**

Eligible applicants are limited to states (including territories), local governments, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments (as determined by the Secretary of Interior) in partnership with interested persons (including Federal corrections and supervision agencies), service providers, and nonprofit organizations.

A determination by the Secretary of the Interior is not required for tribes to which federal recognition was extended by virtue of Public Law 115-121, the Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act of 2017. All recipients and subrecipients (including any for-profit organization) must forgo any profit or management fee.

OJJDP welcomes applications under which two or more entities would carry out the federal award; however, only one entity may be the applicant. Any others must be proposed as subrecipients (subgrantees). The applicant must be the entity that would have primary responsibility for carrying out the award, including administering the funding and managing the entire program. Under this solicitation, only one application by any particular applicant entity will

be considered. An entity may, however, be proposed as a subrecipient (subgrantee) in more than one application. For additional information on subawards, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

Please note that in order to be eligible for funding under this solicitation, applicants must have a documented plan in place for providing comprehensive reentry program services for youth developed in close collaboration with interested persons (including Federal corrections and supervision agencies), service providers, and nonprofit organizations. The plan should address the mandatory requirements and be submitted as an attachment to the application.

Attach with the application a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that clearly demonstrates a collaborative relationship between the applicant, interested persons (including Federal corrections and supervision agencies), service providers, and nonprofit organizations. The MOU should specify how the applicant will coordinate with community and faith-based organizations and other stakeholders to address significant issues facing youth as they reenter the community. Describe the roles and responsibilities of the youth reentry task force members and the extent to which the applicant will have access to youth participants within residential facilities prior to release.

For information on cost sharing or match requirements, see [Section B. Federal Award Information](#).

## **D. Application and Submission Information**

### **What an Application Should Include**

For this solicitation, OJJDP has designated the following application elements as critical: Program Narrative, Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative, and an MOU that clearly demonstrates a collaborative relationship between the applicant, interested persons (including Federal corrections and supervision agencies), service providers, and nonprofit organizations.

See the “Application Elements and Formatting Instructions” section of the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on, among other things, what happens to an application that does not contain all of the specified elements or that is nonresponsive to the scope of the solicitation.

### **1. Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (Standard Form (SF)-424)**

The SF-424 is a required standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of preapplications, applications, and related information. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on completing the SF-424.

**Intergovernmental Review:** This solicitation (“funding opportunity”) **is not** subject to [Executive Order 12372](#). (In completing the SF-424, an applicant is to answer question 19 by selecting the response that the “Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.”)

### **2. Project Abstract**

Applications should include a high-quality project abstract that summarizes the proposed project in 400 words or less. Project abstracts should be—

- Written for a general public audience.
- Submitted as a separate attachment with “Project Abstract” as part of its file name.
- Single-spaced, using a standard 12-point font (such as Times New Roman) with 1-inch margins.

The abstract should briefly describe the project’s purpose, the population to be served, and the activities that the applicant will implement to achieve the project’s goals and objectives. The abstract should describe how the applicant will measure progress toward these goals. The abstract should indicate whether the applicant will use any portion of the project budget to conduct research, as described in Note on Project Evaluations on page 15. All project abstracts should follow the detailed template available at [www.ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/ProjectAbstractTemplate.pdf](http://www.ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/ProjectAbstractTemplate.pdf).

As a separate attachment, the project abstract will not count against the page limit for the program narrative.

### 3. Program Narrative

Applicants must submit a program narrative that presents a detailed description of the purpose, goals, objectives, strategies, design, and management of the proposed program. The program narrative should be double-spaced with 1-inch margins, not exceeding 30 pages of 8½ by 11 inches, and use a standard 12-point font, preferably Times New Roman. Pages should be numbered “1 of 30,” etc. The tables, charts, pictures, etc., including all captions, legends, keys, subtext, etc., may be single-spaced and will count in the 30-page limit. Material required under the Budget and Budget Narrative and Additional Attachments sections will not count toward the program narrative page count. Applicants may provide bibliographical references as a separate attachment that will not count toward the 30-page program narrative limit. If the program narrative fails to comply with these length-related restrictions, OJJDP may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions.

The program narrative should address the following selection criteria: (1) statement of the problem; (2) goals, objectives, and performance measures; (3) program design and implementation; and (4) capabilities/competencies. The applicant should clearly delineate the connections between and among each of these sections. For example, the applicant should derive the goals and objectives directly from the problems to be addressed. Similarly, the project design section should clearly explain how the program’s structure and activities will accomplish the goals and objectives identified in the previous section.

- Statement of the Problem.** Applicants should briefly describe the nature and scope of the problem that the program will address (e.g., gang activity, underage drinking, drug abuse, truancy, youth employment, recidivism rates, etc.). The applicant should use data to provide evidence that the problem exists, demonstrate the size and scope of the problem, and document the effects of the problem on the target population and the larger community. Any data or research referenced in the narrative should include information about the source of the data and/or a citation. Applicants should describe the target population and any previous or current attempts to address the problem.

Applicants should describe any research or evaluation studies that relate to the problem and contribute to their understanding of its causes and potential solutions. While OJJDP

































