

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services



FY25 COPS School Violence Prevention Program

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Application JustGrants Deadline:	June 26, 2025, 4:59 PM, ET.

Overview

The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office, <https://cops.usdoj.gov>) is pleased to announce that it is seeking applications for funding for the FY25 School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). SVPP is a competitive funding opportunity that seeks to improve security at schools and on school grounds through the implementation of evidence-based school safety programs and technology. (Please see Eligibility Information for eligibility criteria.)

Additional information, including the [FY25 SVPP Application Resource Guide](#), [Frequently Asked Questions](#), and [Fact Sheet](#) can be found at <https://cops.usdoj.gov/svpp>.

The COPS Office welcomes applications under which two or more entities would carry out the federal award; however, only one entity may be the applicant. Any other entities carrying out the federal award must be identified as proposed subrecipients. The applicant must be the entity that would have primary responsibility for carrying out the awards, including administering the funding, managing the entire project and monitoring compliance.

The terms and conditions of the federal award are also applicable to subrecipients. Please note the distinction between a subaward that creates a financial assistance relationship to carry out a portion of the federal award and a contract that creates a procurement relationship for the purchase of goods and services needed under the federal award. To assist in making subrecipient and contractor determinations, please refer to the guidance in 2 C.F.R. § 200.331.

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

Eligibility

The following entities are eligible to apply under this program:

- States, units of local government, Indian tribes, and their public agencies, including
 - school districts, including public charter schools and school districts with a single school;
 - school boards;
 - law enforcement agencies.

Note: Individual schools not operating as school districts and independent schools and private schools, including private charter schools, are NOT eligible to apply as primary applicants.

“Other” Entities Definition(s)

State Government Entities: For the purposes of this NOFO, “state” means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Other Units of Local Government: For the purposes of this notice of funding opportunity, other units of local government include towns, boroughs, parishes, villages, or other general purpose political subdivisions of a state.

Additional Applicant Eligibility Factors

Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. §§ 10552(a)(1)–(2), each application shall be accompanied by an assurance that the application was prepared after consultation with individuals not limited to law enforcement officers (including licensed mental health professionals, social workers, students, parents, school violence researchers/academics (if practical), teachers, principals, and other school personnel) to ensure that the improvements to be funded under the grant are

- consistent with a comprehensive approach to preventing school violence, including being protective of student privacy and ensuring that students are not discriminated against on the basis of race, national origin, disability, religion, or sex, and
- individualized to the needs of each school at which those improvements are to be made.

As part of your application, your agency will be required to answer questions directly related to this statutory assurance. Applicants that do not provide this assurance will be deemed ineligible.

In addition, state and local governmental entities must comply with 8 U.S.C. § 1373, which provides that state and local government entities may not prohibit, or in any way restrict, any government entity or official from sending to, receiving from, maintaining, or exchanging information regarding citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual with components of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or any other federal, state or local government entity. This includes any prohibitions or restrictions imposed or established by a state or local government entity or official. For additional information, please see the appendices in the [FY25 SVPP Application Resource Guide](#).

Applications under which two or more entities (project partners) would carry out the federal award will be considered. However, only one entity may be the primary applicant; any others must be proposed as subrecipients. See the [FY25 SVPP Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

With limited funding, the COPS Office expects a competitive NOFO. The COPS Office may elect to fund applications submitted under this NOFO in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and the availability of funding.

Applicants may not submit more than one application to the COPS Office under FY25 SVPP; only one application for COPS Office funding will be reviewed for each applicant.

Contact Information

Agency Contact Description

For technical assistance with submitting the SF-424, please call the Grants.gov customer service hotline at 800-518-4726, send questions via email to support@Grants.gov, or consult the [Grants.gov Organization Applicant User Guide](#). The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

For technical support with the Justice Grants System (JustGrants) application, please contact JustGrants Support at JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or 833-872-5175. JustGrants Support operates Monday through Friday between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) and Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET. Training on JustGrants can also be found at <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/training-resources>.

For programmatic assistance with the requirements of this program, please call the COPS Office Response Center at 800-421-6770 or send questions via email to AskCopsRC@usdoj.gov. The COPS Office Response Center operates Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET, except on federal holidays. In addition, the COPS Office welcomes applicant feedback on this notice of funding opportunity, the application submission process, and the application review process. Provide feedback via email to AskCopsRC@usdoj.gov (Subject line: "FY25 SVPP Feedback").

Submission Information

Registration: To submit an application, all applicants must be registered in SAM.gov with a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number and be registered in Grants.gov.

Submission: Completing an application is a two-step process:

1. Applicants are first required to register via <https://www.grants.gov>, complete the SF-424 form and submit it through the [Grants.gov website](#).
2. Once the SF-424 has been submitted via Grants.gov, the applicant will complete the full application including survey questions and provide attachments in JustGrants.

An application is not considered submitted until both of these steps are completed. For more information about registration and submission, see the Application and Submission section of this NOFO.

All guidance for this program is contained in this NOFO and can also be found at www.cops.gov/svpp.

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Program Description

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) is the component of the U.S. Department of Justice responsible for advancing the practice of community policing by the nation's state, local, territorial, and tribal law enforcement agencies through information and grant resources. To date, the COPS Office has been appropriated more than \$21 billion to advance community policing, including grants awarded to more than 13,000 state, local, territorial, and tribal law enforcement agencies to fund the hiring and redeployment of nearly 140,000 officers.

