

FY26 COPS Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Webinar



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Community Oriented Policing Services
U.S. Department of Justice

Objective:

- To provide guidance on the COPS Office funding opportunity application process.
- To provide an overview of the following COPS Office open funding opportunities:
 - Collaborative Reform Initiative
 - Safer Outcomes
 - Community Policing Development
 - Law Enforcement Products and Resources
 - Accreditation

Before You Apply

Before You Apply

Websites integral to your application:

▶ **SAM.gov**



▶ **Grants.gov**



▶ **JustGrants**



- **Alphanumeric Code:** It is a unique 12-character code made of letters and numbers.
- **Who Gets One:** It is given to all businesses, organizations, and people who register to do business with the federal government



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Before You Apply *cont'd*

SAM.gov

- **All** entities seeking Department of Justice (DOJ) grant funding must have an “active” registration in SAM.gov to acquire Unique Entity Identifier or UEI. Begin the SAM.gov registration or renewal process **30 days prior** to any deadlines to allow time to complete the full process.
- **Unique Entity Identifier (UEI):**
 - the primary way the government identifies organizations for federal awards.
 - It is used across the entire government in the System for Award Management (SAM).
 - It is a unique 12-character code made of letters and numbers given to all businesses, organizations, and people who register to do business with the federal government

Grants.gov

- Acquire an **Authorized Organization Representative (AOR)** and a Grants.gov username and password and confirm registration. <https://www.grants.gov/applicants/applicant-registration>
- Acquire confirmation for the **AOR from the E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC)**.

JustGrants

- **New Entity (without JustGrants Account).** Register the Entity Administrator (E-Biz POC) and the Application Submitter with DOJ's Justice Grants System (JustGrants).
 - Within 24 hours an email will be sent to register for a JustGrants account. The email is from DOJ's secure user management system (DIAMD) and will include instructions on how to create an account.
 - To ensure you receive these emails and that they are not flagged as spam, we recommend adding DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov to the trusted sender list in your email settings.

JustGrants *cont'd*

- **Assign Authorized Representatives.** the Entity Administrator and must log in to JustGrants to confirm the entity's profile, add users, and assign the two required Authorized Representatives (Law Enforcement Executive/Program Official and Government Executive/Financial Official).

Tips for Applicants

For New Applicants

Start immediately: Account setups take **four weeks** to finish.

Add multiple contacts: Use two people so you do not miss emails.

Double-check details: Match your legal name exactly across all systems.

Onboard early: Open your [JustGrants](#) invite link right when it arrives.

For Returning Applicants

Check your status: Log in to [SAM.gov](#) to ensure your account is active.

Update your team: Remove old employees and assign roles to new staff.

Review new rules: Funding guidelines change, so read the new solicitation carefully.

Where do I complete the application?

Completing an application for a funding opportunity with the COPS Office is a two-step process.

After acquiring your Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) on SAM.gov:

STEP 1. [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)

- Application for Federal Assistance: SF-424
- Section 8F-Applicant Point of Contact
- Section 19-Intergovernmental Review

STEP 2. [JustGrants](https://www.justgrants.gov)

- The remainder of the application process is completed here.

Where do I find COPS Office Funding Opportunities?

[COPS Office NOFO Finder](#)

COPS Office Webpage-[Grants Section](#)

Where do I complete the application? :

- ▶ **[COPS.usdoj.gov](https://www.cops.usdoj.gov)**

Where funding opportunities are located

- ▶ **[Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)**

Where the application is initiated

- ▶ **[JustGrants](https://www.justgrants.gov)**

Where the application is completed

Tips for Applying

- Prepare.
- Read instructions and review thoroughly.
- Save frequently while submitting your applications in JustGrants.
- Pay attention to opening and closing dates.

Tips for Applying

- If you need to make changes to an application do so before the application deadline utilizing the Application Recall feature.
- Review the [External Application Submission Job Aid Reference Guide](#) for help with the application submission process
- Utilize the [DOJ Grant Application Submission Checklist](#) to make sure you are organized and following the required steps.
- Review the complete “How to Apply” presentation on the COPS Office How to Apply page

