



BJA Bureau of Justice Assistance Fact Sheet

Nancy E. Gist, Director

FY 1998 Open Solicitation Announcement: Call for Concept Papers

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) has issued its *FY 1998 Open Solicitation Announcement* seeking innovative solutions to problems faced by the criminal justice community. BJA invites eligible applicants to help us improve the criminal justice system and build partnerships between the system and public and private organizations. Awards will be worth up to \$150,000 and cover a period of 18 months.

Submission Requirements

Applicants are limited to units and agencies of State, local, or tribal governments. Eligibility includes, but is not limited to, States, counties, municipalities, villages, towns, townships, courts, prosecution, indigent defense, probation, parole, pretrial services, corrections, law enforcement, and social services. Submissions must follow the format outlined in the *FY 1998 Open Solicitation Announcement's* Submission Criteria and must not exceed six pages, excluding a cover page.

Submissions must be received by BJA by close of business (5:30 p.m. eastern time) on July 2, 1998.

For a description of submission requirements in their entirety, applicants should refer to the *FY 1998 Open Solicitation Announcement* now available from the BJA Clearinghouse at 1-800-688-4252 or via the BJA home page at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA>.

Solicitation Topic Areas

Applicants may submit only one paper per topic area but may apply under as many areas as desired. Papers must address the following topic areas:

- Topic Area 1: Community Justice**
Applicants are invited to submit strategies to create partnerships between communities and local criminal justice systems to combat crime.
Eligibility: Units of State, local, or tribal government (see Submission Requirements).
- Topic Area 2: Law Enforcement Partnerships To Address Hate Crimes**
Applicants are invited to submit strategies that address crimes committed against individuals or groups because of their race, ethnicity, religious affiliation, gender, disability, or sexual orientation.
Eligibility: Units of State, local, or tribal government (see Submission Requirements).
- Topic Area 3: Criminal Justice Challenges for Rural or Tribal Communities**
Applicants are invited to submit strategies that address criminal justice challenges unique to rural or tribal communities.
Eligibility: Units of government (including tribal governments) serving rural communities with populations of less than 25,000 residents that are not located within a metropolitan area or that have been designated by the Federal Government as Rural Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, or Champion Communities (see Submission Requirements).
- Topic Area 4: Criminal Justice System Responses to Senior Citizens**
Applicants are invited to submit strategies that address issues presented by senior citizens, including meeting their needs when they are victims, witnesses, defendants, offenders, and volunteers in the criminal justice communities.
Eligibility: Units of State, local, or tribal government (see Submission Requirements).

❑ Topic Area 5: The Role of Alcohol and Crime

Applicants are invited to submit strategies that address the link between alcohol and crime.

Eligibility: Units of State, local, or tribal government (see Submission Requirements).

❑ Topic Area 6: Indigent Defense

Applicants are invited to submit strategies to enhance the representation of indigent criminal defendants.

Eligibility: Units of State, local, or tribal government (see Submission Requirements).

❑ Topic Area 7: Cultural Barriers to Justice

Applicants are invited to submit strategies for reducing cultural barriers to justice, defined as barriers that prevent individuals from participating fully in the criminal justice system by virtue of language, philosophy, or experience.

Eligibility: Units of State, local, or tribal government (see Submission Requirements).

❑ Topic Area 8: Nontraditional Uses of Prosecution Resources To Enhance Public Safety

Applicants are invited to submit strategies that use prosecutors or prosecution resources to enhance public safety through nontraditional work, including, but not limited to, work in schools, in the community, and/or with special-needs populations.

Eligibility: Units of State, local, or tribal government (see Submission Requirements).

❑ Topic Area 9: Public Health and Criminal Justice Collaborations

Applicants are invited to submit strategies for the development of collaborative efforts among public health and

criminal justice agencies to prevent or reduce incidences of violent crime in the community.

Eligibility: Units of State, local, or tribal government (see Submission Requirements).

❑ Topic Area 10: Local Priorities

Applicants are invited to submit innovative strategies to address local problem areas not described in Topic Areas 1 through 9. Topics must specifically address criminal justice issues, and applicants may not submit a concept paper in this category that they have submitted in any other topic area.

Eligibility: Units of State, local, or tribal government (see Submission Requirements).

Note: Eligibility restrictions do not preclude private or not-for-profit agencies from collaborating with authorized applicants, nor do they preclude two or more units of government from applying under the cover of one authorized applicant that will be responsible for the administration of the award. Units of tribal government must represent federally recognized tribes.

For More Information

Copies of the *FY 1998 Open Solicitation Announcement* are available through the BJA Clearinghouse at 1-800-688-4252. Questions concerning the solicitation should be directed to the DOJ Response Center at 1-800-421-6770. Information about the solicitation and other BJA programs is also available through the BJA home page at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA>.

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