COPS Office information resources, covering a wide range of community policing topics such as school and campus safety, violent crime, and officer safety and wellness, can be downloaded via the COPS Office's home page, <https://cops.usdoj.gov>.

The FY25 School Violence Prevention Program (SVPP) provides funding directly to states, units of local government, Indian tribes, and their public agencies to improve security at schools and on school grounds in the recipient's jurisdiction through evidence-based school safety programs. The COPS Office anticipates that up to \$73,000,000 will be available for up to \$500,000 per award, with approximately 200 awards anticipated. A local cost share (matching funds) of at least 25 percent in the form of cash is required unless a match waiver is requested and approved, and the period of performance duration will be 36 months, with a period of performance start date of 10/1/25.

Approximately \$1 million of the available funding will be reserved for microgrants for school districts, including rural, tribal, and low-resourced schools. Applications for microgrants must not exceed \$100,000, and the COPS Office will waive the 25 percent local cost share (matching funds) requirement for microgrant applicants that are selected for funding. Consideration for microgrant funding does not exclude your agency from consideration from non-microgrant SVPP funding.

Applications should demonstrate a comprehensive approach to school safety and activities must fall within one of the statutory purpose areas (see 34 U.S.C. § 10551(b)(5)–(9)):

- “Coordination with local law enforcement”
- “Training for local law enforcement officers to prevent student violence against others and self”
- “Placement and use of metal detectors, locks, lighting, and other deterrent measures”
- “Acquisition and installation of technology for expedited notification of local law enforcement during an emergency”
- “Any other measure that, in the determination of the COPS Office Director, may provide a significant improvement in security”

See the [FY25 SVPP Application Resource Guide](#) for a nonexhaustive list of allowable and unallowable costs.

Note: The Office of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Program (OJJDP) also provide grants under STOP Act funding. Those programs fund different purpose areas and project types from COPS funding. **Applicants may submit applications for COPS Office, BJA, and OJJDP funding, but applicants are not permitted to submit the same application to each NOFO. That is, each application must propose distinct projects and costs and must be responsive to the NOFO for which the application is submitted. See the [FY25 SVPP Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on the school safety measures that are considered out of scope for the COPS Office FY25 SVPP NOFOs but may be eligible for funding under the FY25 BJA and/or OJJDP NOFOs.**

Comprehensive School Safety Assessments

As a condition of funding, if awarded, recipients must conduct comprehensive school safety assessments during the grant award period for all schools involved in the project. These assessments must inform the measures necessary to improve school safety and ensure a safe and positive learning environment for students.

Program Goals and Objectives

Goal: To improve security at schools and on school grounds through the implementation of evidence-based school safety programs and technology. SVPP awards will contribute to this goal by funding projects which include funding of civilian personnel to serve as coordinators with local law enforcement, training for local law enforcement officers, purchase and installation of certain allowable equipment and technology, and other measures to significantly improve school security.

- Objective 1: improved information sharing with local law enforcement
- Objective 2: increased interaction and improved communications between law enforcement and school officials
- Objective 3: reduced notification times to law enforcement; improved response time to threats and events accurate identification of danger and follow-up
- Objective 4: increased knowledge of and use of community policing principles
- Objective 5: increased school safety and sustainability planning efforts

For the purposes of this program, a school is defined as an elementary or secondary school, including a Bureau of Indian Affairs-funded school (as defined in section 1141 of the Education Amendments of 1978 (25 U.S.C. § 2021)).³⁴ U.S.C. § 10554(1).

Statutory Authority

This program is authorized under the Students, Teachers, and Officers Preventing (STOP) School Violence Act of 2018 (34 U.S.C. § 10551 et seq.).

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

Federal Award Information: Awards, Amounts and Durations

Anticipated Number of Awards

200

Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount of Awards

Up to \$500,000

Period of Performance Start Date

October 1, 2025

Period of Performance Duration (months)

36 months

Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded under Notice of Funding Opportunity

Up to \$73,000,000

Type of Award

The COPS Office expects to make this award in the form of a grant, which does not provide for substantial involvement between the federal awarding agency and the nonfederal entity in carrying out the activity contemplated by the federal award. Grant recipients will be responsible for day-to-day project management and may reach out to the COPS Office with assistance in implementing the award.

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

Cost Sharing or Match

A minimum 25 percent local cost share (matching funds), which must be in the form of cash, is required unless a waiver is approved. See the Budget and Associated Documentation section for additional information.

Eligibility Information

See the Overview section for detailed eligibility information.

Application and Submission Information

The complete application package (that is, this NOFO, including links to additional documents) is available on Grants.gov and on the COPS Office website <https://cops.usdoj.gov/>. Completing an application under this program is a two-step process.

Before You Begin: SAM.gov Registration and Unique Entity Identifiers (UEIs)

To submit an application, your entity must have an active registration in the [System for Award Management \(SAM.gov\)](#). SAM.gov assigns entities a unique entity identifier (UEI) that is required for the entity to apply for federal funding. You will enter the entity's UEI in the application. Award recipients must then maintain an active UEI for the duration of their award. Visit SAM.gov for details and resources for first-time registration or renewal of an existing registration.

The registration and renewal processes can take several weeks. Start these processes at least 30 days prior to the Grants.gov deadline. Applicants who do not begin the registration or renewal process at least 10 business days prior to the Grants.gov deadline may not be able to complete the process in time and will not be considered for a technical waiver that allows for late submission.