Application Recall

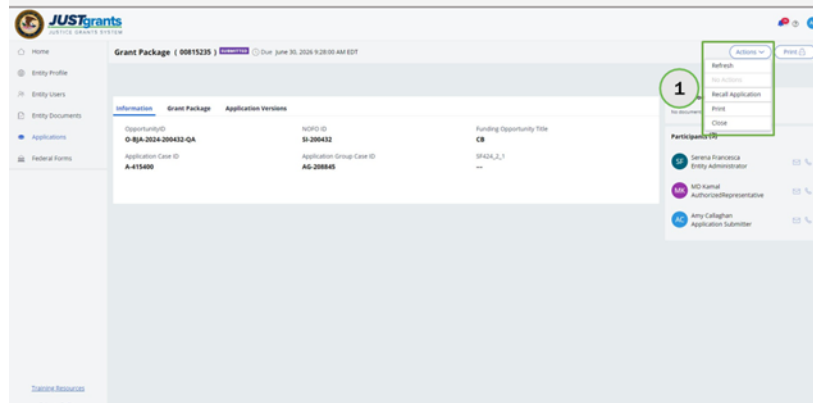
Application Recall

Step 1

IMPORTANT!

The assigned Application Submitter can recall a submitted application before the JustGrants deadline. A recalled application must be resubmitted before the deadline, or the application will not be considered for award.

- 1) Once the application to be recalled has been selected, select Recall Application from the Actions menu.

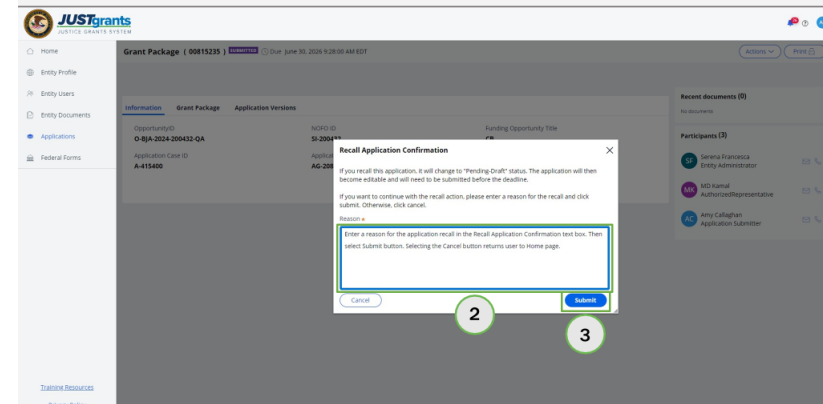


The screenshot shows the JUSTgrants interface with a sidebar on the left containing links for Home, Entity Profile, Entity Users, Entity Documents, Applications, and Federal Forms. The main content area displays a table with columns for Grant Package, Application Versions, and Participants. A green circle labeled '1' highlights the 'Recall Application' option in the Actions menu for a selected application.

Application Recall

Steps 2 - 3

- 2) Enter a reason for recalling the application in the Recall Application Confirmation pop-up window.
 - If you do not want to recall the application, select Cancel or X.
- 3) Select Submit. The application status will become Pending-Draft.



The screenshot shows the JUSTgrants interface with a sidebar on the left. The main content area displays a table with columns for Grant Package, Application Versions, and Participants. A green circle labeled '2' highlights the 'Recall Application Confirmation' pop-up window, which contains a text box for entering a reason for recalling the application. A green circle labeled '3' highlights the 'Submit' button at the bottom right of the pop-up window.

Programs – Collaborative Reform Initiative

Collaborative Reform Initiative

The FY26 Collaborative Reform Initiative (CRI) program funding seeks to provide best practices of law enforcement agencies and the many ways they are protecting Americans, enhance officer safety and wellness, build agencies' capacity for self improvement and effectiveness, and promote community policing practices nationwide.

This funding opportunity has two program categories:

Category 1: Collaborative Reform Initiative Technical Assistance Center (CRI-TAC).

Category 2: Collaborative Reform Initiative Critical Response.



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Programs – Collaborative Reform Initiative

Deadlines:

Grants.gov: August 24, 2026, at 4:59 p.m. ET

JustGrants: August 31, 2026, at 4:59 p.m. ET.

Collaborative Reform Initiative Technical Assistance Center (CRI-TAC)

Provides customizable, short-term technical assistance on more than 60 topics, using a “by the field, for the field” approach.

- **Eligibility**: Law enforcement stakeholder associations (membership organizations)
- **Total funding**: \$3,450,000
- **Award cap**: \$3,450,000 with no local match

Requirements-CRI-TAC

National provider must be able to deliver rapid, tailored technical assistance and logistics to law enforcement agencies nationwide. Applicants must manage a national cadre of subject matter experts, demonstrate operational capacity for concurrent engagements, be able to support rapid deployment of specialized Technical Assistance and produce actionable, best-practice guidance for law enforcement executives.

