

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

STRATEGIES FOR POLICING INNOVATION

2019 Competitive Grant Program

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Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

Overview of Today's Webinar

- What is SPI?
- What has SPI achieved?
- What are the 2019 SPI Solicitation Purpose Areas?
- What should competitive applicants demonstrate?
- What types of agencies may apply?
- What are the steps in the application process?
- Where can I go for guidance and assistance?
- Q&A

Since 2009, the Strategies for Policing Innovation Program (SPI) has provided grant funding and assistance to law enforcement organizations to support their efforts to identify and test innovative, evidence-based solutions to policing challenges and chronic crime problems in their jurisdictions.

SPI's goals are to enable law enforcement agencies to use technology, intelligence, and data in innovative ways; encourage the development of collaborative crime reduction efforts; promote evidence-based practices in law enforcement agencies; and encourage sustainable partnerships between police and researchers while advancing science-based policing practice.

Since its start, SPI has supported 57 law enforcement agencies transform the way they do business.



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What is the SPI Site Based Program?

- Law enforcement agencies competitively receive funding support innovative initiatives meant to improve their crime fighting capacity
- Target a pressing operational, technology implementation, or crime reduction issue for innovative, intensive intervention or implementation
- Often partner with researchers to evaluate their progress and results (strongly encouraged)
- Issues addressed include:
 - Violent crime reduction
 - Technology implementation
 - Crime analysis
 - Prolific offenders and hot spots
 - Alternatives to arrest for people in mental health or drug related crisis
- Receive intensive training and technical assistance (TTA)
- See www.strategiesforpolicinginnovation.com for valuable information on SPI's ongoing work

SPI Results

Boston, MA: The Boston Police Department engaged in a problem-oriented policing process to improve its homicide investigation processes and practices that resulted in a significant increase in its homicide clearance rate.

Los Angeles, CA: The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) implemented Operation LASER to focus on hot spot corridors and chronic violent offenders. Homicides decreased by 56 percent in Newton Division, and overall violent crime declined by almost 20 percent. LAPD has expanded LASER to multiple divisions in an effort to reduce homicides and shootings across the city.

Rochester, NY: The Rochester Police Department (RPD) developed and validated a risk assessment tool as an effective predictive device in retaliatory gun violent disputes. Trends in aggravated assaults and murders in Rochester have continued to decline in the year and a half since the RPD implemented its SPI intervention.

Kansas City, MO: The Kansas City Police Department planned and implemented a comprehensive focused deterrence strategy, which was associated with a 40 percent decrease in homicides and a 19 percent decrease in gun-related aggravated assaults.

The SPI FY 2019 Competitive Solicitation Purpose Areas

- Two Separate Purpose Areas

Purpose Area 1: Policing Innovations

- BJA is looking for innovative, data-driven approaches to challenges currently confronting law enforcement agencies.

Purpose Area 2: Supporting Technology-Driven Information Sharing

- BJA is looking for proposals for projects based in communities experiencing precipitous increases in crime, or in a type or types of crime, and which propose to implement and test justice information-sharing technology to address these crime increases and to improve the exchange of criminal justice data.

- ❖ Can you apply to both? Yes, but each application must focus on a different project

The SPI FY 2019 Competitive Solicitation: Purpose Area 1

- Focused on Developing and Testing Innovative, Evidence-Based Policing Practices
- Applicants are expected to:
 - ✓ Describe the innovative, data-driven approach to be implemented
 - ✓ Identify a specific violent crime problem to address
 - ✓ Develop a prevention, mitigation, or response strategy to address the problem
 - ✓ Evaluate the project
 - ✓ Assess and report the results to BJA, which will make the results publicly available
 - ✓ If awarded, create an action plan to evaluate the effectiveness of the approach

The SPI FY 2019 Competitive Solicitation: Purpose Area 2

- Focused on supporting implementation and testing of applied justice information-sharing technology to reduce or mitigate selected jurisdictions' crime problems.
- Applicants are expected to:
 - ✓ Identify a crime that has **precipitously increased** within the jurisdiction
 - ✓ Describe the law enforcement and/or justice information sharing solution or technology to be implemented to address the identified crime increase and drive its reduction
 - ✓ Develop a comprehensive implementation and testing strategy to reduce and prevent the identified crime
 - ✓ Evaluate the project
 - ✓ Assess and report the results to BJA, which will make the results publicly available
 - ✓ If awarded, create an action plan to evaluate the effectiveness of the information sharing solution

Competitive applicants will have.....