Step One: Grants.gov

Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424): Applicants must register via <https://www.grants.gov> and complete an Application for Federal Assistance, Standard Form 424 (SF-424). The SF-424 is a required standard form that collects the applicant's name, address, and UEI; the funding opportunity number; and the proposed project title, among other information. It is used as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications, applications, and related information under discretionary programs. Applicants must complete and submit the SF-424 via <https://www.grants.gov> using the information provided on that site. The SF-424 must be signed by the Grants.gov authorized organizational representative.

Section 8F – Applicant Point of Contact: Enter the name and contact information of the individual who will complete application materials in JustGrants. JustGrants will use this information to assign the application to this user in JustGrants.

Section 19 – Intergovernmental Review: This funding opportunity is subject to [Executive Order \(E.O.\) 12372](#) (Intergovernmental Review). States that participate in the Intergovernmental Review process have an opportunity to review the applicant’s submission. Find the names and addresses of state Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) for Intergovernmental Review at the following website: [SPOC-list-as-of-August-2024.pdf](#) If the applicant’s state appears on the SPOC list:

- Contact the state SPOC for information and follow the state’s process under E.O. 12372.
- On the SF-424, make the appropriate selection for question 19 once the applicant has complied with its state E.O. 12372 process.

If the applicant’s state does not appear on the SPOC list:

- Answer question 19 by selecting, “Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the state for review.”

Applicants are strongly encouraged to register immediately on <https://www.grants.gov>. Any delays in registering with Grants.gov or submitting the SF-424 may result in insufficient time for processing your application through JustGrants. Refer to the U.S. [Department of Justice \(DOJ\) Application Submission Checklist](#) for additional details.

For technical assistance with submitting the SF-424, please call the Grants.gov customer service hotline at 800-518-4726, send questions via email to support@Grants.gov, or consult the [Grants.gov Organization Applicant User Guide](#). The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

Step Two: JustGrants Application

The remainder of the application will be completed through the Justice Grants System (JustGrants) at <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/>. No other form of application will be accepted. Applications with errors or missing information may be disqualified or rated accordingly. Please note that the application system will not accept incomplete applications or applications with errors.

Standard Applicant Information

To begin the JustGrants application, applicants must first complete a web-based form in JustGrants which is pre-populated with the SF-424 data submitted in Grants.gov. Applicants are required to confirm the two Authorized Representatives (see following) and verify the legal name, address, and enter the ZIP code(s) for the areas affected by the project. For statewide or nationwide projects, the applicant should enter “State” or “National” in this field.

The Authorized Representatives are the officials who have ultimate and final responsibility for all programmatic and financial decisions regarding this COPS Office application as representatives of the legal recipient (e.g., your agency or organization).

Who should be assigned as Authorized Representatives?

For **law enforcement agencies**, COPS Office awards require that both the top law enforcement executive (e.g., chief of police, sheriff, or equivalent) and the top government executive (e.g., mayor, board chairman, or equivalent) sign the application, and (if awarded funding) accept the award package. Both the top law enforcement executive and the top government executive must be assigned the role of Authorized Representative in JustGrants.

For **non-law enforcement agencies**, (institutions of higher education, school districts, private organizations, etc.), COPS Office awards require that both the programmatic official (e.g., executive director, chief executive officer, or equivalent) and financial official (e.g., chief financial officer, treasurer, or equivalent) sign the application, and (if awarded funding) accept the award package. These two officials must have the ultimate signatory authority to sign contracts on behalf of your organization. Both the programmatic official and the financial official must be assigned the role of Authorized Representative in Just Grants. Please note that nonexecutive positions (e.g., clerks, trustees) are not acceptable Authorized Representatives.

Before applicants can complete this section, the two Authorized Representatives must have established accounts in JustGrants after the Grants.gov portion of the application was submitted. **Please note: Users assigned as Authorized Representatives must log into the JustGrants system to activate their account. Users will not be visible in JustGrants until they have successfully logged into JustGrants.**

Application Components

Proposal Abstract

The proposal abstract is entered into a text box in JustGrants. Briefly summarize (in 5–6 sentences / 500 words or less) how your agency intends to use this award to achieve the stated program goals, if funded. The abstract should include names of applicant and partners, project title, purpose of the project (including goal and intended outcome), primary activities for which funds are requested, key partners, and who will benefit (including geographic area to be served). The abstract should be coherent, concise, and able to stand alone as a project summary. The abstract will not be scored but is used throughout the review process.

Write your project abstract for a general public audience without any personally identifiable or law enforcement sensitive information. Avoid using acronyms or terminology unfamiliar to a general public audience. This abstract, along with other federal award information, may be published on publicly available government-wide websites.

Data Requested with Application

Applicants must complete the survey questions in the “Data Requested with Application” section of the JustGrants application. A copy of the survey questions required for this NOFO can be found at <https://cops.usdoj.gov/svpp>.

The following is a summary of the questions that applicants will be required to complete:

- **Program Impact:** Applicants will respond to questions regarding scope of program impact, including the number of schools and students impacted.
- **Need for Improved Security/School Climate:** Applicants will provide information on existing school security infrastructure and planning, and rate of incidents.
- **Need for Federal Assistance:** All applicants are required to explain their inability to address the needs identified in this application without federal assistance. Applicants will answer a series of questions about their service population and about the fiscal health of their area.
- **Proposal Narrative Questions:** All applicants are required to respond to these questions to describe their project and detail their proposal for grant funding.

Budget and Associated Documentation

Budget Detail Worksheet (Web-Based Form)

Applicants must complete the web-based budget worksheet form in JustGrants, providing narrative entries in the “additional narrative” field to describe and justify each proposed cost.