Complete requirements can be found in the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#).

Out of Scope

Collaborative Reform Initiative Technical Assistance Center (CRI-TAC)

The following will not be considered:

- Applicants that are state, local, tribal, or territorial law enforcement agencies.
- Proposals that are not national in scope.
- Applicants unable to demonstrate the capacity to manage substantial and concurrent technical assistance to law enforcement agencies on a range of law enforcement, public safety, and crime reduction topics.
- Applicants that have predetermined law enforcement agencies to provide reform and TA services.

Critical Response

Provides targeted technical assistance to law enforcement agencies experiencing high profile events, major incidents, or sensitive issues of varying need.

- Eligibility: For-profit (commercial) organizations, nonprofit organizations, and institutions for higher education
- Total funding: \$750,000
- Award cap: \$750,000 with no local match

Requirements-Critical Response

Critical Response provider should be able to provide a wide range of state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement agencies with targeted, customized TA that generally falls into three categories:

1. immediate delivery of technical assistance to address a pressing and acute need
2. data analysis
3. assessments, to include after-action reviews to understand and learn from law enforcement and public safety responses to critical incidents or issues.

Complete requirements can be found in the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#).

Out of Scope

Critical Response

The following will not be considered:

- Applicants that are state, local, tribal, or territorial law enforcement agencies.
- Proposals that are not national in scope.
- Applicants unable to demonstrate the capacity to manage substantial and concurrent technical assistance to law enforcement agencies on a range of law enforcement, public safety, and crime reduction topics.
- Applicants unable to demonstrate experience conducting law enforcement technical assistance, analysis, and after-actions.
- Applicants that have predetermined law enforcement agencies to provide reform and technical assistance services.

Unallowable Costs

- **Sworn Personnel:** Sworn officer base salaries are completely prohibited.
- **Vehicles:** Standard patrol cars or general-purpose vehicles disallowed.
- **Equipment Bans:** Drones, body armor, and ammunition are unallowable.

Safer Outcomes

The Safer Outcomes: Enhancing Crisis Response Training for Law Enforcement Program is comprised of three funding categories:

- **Support for Law Enforcement Agencies**
- **Continuation of Regional De-Escalation Training Centers**
- **Curriculum Integration for Law Enforcement Academics and State-Level Training Commissions**

These programs will fund projects that seek to promote safe outcomes during police encounters and support training in a variety of formats designed to meet the needs of the law enforcement profession.

Deadlines:

Grants.gov: August 27, 2026, at 4:59 p.m. ET

JustGrants: September 3, 2026, at 4:59 p.m. ET.

Areas of Focus

- De-escalation and alternatives to use of force
- Safely responding to an individual experiencing a mental or behavioral health or suicidal crisis
- Safe encounters with individuals with disabilities
- Successfully participating on a crisis intervention team
- Making referrals to community-based services and support

Support for Law Enforcement Agencies

Support training on de-escalation and crisis response, and equipment, supplies, personnel costs, and contracts for embedded co-responder crisis intervention teams

Proposed projects should address one or more of the core focus areas.

- **Eligibility**: State, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement agencies
- **Anticipated Number of Awards**: Up to 22
- **Award cap**: \$350,000 with no local match

Support for Law Enforcement Agencies Requirements

Training program should meet the following requirements:

- The program has clearly defined learning objectives.
- Training is led by instructors with practical experience in the content.
- Training includes scenario-based discussion relevant to the content.
- Participant learning is assessed with both pre- and post-training assessments.
- Participant satisfaction is assessed post-training.

Complete requirements can be found in the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#).

Continuation of Regional De-Escalation Training Centers

Support the coordination of the Regional De-Escalation Training Centers, as well as the provision of training and programming to state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement agencies in a multistate region. Awards under this funding opportunity will be made under two distinct funding paths.

- **Eligibility**: Limited to organizations that have received funding from the Safer Outcomes or Regional De-Escalation Training Centers programs in prior fiscal years (FY21-FY25).
- **Anticipated Number of Awards**: Up to 4
- **Award cap**: Up to \$750,000 with no local match.

Training Centers Paths

The Continuation of Regional De-escalation Training Centers path will provide continuation funding for the provision of training and programming to state, local, Tribal, and territorial law enforcement agencies in a multistate region.

