STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE
Grant Guideline

AGENCY: State Justice Institute.

ACTION: Proposed Grant Guideline.

SUMMARY: This Guideline sets forth the administrative, programmatic, and financial requirements attendant to Fiscal Year 1997 State Justice Institute grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts.

DATES: The Institute invites public comment on the Guideline until September 30, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be sent to the State Justice Institute, 1650 King St. (Suite 600), Alexandria, VA 22314.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Van Duizend, Deputy Director, or David I. Tevelin, Executive Director, State Justice Institute, 1650 King St. (Suite 600), Alexandria, VA 22314.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the State Justice Institute Act of 1984, 42 U.S.C. 10701, et seq., as amended, the Institute is authorized to award grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts to State and local courts, nonprofit organizations, and others for the purpose of improving the quality of justice in the State courts of the United States.

Status of FY 1997 Appropriations

At the time of publication, the status of SJI’s fiscal year 1997 Congressional appropriation is uncertain. The House of Representatives voted no new appropriations for the Institute in FY 1997, believing that carryover funds and funds anticipated from interagency agreements would suffice to support the Institute’s operations in FY 1997. The Senate Appropriations Committee approved a $10 million appropriation for the Institute in FY 1997. A conference on the House and Senate bills is anticipated in September. The grant program proposed in this Guideline and the funding targets noted for specific programs are contingent on the availability of about $10 million to support the Institute and its programs in FY 1997. Publication of the Final Grant Guideline is scheduled for approximately October 11, 1996.

In addition, Congress is currently considering legislation reauthorizing the Institute. If the bill is enacted into law during this session of Congress, the Final Guideline will incorporate any relevant changes that affect the administration or scope of the grant program.

Types of Grants Available and Funding Schedules

The SJI grant program is designed to be responsive to the most important needs of the State courts. To meet the full range of the courts’ diverse needs, the Institute offers five different categories of grants. The types of grants available in FY 1997 and the funding cycles for each program are provided below:

Project Grants

These grants are awarded to support innovative education, research, demonstration, and technical assistance projects that can improve the administration of justice in State courts nationwide. Except for “Single Jurisdiction” grants awarded under section II.C.1. (see below), project grants are intended to support innovative projects of national significance. As provided in section V. of the Guideline, project grants may ordinarily not exceed $200,000 a year; however, grants in excess of $150,000 are likely to be rare, and awarded only to support projects likely to have a significant national impact.

Applicants must ordinarily submit a concept paper (see section VI.) and an application (see section VII.) in order to obtain a project grant. As indicated in Section VI.C., the Board may make an “accelerated” grant of less than $40,000 on the basis of the concept paper alone when the need for the project is clear and little additional information about the operation of the project would be provided in an application.

The FY 1997 mailing deadline for project grant concept papers is November 27, 1996. Papers must be postmarked or bear other evidence of submission by that date. The Board of Directors will meet in late February, 1997 to invite formal applications based on the most promising concept papers. Applications will be due in May and awards will be approved by the Board in July.

Single Jurisdiction Project Grants

Section II.C. of the Guideline allocates funds for two types of “Single Jurisdiction” grants.

Section II.C.1. reserves up to $300,000 for Projects Addressing a Critical Need of a Single State or Local Jurisdiction. To receive a grant under this program, an applicant must demonstrate that (1) the proposed project is essential to meeting a critical need of the jurisdiction and (2) the need cannot be met solely with State and local resources within the foreseeable future. Applicants are encouraged to submit proposals to replicate approaches or programs that have been evaluated as effective under an SJI grant.

“Replication” grants are limited to no more than $30,000 each. Examples of projects that could be replicated are listed in Appendix [IV].

Section II.C.2. reserves up to $400,000 for Technical Assistance Grants. Under this program, a State or local court may receive a grant of up to $30,000 to engage outside experts to provide technical assistance to diagnose, develop, and implement a response to a jurisdiction’s problems.