The information in the “additional narrative” field(s) should be mathematically sound and correspond clearly with the information provided in the budget detail worksheets. The narrative should explain how the applicant estimated and calculated all costs and how those costs are necessary to the completion of the proposed project and demonstrate the efficient use of funding in achieving program goals.

All items will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to determine reasonableness and allowability in the context of the allowable and unallowable costs of the program’s purpose areas. Items under the program must be purchased in accordance the requirements set forth by the STOP School Violence Act of 2018 (34 U.S.C. § 10551 et seq.). In addition, each item must programmatically link to the SVPP activities described in your application.

Budget requests must not exceed the three-year award period. The COPS Office reserves the right to deny funding for items not considered reasonable, allocable, and allowable, even if not specified on the list of unallowable costs.

Applicants will not have the opportunity to revise their budget if unallowable costs are included. If selected for award, any unallowable costs will be removed from the budget by the COPS Office, and the award amount will be reduced accordingly.

All final calculations should be rounded to the nearest whole dollar. Once the budget for your application has been completed, a budget summary page will reflect the total amounts requested in each category, the total project costs, and the federal share and local share amounts.

Note: Costs incurred by the applicant prior to the start date of the period of performance of the federal award are unallowable. Requests for reimbursement of items purchased or expenses incurred prior to the award start date (i.e., pre-agreement costs) will not be approved by the COPS Office.

Waiver of Local Cost Share (Matching Funds)

In the Local Match Details section, you will be presented with the option to request a waiver of the local cost share (matching funds) requirement. If a local cost share (matching funds) waiver is requested by selecting “Yes,” you will be instructed to enter the maximum local cost share you would be able to contribute, if any, and to specify if the COPS Office should continue to consider the application if the waiver request is not granted.

Local Cost Share (matching funds) waiver requests will be evaluated based on the availability of funding, a demonstration of severe fiscal distress as reflected through the fiscal health data provided in the application, and a comparison of your fiscal health data with that of the overall applicant pool. Please indicate whether the COPS Office should continue to consider your application if the waiver request is not granted or whether it should be removed from consideration.

Noncompetitive Justification

Applicants should attach the noncompetitive justification or sole source justification as applicable. Additional guidance can be found in the [Sole Source Justification Fact Sheet](#).

Consultant Rate

Applicants should attach the consultant rate justification as applicable. Additional guidance can be found in the [Consultant/Contractor Rate Information for COPS Office Awards Fact Sheet](#).

The COPS Office strongly recommends that uploaded files be clearly named to indicate the applicant organization name and the file contents to ensure that reviewers can easily locate application documents. Recommended file formats are Adobe PDF, Microsoft Word, and Microsoft Excel.

Additional Application Components

Letters of Support

Letters of support are required from major partners and other significant stakeholders when a proposed project involves coordination with another jurisdiction or agency (city, county, law enforcement agency, school district, etc.). Letters of support should confirm major partners’ or significant stakeholders’ planned involvement and support of the project. If an applicant submits multiple versions of the same document, the COPS Office will review only the most recent system validated version submitted.

Submit letters of support together as one attachment. The COPS Office strongly recommends that uploaded files be clearly named to indicate the applicant organization name and the file contents to ensure that reviewers can easily locate application documents. Recommended file formats are PDF, Microsoft Word, and Microsoft Excel.

Disclosures and Assurances

Lobbying Activities

JustGrants will prompt each applicant to indicate if it is required to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure under 31 U.S.C. § 1352.

The applicant is required by law to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure form (Standard Form/SF-LLL) if it has paid or will pay any person to lobby in connection with the award for which it is applying AND this application is for an award in excess of \$100,000. This disclosure requirement is not applicable to such payments by an Indian Tribe, Tribal organization, or any other Indian organization that are permitted by other federal law.

For this requirement, lobbying means influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress.¹ Note: Most applicants do not engage in activities that trigger this disclosure requirement.

An applicant that is not required by law² to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure should enter “No.” By doing so, the applicant is affirmatively asserting (under applicable penalties) that it has nothing to disclose under 31 U.S.C. § 1352 with regard to the application for the award at issue.

U.S Department of Justice (DOJ) Certified Standard Assurances

Review and accept the [DOJ Certified Standard Assurances](#) in JustGrants. See the [FY25 SVPP Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

DOJ Certifications

Review the DOJ document [Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing](#). Sign the certification document. See the [FY25 SVPP Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Federal Civil Rights and Award Review

Please be advised that an application may not be funded and, if awarded, a hold may be placed on the award if it is deemed that the applicant is not in compliance with federal civil rights laws, is not cooperating with an ongoing federal civil rights investigation, or is not cooperating with a U.S. Department of Justice award review or audit.

¹ See 31 U.S.C. 1352; 28 C.F.R. part 69.

² Law referenced is 31 U.S.C. 1352.

Submission Dates and Time

The COPS Office highly recommends applicants work through the [JustGrants DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#) before submitting an application for review. This checklist details each step required to prepare a complete and accurate application submission.

Completed applications and all mandatory application components must be submitted in JustGrants June 26, 2025, by 4:59 p.m. ET. *Please note that technical support will not be available after 5:00 p.m. ET.*

To maintain the integrity of the competitive notice of funding opportunity process, the COPS Office can provide publicly available technical assistance regarding the mechanics of the application but cannot evaluate the merits of an application during the open notice of funding opportunity period.