The Continuation and Coordination of Regional De-escalation Training Centers path will support the coordination of the Regional De-escalation Training Centers, as well as the provision of training and programming to state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement agencies in a multistate region.

Training Centers Paths Requirements

- The program addresses one or more of the areas of focus described in this funding opportunity.
- The program has clearly defined learning objectives.
- Training is led by instructors with practical experience in the content.
- Training includes scenario-based discussion relevant to the content.
- Training must follow COPS Office Training Development and Delivery Guidelines, including objective/subjective measurement of training.
- Application includes a detailed explanation of how the applicant proposes to coordinate the efforts of the active COPS Office Regional De-Escalation Training Centers (***Continuation and Coordination of Regional De-escalation Training Centers path only***).

Complete requirements can be found in the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#).

Curriculum Integration for Law Enforcement Academies and State-Level Training Commissions

Support integration of de-escalation and crisis response concepts throughout a curriculum of instruction used to train sworn officer candidates within a law enforcement academy setting or the development of statewide law enforcement training standards or trainings. Awards under this funding opportunity will be made under two distinct funding paths.

- **Eligibility:** Law enforcement training academies or state-level regulatory bodies with the authority to establish training standards or mandate training curriculum for law enforcement (government entities)
- **Anticipated Number of Awards:** Up to 6
- **Award cap:** Up to \$500,000 with no local match

Curriculum Integration Paths

Academy Path: Direct grants to law enforcement training academies that deliver a curriculum of basic law enforcement instruction required for certification and employment in sworn officer positions for state, local, tribal, or territorial law enforcement agencies.

Commission Path: Direct grants to state-level regulatory bodies with the authority to establish training standards or mandate training curriculum for law enforcement officers in the state, commonly referred to as Police Officer Standards and Training Commissions or Peace Officer Standards and Training Commissions (POST).

Curriculum Integration Paths Requirements

- A description of the applicant entity, including the source of the entity's authority to train and certify sworn officers.
- Identification of the law enforcement agency or agencies served by the applicant entity.
- A description of the applicant entity's training program for sworn officer candidates, including the topics covered (consider including the duration of the program, the frequency of new academy classes, the size of academy classes) (***Academy path only***).
- A description of the applicant entity's role in regulating and promoting training for law enforcement in the state (***Commission path only***).

Curriculum Integration Paths Requirements (continued)

- Identification of key project staff, including a description of relevant experience and capacity to complete project deliverables and, if the applicant is proposing to hire staff with project funds, a description of new positions proposed.
- A detailed explanation of how requested funding will be used to develop, revise, or enhance an integrated curriculum that includes one or more areas of focus identified in the Purpose section of the NOFO.
- The purchase of equipment or technology to support curriculum development or training is supported by the funding opportunity, but the applicant must explain how the purchase will support a broader initiative of de-escalation and crisis response–focused curriculum integration.
- A detailed description of project deliverables.

Complete requirements can be found in the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#).

Out of Scope

- Training programs that focus solely on hands-on tactical training, force-on-force skill building, or other topic areas that do not directly contribute to the implementation of a de-escalation or crisis response mindset among officers or deputies.
- Training requests for crisis or hostage negotiation.
- Applications that seek only to purchase equipment or technology, including AR/VR systems, without incorporating such purchases into a broader de-escalation or crisis response training program.
- Training requests designed or intended to teach officers to diagnose individuals with a particular mental health disorder, disability, or personality type.

Out of Scope

The following additional projects and activities are out of scope under the Support for Law Enforcement Agencies category and will not be considered:

- Applications submitted by entities other than state, local, tribal, or territorial law enforcement agencies.
- Applications proposing the implementation of alternative or independent responses by clinician(s). Projects related to the hiring of sworn law enforcement personnel.

The following additional projects and activities are out of scope under the Continuation of Regional De-Escalation Training Centers category and will not be considered:

- Applications submitted by entities that have not previously received funding under the Regional De-Escalation Training Center program.

The following additional projects and activities are out of scope under the Curriculum Integration for Law Enforcement Academies and State-Level Training Centers category and will not be considered:

- Applications submitted by entities other than law enforcement training academies or state-level regulatory bodies with the authority to establish training standards or mandate law enforcement training curricula.
- Applications proposing standalone training activities that are not integrated into a broader curriculum or training program.