Letters of application for a Technical Assistance grant may be submitted at any time. Applicants submitting letters between June 18 and September 30, 1996 will be notified of the Board’s decision by December 6, 1996; those submitting letters between October 1, 1996 and January 10, 1997 will be notified by February 28, 1997; those submitting letters between January 11, 1997 and March 14, 1997 will be notified by March 27, 1997; and those submitting letters between March 15, 1997 and June 13, 1997 will be notified by August 31, 1997. Subject to the availability of appropriations in FY 1998, applicants submitting letters between June 14 and September 30, 1997 will be notified of the Board’s decision by December 19, 1997.

Curriculum Adaptation Grants

A grant of up to $20,000 may be awarded to a State or local court to replicate or modify a model training program developed with SJI funds. The Guideline allocates up to $75,000 for these grants in FY 1997. See section II.B.2.b.i.

Letters requesting Curriculum Adaptation grants may be submitted at any time during the fiscal year. However, in order to permit the Institute sufficient time to evaluate these proposals, letters must be submitted no later than 90 days before the projected date of the training program. See section II.B.2.b.ii.(c).

Scholarships

The Guideline allocates up to $200,000 of FY 1997 funds for scholarships to enable judges and court managers to attend out-of-State education and training programs. See section II.B.2.b.iii.

The Guideline establishes four deadlines for scholarship requests: October 1, 1996 for programs beginning between January 1 and March 31, 1997; January 7, 1997 for programs beginning between April 1 and July 1, 1997; April 1, 1997 for programs beginning between July 1 and
Renewal Grants

There are two types of renewal grants available from SJI: Continuation grants (see sections III.G., V.C. and D., and IX.A.) and On-going support grants (see sections III.H., V.C. and D., and IX.B.). Continuation grants are intended to enhance the specific program or service begun during the initial grant period. On-going support grants may be awarded for up to a three-year period to support national-scope projects that provide the State courts with critically needed services, programs, or products.

The Guideline establishes a target for renewal grants of no more than $2 million, approximately 25% of the total amount projected to be available for grants in FY 1997. See section IX. Grantees should accordingly be aware that the award of a grant to support a project does not constitute a commitment to provide either continuation funding or on-going support.

An applicant for a continuation or on-going support grant must submit a letter notifying the Institute of its intent to seek such funding, no later than 120 days before the end of the current grant period. The Institute will then notify the applicant of the deadline for its renewal grant application. See section IX.

Special Interest Categories

The Guideline includes 10 Special Interest categories, i.e., those project areas that the Board has identified as being of particular importance to the State courts this year. The selection of these categories was based on the Board and staff's experience and observations over the past year, the recommendations received from judges, court managers, lawyers, members of the public, and other groups interested in the administration of justice, and the issues identified in recent years' concept papers and applications.

Section II.B. of the Proposed Guideline includes the following Special Interest categories:

1. Improving Public Confidence in the Courts;
2. Education and Training for Judges and Other Key Court Personnel (this category includes Curriculum Adaptation grants and Scholarships for Judges and Key Court Personnel);
3. Dispute Resolution and the Courts; Application of Technology;
4. Court Management, Financing, and Planning;
5. Resolution of Current Evidentiary Issues;
6. Substance Abuse and the Courts; Children and Families in Court;
7. Improving the Court's Response to Domestic Violence and Other Gender-Related Crimes of Violence;
8. The Relationship Between State and Federal Courts.

Recommendations to Grant Writers

Over the past 10 years, Institute staff have reviewed approximately 3,000 concept papers and 1,500 applications. On the basis of those reviews, inquiries from applicants, and the views of the Board, the Institute offers the following recommendations to help potential applicants present workable, understandable proposals that can meet the funding criteria set forth in this Guideline.

The Institute suggests that applicants make certain that they address the questions and issues set forth below when preparing a concept paper or application. CONCEPT PAPERS AND APPLICATIONS SHOULD, HOWEVER, BE PRESENTED IN THE FORMATS SPECIFIED IN SECTIONS VI. AND VII. OF THE GUIDELINE, RESPECTIVELY.