For technical support with the Justice Grants System (JustGrants) application, please contact JustGrants Support at JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or 833-872-5175. JustGrants Support operates Monday through Friday between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) and Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET. Training on JustGrants can also be found at <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/training-resources>.

Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act

If you are an applicant using assistive technology and you encounter difficulty when applying, please contact the COPS Office Response Center at AskCopsRC@usdoj.gov. The department is committed to ensuring equal access to all applicants and will assist any applicant who may experience difficulties with assistive technology when applying for awards using the JustGrants System.

You are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this application is 1103-0098, and the expiration date is 04/30/2025.

Late Submissions

The COPS Office will review on a case-by-case basis requests for late submission due to unforeseen technical issues or extraordinary events such as extreme weather emergencies or mass casualty events.

- Requests for an extension of the Grants.gov deadline must be received no later than June 18, 2025, 4:59 p.m. ET.
- Requests for an extension of the JustGrants deadline must be received no later than June 26, 2025, 4:59 p.m. ET.

No late submission requests will be considered after the extension requests deadline. Extension of deadlines is rare and is not guaranteed.

To be considered for an extension, applicants must contact the COPS Office Response Center via email at AskCopsRC@usdoj.gov detailing the technical/extraordinary issues that impact application submission. This email must be submitted prior to the deadline for which the applicant is requesting an extension. The applicant's email must include the following information:

- UEI number
- Organization name
- Point of contact name and information
- Application ID
- Nature of the issue/disaster and how it affected the applicant's ability to submit the application on time

The email subject line should read "FY25 SVPP Extraordinary Circumstances: [UEI number, Agency Name, Application ID]", with your UEI number and organization name and details filled in.

The COPS Office will respond to each applicant as soon as possible with either an approval and instructions for submission or a rejection. If the technical issues you reported cannot be validated, the application will be rejected.

The following conditions are not valid reasons to request an extension:

- Failure to begin the registration process in sufficient time
- Failure to follow instructions on Grants.gov or JustGrants
- Failure of the two assigned Authorized Representatives, with the proper authority, to activate accounts in JustGrants prior to application submission
- Failure to follow all the instructions in the notice of funding opportunity
- Failure to register or update information on the SAM website
- Failure to register or complete the SF-424 in grants.gov

Late submissions may be considered for review at the discretion of the COPS Office on a case-by-case basis due to unforeseen technical issues or extraordinary events such as extreme weather emergencies or mass casualty events.

Application Review Information

The COPS Office is committed to ensuring a fair process for making awards. The COPS Office will review the application to make sure that the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, achievable, and consistent with the NOFO. Applications will undergo a review and selection process, which includes a review of basic minimum requirements, scoring, comprehensive narrative review, administrative compliance review, and the COPS Office Director's selection. A description of each phase is provided in the following sections. Applicants are encouraged to review their own application prior to submission, with particular attention given to the Basic Minimum Requirements and each of the Review Criteria specified in the descriptions that follow.

Basic Minimum Requirements (BMR) Review

Once the NOFO closes, COPS Office staff screen and evaluate applications for compliance with basic minimum requirements (BMR).

BMR Criteria

The BMR review ensures that applicants are States, units of local government, Indian tribes, and public agencies and the application was responsive to the NOFO.

Application Review

A team of reviewers will evaluate applications that meet the eligibility basic minimum requirements. The COPS Office may use internal reviewers, external reviewers, or a combination to assess applications on technical merit using the NOFO's review criteria. An external reviewer is an expert in the subject matter of a given topic area who is not a current federal employee. An internal reviewer is a current federal employee who is well-versed or has expertise in the subject matter of the subcategory. Feedback is advisory only, although reviewer views are considered carefully. Reviewers will be asked to review applications based on the application subcategory and the NOFO's stated purpose for the funding. Reviewers will also be asked to consider the subcategory-specific solicited goals, requirements, and deliverables described in the NOFO language.

Applications will first be scored according to the following weighting methodology, using responses to application questions:

- Program Impact: 25 percent
- Improved Security Need: 50 percent
- Federal Assistance Need: 25 percent

In determining which proposals will move forward to comprehensive narrative review, the COPS Office will consider scores, Administration priorities, as well as other considerations including geographic variety, including urban, suburban, and rural, and demonstrated need for improved school security and climate.

Note: Consideration for microgrant funding does not exclude your agency from being evaluated within the larger SVPP pool. In addition, any applicable priority consideration(s) is only one of many factors in making COPS Office funding decisions and does not guarantee an award.

Additional Consideration

Additional consideration may be provided to applicants that:

- Did not receive funding under FY22- FY24 SVPP.
- Faced an unanticipated major disaster catastrophic event that had a significant impact on school security needs or on the ability to implement school safety and security enhancements in the time period from January 1, 2024, to present.
- Cooperate with federal law enforcement to address illegal immigration (state and local government applicants only).

Review Criteria

Proposals selected for Comprehensive Narrative Review will then be reviewed and evaluated based on the following criteria:

- School Safety Planning and Assessment efforts
- Funding Request and Integration
- Management and Implementation Plan
- Sustainability Plan

Applications will receive a Comprehensive Narrative Review rating of Recommended or Not Recommended based on how the proposed project addresses the above elements.

