



U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Grants

June 2026

CONSULTATION TOPIC: DOJ Plan to Establish the Bureau of Justice Grants

OVERVIEW

The Department of Justice (DOJ) plans to consolidate the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office), the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), and the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) into a single grantmaking component named the Bureau of Justice Grants (BJG). BJG will be a one-stop shop for all DOJ grants, enabling applicants and recipients to spend less time on paperwork and inefficient processes and more time on making their communities safe.¹ For far too long, Tribes and other stakeholders have urged the Department to reduce the administrative burden that accompanies federal grant dollars, as well as confusion and inconsistencies across DOJ grants. Reducing these costs means more money in the hands of grantees to protect people, fight crime, and support victims. To help ensure the plan achieves these aims, the Department is seeking feedback from Tribes through formal consultation.

EXPECTED EFFICIENCIES AND BJG STRUCTURE

The COPS Office, OJP, and OVW have already aligned and streamlined notices of funding opportunity (NOFOs) for fiscal year (FY) 2026 with clearer and simpler instructions and steps. Plans for FY 2027 include making the application and budgeting process simpler, eliminating unnecessary or duplicative work, and reducing variations in format. BJG also will reduce and simplify the conditions that must be met to administer a grant award, as well as grant management and reporting processes, leading to faster access to grant funds. Common internal administrative processes also are expected to lead to greater efficiency and uniformity in application review and funding decisions.

The new BJG structure will result in unified communications, making it easier to stay informed, get questions answered, and find funding opportunities. It also is intended to increase the efficiency and quality of services provided by DOJ grants staff. BJG will be headed by a Presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed Assistant Attorney General, who will oversee the work across BJG, including operations and management. The COPS Office, OVW, and OJP will remain distinct units within BJG and retain their separate functions. Funding set aside for Tribal communities is not being reduced or diluted under this plan. Additionally, the intent is for Tribal grantees to continue to have access to grant managers with expertise in working with Tribal communities.

TIMELINE AND FEEDBACK

The Department is seeking stakeholder feedback on the BJG plan over the course of June and July, including through this Tribal consultation. DOJ will then refine the plan, seek approval

¹ See U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE, FY 2027 BUDGET & PERFORMANCE SUMMARY, BUREAU OF JUSTICE GRANTS (2026), <https://www.justice.gov/jmd/media/1434566/dl?inline>.



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from the Office of Management and Budget, and notify Congress of this reorganization in August, with execution beginning in September. Efforts to make it easier to apply for and manage grants will continue into FY 2027. The Department will monitor efficiency and cost-savings metrics, continue to make improvements, and adapt and change course as needed and based on ongoing feedback.

The COPS Office, OJP, and OVW are consistently focused on standardizing processes and reducing burden on applicants and grantees. This means identifying the most efficient approaches across offices and implementing best practices accordingly. These efforts complement ongoing grant streamlining efforts in response to stakeholder feedback over the years.

In the past, Tribes have overwhelmingly supported efforts to increase funding for their public safety and justice systems, along with greater flexibility in how they spend those funds. They have emphasized the need for consistent and reliable funding for core criminal justice system functions, as well as funds set aside for victim services and comprehensive responses to violence against women crimes. Tribes also have consistently expressed support for reducing application steps, clearing budgets more quickly, and simplifying performance reports.² The BJG plan seeks to implement many of these recommendations, and the Department requests further feedback on how best to address Tribes' concerns through this consolidation.

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS:

- Do Tribal leaders have suggestions for how BJG can best achieve a uniform grant review and administration framework?
- For example, are there:
 - Specific recommendations for reducing steps in grant processes?
 - Specific measures the Department should implement as part of this consolidation to increase the impact of DOJ grant funding on safety in Tribal communities?
- What else should the Department consider so that the consolidation addresses the needs of Tribal communities?

² See U.S. DEP'T OF JUSTICE, OFF. OF TRIBAL JUSTICE, TRIBAL PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS FUNDING CONSULTATION REPORT (2025), <https://www.justice.gov/tribal/media/1385416/dl?inline>. See also the annual Violence Against Women Tribal Consultation reports available at <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/tribal-consultation>, as well as a 2020 Tribal consultation report on streamlining Tribal grants available at <https://www.justice.gov/archives/ovw/page/file/1319991/dl?inline>.