Programs - CPD Law Enforcement Products and Resources

Community Policing Development (CPD): Law Enforcement Products and Resources funds products and resources that provide guidance on promising practices; develop and test innovative strategies; build knowledge about effective practices and outcomes; and support new, creative approaches to preventing crime and promoting safe communities and a positive image of policing. Products and resources must specifically be designed for national distribution and offer creative ideas to uplift the image of the law enforcement profession, advance crime fighting, or support common sense policing efforts.



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Programs - CPD Law Enforcement Products and Resources *cont'd*

Deadlines:

Grants.gov: August 24, 2026, at 4:59 p.m. ET

JustGrants: August 31, 2026, at 4:59 p.m. ET.



Programs - CPD Law Enforcement Products and Resources *cont'd*

Eligibility

CPD Law Enforcement Products and Resources program has one open funding opportunity with two subcategories:

- **CPD Law Enforcement Products and Resources**
 - **Eligibility:** institutions of higher education, community groups, faith based organizations, for profit and nonprofit organizations
 - **Award cap:** Up to \$500,000 (no local match)
 - **Anticipated number of awards:** 11
- **COPS Training Portal**
 - **Eligibility:** institutions of higher education, for profit and nonprofit organizations.
 - **Award cap:** one award in the amount of 1,500,000

Programs - CPD Law Enforcement Products and Resources *cont'd*

Focus Areas:

- Detecting and Investigating Human Trafficking
- Gang Violence Enforcement and Investigations
- Immigration and Border Security
- Investigating and Interrupting Child Exploitation
- Investigating and Interrupting Cyber Crime
- Investigating and Interrupting Opioids and Drug Markets
- Officer Recruitment, Hiring and Retention
- Preventing and Investigating Domestic Terrorism
- Unmanned Aerial Systems and Drones.
- Vagrancy and Squatting
- Violent Crime Enforcement and Investigations



Programs - CPD Law Enforcement Products and Resources *cont'd*

The COPS Office seeks to enhance community policing development through this NOFO in the following two funding categories:

Category 1: FY26 Community Policing Development – Law Enforcement Products and Resources

The COPS Office CPD: Law Enforcement Products and Resources program provides funding for the development of resources on law enforcement topics, specifically designed for national distribution, that offer creative ideas to advance crime fighting and community policing through common sense policing practices and initiatives. Any proposed product or resource should be directly in support of the advancement of community policing through common sense policing strategies and practices.



Programs - CPD Law Enforcement Products and Resources *cont'd*

Category 2: FY26 Community Policing Development – COPS Training Portal

The COPS Office CPD COPS Training Portal funds are used to deploy the COPS Office's flagship eLearning program, the COPS Training Portal. A cornerstone of the COPS Office's training and technical assistance program, the COPS Training Portal is responsible for approximately 75 percent of training deliveries annually for the COPS Office, provided at no cost to law enforcement officers, agencies, and stakeholders to improve access to high-quality training that fits the schedules, budgets, and needs of users across the country.



Programs - CPD Law Enforcement Products and Resources *cont'd*

Category 2: FY26 Community Policing Development – COPS Training Portal Requirements

- Create two new eLearning training courses for deployment on the COPS Training Portal.
- Deploy the full catalogue of COPS Office eLearning products on a standalone learning management system (LMS).
- Host a standalone public-facing website.
- Deploy an LMS that allows for future courses, delivered in published SCORM packages, to be loaded and deployed.
- Maintain the existing userbase, while adding at least 7,000 new users in the first year of the award period.
- Enroll at least 25,000 participants in courses in the first year of the award period.
- Coordinate with law enforcement agency leaders to provide tools for agency level and individual registration, enrollment, and tracking of completion data.
- **FULL LIST OF REQUIREMENTS CAN BE FOUND IN THE [NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY](#)**



Programs - CPD Law Enforcement Products and Resources *cont'd*

Application questions and other attachments

- The FY26 Law Enforcement Products and Resources Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) requires a program narrative, and applicants will need to submit a separate budget narrative and project timeline.
- Specific requirements set forth in the NOFO.
- Templates have been provided for the budget narrative. The templates can be found on the program web page.
- Applicants should use appropriately descriptive file names (e.g., Budget Narrative).

Projects Out of Scope

The following will not be considered:

Category 1: FY26 Community Policing Development – Law Enforcement Products and Resources:

- Projects that do not directly address one of the priority topic areas.
- Projects that do not benefit the broader national law enforcement field and only benefit a state, region, or small set of agencies.
- Projects that duplicate an existing COPS Office or other DOJ product or resource.