Administrative Compliance Review

All advancing applications will undergo an administrative compliance review. Past financial and programmatic performance with U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) award funding will be considered in this review process. Past performance may affect the overall rating and ranking of an application. Factors that may be included in the past performance review include the following:

- Applicant adherence to all special conditions in prior awards
- Applicant compliance with programmatic and financial reporting requirements

- Applicant completion of closeout for prior awards in a timely manner
- Whether the applicant has received financial clearances in a timely manner
- Applicant timely resolution of issues identified in an audit or monitoring review
- Applicant adherence to single audit requirements
- Applicant timely completion of work and use of funds in prior awards

Pursuant to 2 C.F.R. Part 200 (“Uniform Guidance”), before award decisions are made, the COPS Office also reviews information related to the degree of risk posed by applicants. Among other things to help assess whether an applicant with one or more prior federal awards has a satisfactory record with respect to performance, integrity, and business ethics, the COPS Office checks whether the applicant is listed in SAM as excluded from receiving a federal award.

The COPS Office must also review and consider any information about the applicant that appears in the nonpublic segment of the integrity and performance system accessible through SAM.gov under Entity Information, Responsibility/Qualification (formerly FAPIIS.gov). Applicants may review and comment on any information about their organization or agency in SAM that a federal awarding agency previously entered in the designated integrity and performance system, and such applicant comments will also be reviewed and considered.

The COPS Office may contact applicants regarding budget and financial questions as part of the review process. Contact is not indicative of an award decision. Based on risk findings, the COPS Office may remove an applicant from consideration or apply additional post-award conditions for oversight of the award should it be selected for funding.

Director Selection

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final award decisions will be made by the Director of the COPS Office, who may also give consideration to factors including prior funding history, current award balances, population served, agency type and geographic variety, strategic priorities, past performance, significant concerns regarding ability of the applicant to administer federal funds, and available funding when making awards.

Federal Award Notices

It is anticipated that awards will be announced on or after September 1, 2025. Any public announcements will be posted on the [COPS Office website](#). All award decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

Notice of award will be sent electronically from JustGrants to the Application Submitter, Authorized Representative, and Entity Administrator. Please note that this notice of award is NOT an authorization to begin performance. This award notification will include instructions on accessing the official award package in JustGrants, enrolling in Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP), and accepting

the award. The notice of award will contain details about the award including start and end dates, funding amounts, and award conditions. Recipients will be required to log into JustGrants to review, sign, and accept the award package. Applicants not selected for award will receive notification after all award recipients have been notified.

The Award Package

The federal award package is the document indicating your official award funding amount, the award number, the award terms and conditions, and award start and end dates. The award start date indicated in the award package means that your organization may be reimbursed for any allowable costs incurred on or after this date. The duration of award is 36 months.

Your FY25 award number is in the following format: 15JCOPS-25-XX-XXXXX-XXXX. The COPS Office tracks award information using this number; therefore, it is important to have your award number readily available when corresponding with the COPS Office.

The award terms and conditions are listed in the award package. In limited circumstances, your award package may include additional award conditions or high-risk conditions that prevent your organization from drawing down or accessing award funds until the COPS Office determines that these conditions have been satisfied. Acceptance of the award is an acknowledgement that you are obtaining federal funds from the COPS Office. As part of that agreement, your organization acknowledges that it will comply with all applicable award terms and conditions, including any award or high-risk conditions.

Administrative and National Policy Requirements

In addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the approved project proposal and budget, the recipient must also comply with award terms, conditions, and other legal requirements including, but not limited to, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), or other federal regulations that will be included in the award or incorporated into the award by reference or applicability.

The COPS Office strongly encourages applicants to review applicable requirements and terms and conditions prior to submitting an application. Terms and conditions for COPS Office awards are available on the COPS Office website in the [FY25 SVPP Application Resource Guide](#). Terms and conditions are subject to change before the award is issued. The FY25 SVPP Application Resource Guide contains additional requirements which apply to this application and award, including audit requirements, suspension, and termination requirements.

Terms, Conditions, and Award Requirements

In addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the approved project proposal and budget, the recipient must also comply with award terms, conditions, and other legal requirements including, but not limited to, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), or other federal regulations that will be included in the award or incorporated into the award by reference or applicability.

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Accepting the Award

To officially accept and begin your award, your organization must access your award package at <https://justgrants.usdoj.gov/>. Once you access your account, two Authorized Representatives will review and electronically sign the award document (including award terms and conditions and, if applicable, any special award conditions or high-risk conditions) within **45 days of the date shown on the award congratulatory letter**, unless an extension is requested and granted.

The two assigned Authorized Representatives (Law Enforcement Executive / Programmatic Official and Government Executive / Financial Official), as described in the Application Contents and Format section, are required to sign the award package. If either or both Authorized Representatives change between application submission and award receipt, the Entity Administrator will need to update the Authorized Representative(s) in JustGrants.

Your organization will not be able to draw down award funds until the COPS Office receives your signed award document. For more information on accepting your award, please visit the [JustGrants Training page](#) for step-by-step instructions.

Administrative Actions and Legal Remedies Related to Federal Awards

Please be advised that an application may not be funded or, if awarded, a hold may be placed on this application if it is deemed that the applicant is not in compliance with federal civil rights laws, is not cooperating with an ongoing federal civil rights investigation, or is not cooperating with a U.S. Department of Justice award review or audit.

Misuse of COPS Office funds or failure to comply with all COPS Office award requirements may result in legal sanctions including suspension and termination of award funds, the repayment of expended funds, ineligibility to receive additional COPS Office funding, designation on the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) High Risk List, and other remedies available by law.