- Strong executive support for the project within the law enforcement agency
 - A practical plan for problem and data analysis
 - A strategy for regular dissemination of information and updates about the project's progress within the law enforcement agency
 - The willingness to examine standard operating procedures and business practices of the agency to identify opportunities for improvement that optimize the agency's capacity to respond to crime
 - A commitment to making the changes necessary to sustain the strategies found to be successful, as measured by the project's evaluation
- ❖ Be sure to check the Review Criteria for the Purpose Areas on pp. 32-34 of the Solicitation

Who Can Apply?

- ✓ State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies
 - ✓ Governmental non-law enforcement agencies acting as their fiscal agent for a law enforcement agency
 - ✓ Federally-recognized Indian tribal governments that perform law enforcement functions
 - ✓ Tribal consortia consisting of two or more federally-recognized Indian tribes (including tribal consortia operated as nonprofit organizations) acting as a fiscal agent for one or more
 - ✓ Tribal law enforcement agencies
-
- ❖ Two or more entities may carry out the federal award; however, only one entity may be the applicant
 - ❖ All recipients and subrecipients (including any for-profit organization) must forgo any profit or management fee

Specific Application Information for BJA Submissions:

- Proposed project periods may be up to 36 months
- Applications for funding amounts:
 - Up to \$700,000 for Purpose Area 1
 - Up to \$500,000 for Purpose Area 2
- Submissions will use evidence-based strategies and programs
- A match is not required
- Awards will be made in the form of a grant
- Project start date should be October 1, 2019 or later
- ❖ **Applications Due on June 11, 2019 at 11:59 pm (Eastern)**

BJA Application Process:

- Applications must be submitted to Grants.gov by **June 11, 2019, at 11:59 p.m. ET**
- Applications are reviewed to ensure they meet the Basic Minimum Requirements (BMR) as stated in the solicitations
- All applications meeting BMR are moved forward for peer review
- Applications are peer reviewed by a panel of three (3) reviewers
- Peer reviewed scores are presented to BJA staff overseeing process
- BJA staff provides the scoring results to the BJA Director with recommendations for funding
- BJA Director makes final decision and submits recommended applications to the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) AAG
- Upon approval awards to be issued to successful candidates no later than 9/30/2019

Application Assistance and Support



National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) Response Center

<https://www.ncjrs.gov>

- Provides solicitation support and general assistance
- Links to all current OJP funding opportunities
- Funding Notices - subscribe to receive email notifications of new opportunities
 - Sign-up to receive the bi-weekly JUSTINFO newsletter as well as the weekly Funding News From NCJRS email.
 - Be sure to select “Grants/funding” as an area of interest in your NCJRS registration profile when you subscribe.
- **email** - grants@ncjrs.gov
- **web chat** - <https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp>
- **toll free** at 800–851–3420;
- **TTY** at 301–240–6310 (hearing impaired only)

The NCJRS Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Application Assistance

Grants.gov

- Provides technical assistance with submitting an application
 - **Customer Support Hotline** – 800-518-4726 or 606—545-5035
 - The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.
 - **Email**
 - <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html>
 - support@grants.gov
- Provides information on available federal funding opportunities for various federal agencies

Stay Connected!!



Social Media

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DOJBJA>
- RSS: <https://www.bja.gov/Connect.aspx>

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

BJA's website – <https://www.bja.gov>

Recommended Resources

BJA Grant Applicant Education Series

A series of four previously recorded webinars designed to assist potential applicants interested in applying for BJA funding opportunities.

- Funding Opportunities for Your Community in 2019: An Overview of What's Ahead
- The First Steps to Applying, Prepare Now
- The Federal Funding Process: What New and Seasoned Applicants Should Consider
- Submitting Your Application: Avoid These Common Mistakes
- <https://www.bja.gov/funding/webinars.html>

Recommended Resources

SPI Solicitation

- <https://www.bja.gov/funding/SPI19.pdf>

SPI Website

- www.strategiesforpolicinginnovation.com

OJP Funding Resource Center

- <https://ojp.gov/funding/index.htm>

DOJ Grants Financial Guide

- <https://ojp.gov/financilaiguide/DOJ/index.htm>

DOJ Grants Financial Management Online Training

- <https://ojpfgm.webfirst.com/>

2019 OJP Grant Application Resource Guide

- <https://ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/Grant-App-Resource-Guide.htm>

NIJ's CrimeSolutions.gov

- <https://www.CrimeSolutions.gov>

Thank you

Bureau of Justice Assistance

<https://www.bja.gov>

BJA SPI TTA solicitation is available at:

<https://www.bja.gov/funding.aspx>

BJA Contact Information

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Questions?