Category 2: FY26 Community Policing Development – COPS Training Portal:

- Projects that do not address all requirements as outline in the [NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY](#)



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Programs – CPD Law Enforcement Products and Resources *cont'd*

Unallowable Costs

- **Sworn Salaries:** Base compensation and fringe benefits for sworn police officers are unallowable.
- **Tactical Gear:** Prohibited body armor, weapons, ammunition, and standard patrol vehicles.
- **Marketing Swag:** Commemorative challenge coins, gifts, t-shirts, and conference promotional bags are banned.

Programs – Community Policing Development-Accreditation

Community Policing Development Accreditation

Under this funding opportunity, the COPS Office is seeking to establish new and support existing accreditation bodies in states or territories. Funding will focus on such activities as providing technical assistance to agencies, defraying or underwriting accreditation costs, improving customer service and marketing, and developing user-friendly policy templates.

Deadlines:

Grants.gov: August 27, 2026, at 4:59 p.m. ET

JustGrants: September 3, 2026, at 4:59 p.m. ET

CPD Accreditation

- **Eligibility**: Public government agencies, federally recognized tribes and their public agencies, for profit organizations, nonprofit organizations, institutions of higher education, community groups and faith-based organizations.
- **Award cap**: \$350,000 with no local match
- **Anticipated Number of Awards**:8
- Organizations that were funded in FY24 or FY25 are not eligible for funding in FY26

Requirements

- Clearly explain the need for financial support to sustain the accreditation body.
- Provide a detailed project plan that that will support accreditation of law enforcement agencies.
- Create an outreach plan to ensure law enforcement agencies are aware of the accreditation process, with a special emphasis on small and rural agencies.
- Provide a timeline and estimated budget to explain how the accreditation body will be sustained after the award end date.

Complete requirements can be found in the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)

Projects Out of Scope

- Applicants seeking only to continue standard operations without plans to enhance procedures or increase the number of agencies accredited or seeking accreditation will not be considered.
- Applicants seeking to enhance corrections, communications, training academy, or other non-law enforcement accreditation will not be considered.
- Applicants that are law enforcement agencies seeking to obtain accreditation will not be considered.
- Applicants that are national-level accreditation bodies will not be considered.

COPS Office Resources

COPS Office Grants page: <https://cops.usdoj.gov/grants>

Check out the list of OPEN Notice of Funding Opportunities

Each NOFO page contains the following:

- Grants.gov and JustGrants deadlines
- Funding Opportunity Number/Title
- NOFO Guide
- Program Pre-Award Fact Sheet
- Reference materials, if applicable
- Link to the supplemental materials

COPS Office Resources *cont'd*

How to Apply webpage:

<https://cops.usdoj.gov/how-to-apply>

Frequently asked questions

- How to register for JustGrants Virtual Sessions.
- CPA application materials
 - Timeline Template
 - Budget Narrative Template

COPS Office Resources *cont'd*

- Technical assistance contacts
- Program Fact Sheets
 - Background Screening
 - Grant Adjustment Modifications – Budget Modification
 - Consultant Contractor Rates
 - Indirect Costs
 - Program Income
 - Sole Source Justification
 - Training Fact Sheet
 - Webinar Fact Sheet
 - SF-425 Helpful Hints

JustGrants Resources

JustGrants page: <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/>

- Frequently Asked Questions
- Training
- User Support
- Getting Started
- Resources
- Announcements

Grants.gov Resources

Grants.gov: <https://www.grants.gov>

Customer Service Hotline: 1-800-518-4726

Email: support@Grants.gov

Grants.gov Organization Applicant User Guide:

<https://www.grants.gov/help/get-started/>

Standard Form-Application for Federal Assistance(SF-424):

<https://www.grants.gov/forms/forms-repository/>

Standard Form- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities Form (SF-LLL):

<https://www.grants.gov/forms/forms-repository/>

Helpful Online Resources

System for Award Management (SAM):

<https://www.sam.gov>

DOJ Grants Financial Guide:

<https://ojp.gov/financialguide/doj/index.htm>

Uniform Guidance:

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200_main_02l

Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP)

<https://fiscal.treasury.gov/asap/>

THANK YOU!

Email your questions to
AskCopsRC@usdoj.gov



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