Under the False Claims Act, any credible evidence that a person has submitted a false claim or has committed a criminal or civil violation of laws pertaining to fraud, conflict of interest, bribery, gratuity, or similar misconduct involving COPS Office funds may be referred to the Office of Inspector General (OIG). The OIG may be contacted at oig.hotline@usdoj.gov, <https://oig.justice.gov/hotline/index.htm>, or 800-869-4499.

Remedies for Noncompliance

Under 2 C.F.R. § 200.339, if the recipient fails to comply with award terms and conditions, the Federal awarding agency may impose additional conditions or take one or more of the following actions as appropriate in the circumstances:

- Temporarily withhold cash payments pending correction of the deficiency by the non-Federal entity or more severe enforcement action by the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity.
- Disallow (that is, deny both use of funds and any applicable matching credit for) all or part of the cost of the activity or action not in compliance.
- Wholly or partly suspend or terminate the Federal award.
- Initiate suspension or debarment proceedings as authorized under 2 C.F.R. Part 180 and Federal awarding agency regulations (or, in the case of a pass-through entity, recommend such a proceeding be initiated by a Federal awarding agency).
- Withhold further Federal awards for the project or program.
- Take other remedies that may be legally available.

Prior to imposing sanctions, the COPS Office will provide reasonable notice to the recipient of its intent to impose sanctions and will attempt to resolve the problem informally. Appeal procedures will follow those in the U.S. Department of Justice regulations in 28 C.F.R. Part 18. Awards terminated due to noncompliance with the federal statutes, regulations, or award terms and conditions will be reported to the integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently FAPIIS).

False statements or claims made in connection with COPS Office awards may result in fines, imprisonment, debarment from participating in federal awards or contracts, and any other remedy available by law.

Please be advised that recipients may not use COPS Office funding for the same item or service also funded by another U.S. Department of Justice award.

Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For technical assistance with submitting the SF-424, please call the Grants.gov customer service hotline at 800-518-4726, send questions via email to support@Grants.gov, or consult the [Grants.gov Organization Applicant User Guide](#). The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

For technical support with the Justice Grants System (JustGrants) application, please contact the JustGrants Support at JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or 833-872-5175. The JustGrants Support operates Monday through Friday between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) and Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET. Training on JustGrants can also be found at <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/training-resources>.

For programmatic assistance with the requirements of this program, please contact the COPS Office Response Center at AskCopsRC@usdoj.gov. The COPS Office Response Center operates Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET, except on federal holidays.

Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. §§ 552 and 552a)

All applications submitted to the COPS Office (including all attachments to applications) are subject to the federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and to the Privacy Act. By law, DOJ may withhold information that is responsive to a request if DOJ determines that the responsive information is protected from disclosure under the Privacy Act or falls within the scope of one or more of the nine statutory exemptions under FOIA. DOJ cannot agree not to release some or all portions of an application/award file in advance of a request pursuant to the FOIA.

In its review of records that are responsive to a FOIA request, the COPS Office will withhold information in those records that plainly falls within the scope of the Privacy Act or one of the statutory exemptions under FOIA. Some examples include certain types of information in budgets and names and contact information for project staff other than certain key personnel. In appropriate circumstances, the COPS Office will request the views of the applicant/recipient that submitted a responsive document.

Feedback to the COPS Office

To assist the COPS Office in improving its application and award processes, we encourage applicants to provide feedback on this NOFO, the application submission process, and the application review peer review process. Provide feedback via email to AskCopsRC@usdoj.gov with the following subject line: "FY24 [Insert Program Here] Program Feedback."

Important: This email is for feedback and suggestions only. Replies are not sent from this mailbox. If you have specific questions on any program or technical aspect of the NOFO, you must contact the COPS Office Response Center at AskCopsRC@usdoj.gov.

COPS Office Other Information

Reporting, monitoring, and evaluation requirements

Reporting

If awarded, your organization will be required to submit quarterly Standard Form 425, Federal Financial Reports (FFR) as well as semiannual Programmatic Performance Reports. Recipients should be prepared to track and report program award funding separately from other funding sources (including other COPS Office federal awards) to ensure accurate financial and programmatic reporting on a timely basis. Recipients should ensure that they have financial internal controls in place to monitor the use of program funding and ensure that its use is consistent with the award terms and conditions. Good stewardship in this area includes written accounting practices, use of an accounting system that tracks all award drawdowns and expenditures, and the ability to track when award-funded positions are filled or approved purchases are made. Failure to submit complete reports or submit reports in a timely manner will result in the suspension and possible termination of a recipient's COPS Office award funding or other remedial actions.

Monitoring

Federal law requires that agencies receiving federal funding from the COPS Office be monitored to ensure compliance with their award conditions and other applicable statutory regulations. The COPS Office is also interested in tracking the progress of our programs and the advancement of community policing. Both aspects of award implementation—compliance and programmatic benefits—are part of the monitoring process coordinated by the U.S. Department of Justice.

Awarded organizations will be responsible for submitting Programmatic Performance Reports on a semiannual basis and SF-425 - Federal Financial Reports on a quarterly basis. In addition, awarded organizations will be responsible for the timely submission of a final Closeout Report and any other required final reports. All COPS Office recipients will be required to participate in such award monitoring activities of the U.S. Department of Justice, including but not limited to the COPS Office, the Office of the Inspector General, or any entity designated by the COPS Office.

Please note that the COPS Office may take a number of monitoring approaches, such as site visits, enhanced office-based award reviews, alleged noncompliance reviews, and periodic surveys to gather information and to ensure compliance. The COPS Office may seek information including, but not limited to, your organization's compliance with nonsupplanting and both programmatic and financial requirements of the award, and your organization's progress toward achieving your community policing strategy. Grant Operations staff are particularly interested in confirming that the purchase of items and/or services is consistent with the applicant's approved award budget as reflected on the Financial Clearance Memorandum and Final Funding Memorandum.

If awarded funds, you agree to cooperate with and respond to any requests for information pertaining to your award in preparation for any of the above-referenced award monitoring activities.

Please feel free to contact your COPS Office Program Manager to discuss any questions or concerns you may have regarding the monitoring, reporting, and evaluation requirements.

Program Evaluation

Though a formal assessment is not a requirement, awarded organizations are strongly encouraged to conduct an independent assessment of their respective award-funded projects. Project evaluations have proven to be valuable tools in helping organizations identify areas in need of improvement, providing data about successful processes, and reducing vulnerabilities.

Selected award recipients shall be evaluated on the local level or as part of a national evaluation, pursuant to guidelines established by the Attorney General. Such evaluations may include assessments of individual program implementations. In select jurisdictions that can support outcome evaluations, measurement of the effectiveness of funded programs, projects, and activities may be required. Outcome measures may include crime and victimization indicators, quality of life measures, community perceptions, and police perceptions of their own work.

Financial Management and System of Internal Controls

Award recipients and subrecipients must, as set out in the Uniform Guidance at 2 C.F.R. § 200.303, do the following:

- Establish, document, and maintain effective internal control over the federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the recipient or subrecipient is managing the federal award in compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award. These internal controls should align with guidance in “Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government” issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the “Internal Control Integrated Framework” issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).
- Comply with the U.S. Constitution, federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the federal award.
- Evaluate and monitor the recipient’s or subrecipient’s compliance with statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of federal awards.
- Take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified.
- Take reasonable cybersecurity and other measures to safeguard protected personally identifiable information (PII) and other information. This also includes information the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity designates as sensitive or other information the recipient or subrecipient considers sensitive and is consistent with applicable federal, state, local, and tribal laws regarding privacy and responsibility over confidentiality.

Audit Requirement

The Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards at 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart F – Audit Requirements, available at <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200/subpart-F>, establish the requirements for organizational audits that apply to COPS Office award recipients. Recipients must arrange for the required organization-wide (not award-by-award) audit in accordance with the requirements of Subpart F.

Civil Rights

All recipients are required to comply with nondiscrimination requirements contained in various federal laws. A memorandum addressing federal civil rights statutes and regulations from the Office for Civil Rights, Office of Justice Programs will be included in the award package for award recipients. All applicants should consult the Assurances form to understand the applicable legal and administrative requirements.

Funding to Faith-Based Organizations

Faith-based organizations may apply for this award on the same basis as any other organization subject to the protections and requirements of 28 C.F.R. Part 38 and any applicable constitutional and statutory requirements, including 42 U.S.C. 2000bb et seq. The Department of Justice will not, in the selection of recipients, discriminate for or against an organization on the basis of the organization's religious character, motives, or affiliation, or lack thereof, or on the basis of conduct that would not be considered grounds to favor or disfavor a similarly situated secular organization.

A faith-based organization that participates in this funded program will retain its independence from the Government and may continue to carry out its mission consistent with religious freedom and conscience protections in Federal law. An organization may not use direct Federal financial assistance from the Department of Justice to support or engage in any explicitly religious activities except when consistent with the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment and any other applicable requirements. An organization receiving Federal financial assistance also may not, in providing services funded by the Department of Justice, or in their outreach activities related to such services, discriminate against a program beneficiary or prospective program beneficiary on the basis of religion, a religious belief, a refusal to hold a religious belief, or a refusal to attend or participate in a religious practice.

Any organization providing social services supported by financial assistance from DOJ must give written notice to beneficiaries and prospective beneficiaries of certain civil rights protections. In certain instances, a faith-based or religious organization may be able to take religion into account when making hiring decisions, provided it satisfies certain requirements. Further guidance on federal financial assistance for faith-based organizations can be found at [Civil Rights | Partnerships with Faith-Based and Other Neighborhood Organizations | Office of Justice Programs \(ojp.gov\)](#) and [Equal Treatment of Faith-Based Organizations in DOJ-Supported Social Service Programs](#).

Public Reporting Burden: Paperwork Reduction Act Notice

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to be up to 11.3 hours per response, depending upon the COPS Office program being applied for, which includes time for reviewing instructions. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspects of the collection of this information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, U.S. Department of Justice, 145 N Street NE, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Public Use Reports Project, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503. For any questions or comments, please contact Donald Lango, COPS Office Paperwork Reduction Act Program Manager, at 202-616-9215.

You are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this application is 1103-0098, and the expiration date is 04/30/2025.

Performance Measures

To assist in fulfilling the U.S. Department of Justice's responsibilities under the Government Performance and Results Act Modernization Act (GPRA Modernization Act) of 2010, P.L. 111–352), recipients who receive funding from the Federal Government must measure the results of the work that funding supports. This act specifically requires the COPS Office and other federal agencies to set program goals, measure performance against those goals, and publicly report progress in the form of funding spent, resources used, activities performed, services delivered, and results achieved.

The performance measures for this program can be found at [Compliance and Reporting | COPS OFFICE](#).

Based on the data collected from recipients, the COPS Office may make improvements to this program to better meet the program's objective and recipients' needs. Data will be collected on a periodic basis through performance reports.

Application Checklist

Please refer to the [JustGrants DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#).