1. What is the subject or problem you wish to address? Describe the subject or problem and how it affects the courts and the public. Discuss how your approach will improve the situation or advance the state of the art or knowledge, and explain why it is the most appropriate approach to take. When statistics or research findings are cited to support a statement or position, the source of the citation should be referenced in a footnote or a reference list.

2. What do you want to do? Explain the goal(s) of the project in simple, straightforward terms. The goal(s) should describe the intended consequences or expected overall effect of the proposed project (e.g., to enable judges to sentence drug-abusing offenders more effectively, or to dispose of civil cases within 24 months), rather than the tasks or activities to be conducted (e.g., hold three training sessions, or install a new computer system).

To the greatest extent possible, an applicant should avoid a specialized vocabulary that is not readily understood by the general public. Technical jargon does not enhance a paper.

3. How will you do it? Describe the methodology carefully so that what you propose to do and how you would do it are clear. All proposed tasks should be set forth so that a reviewer can see a logical progression of tasks and relate those tasks directly to the accomplishment of the project's goal(s).

When in doubt about whether to provide a more detailed explanation or to assume a particular level of knowledge or expertise on the part of the reviewers, provide the additional information. A description of project tasks also will help identify necessary budget items. All staff positions and project costs should relate directly to the tasks described. The Institute encourages applicants to attach letters of cooperation and support from the courts and related agencies that will be involved in or directly affected by the proposed project.

4. How will you know it works? Include an evaluation component that will determine whether the proposed training, procedure, service, or technology accomplished the objectives it was designed to meet. Concept papers and applications should present the criteria that will be used to evaluate the project's effectiveness, identify program elements which will require further modification, and describe how the evaluation will be conducted, when it will occur during the project period, who will conduct it, and what specific measures will be used. In most instances, the evaluation should be conducted by persons not connected with the implementation of the procedure, training, service, or technique, or the administration of the project.

The Institute has also prepared a more thorough list of recommendations to grant writers regarding the development of project evaluation plans. Those recommendations are available from the Institute upon request.

5. How will others find out about it? Include a plan to disseminate the results of the training, research, or demonstration beyond the jurisdictions and individuals directly affected by the project. The plan should identify the specific methods which will be used to inform the field about the project, such as the publication of law review or journal articles, or the distribution of key materials. A statement that a report or research findings “will be made available” to the field is not sufficient. The specific means of distribution or dissemination as well as the types of recipients should be identified. Reproduction and dissemination costs are allowable budget items.

6. What are the specific costs involved? The budget in both concept papers and applications should be presented clearly. Major budget categories such as personnel, benefits, travel, supplies, equipment, and indirect costs should be identified separately. The components of “Other” or “Miscellaneous” items should be...
specified in the application budget narrative, and should not include set-asides for undefined contingencies.

7. What, if any, match is being offered? Courts and other units of State and local government (not including publicly-supported institutions of higher education) are required by the State Justice Institute Act to contribute a match (cash, non-cash, or both) of not less than 50 percent of the grant funds requested from the Institute. All other applicants also are encouraged to provide a matching contribution to assist in meeting the costs of a project.

The match requirement works as follows: If, for example, the total cost of a project is anticipated to be $100,000, a State or local court or executive branch agency may request up to $100,000 from the Institute to implement the project. The remaining $50,000 (50% of the $100,000 requested from SJI) must be provided as matched.

Cash match includes funds directly contributed to the project by the applicant, or by other public or private sources. It does not include income generated from tuition fees or the sale of project products. Non-cash match refers to in-kind contributions by the applicant, or other public or private sources. This includes, for example, the monetary value of time contributed by existing personnel or members of an advisory committee (but not the time spent by participants in an educational program attending program sessions). When match is offered, the nature of the match (cash or in-kind) should be explained and, at the application stage, the tasks and line items for which costs will be covered wholly or in part by match should be specified.

8. Which of the two budget forms should be used? Section VII.A.3. of the SJI Grant Guideline encourages use of the spreadsheet format of Form C1 if the application requests $100,000 or more. Form C1 also works well for projects with discrete tasks, regardless of the dollar value of the project. Form C, the tabular format, is preferred for projects lacking a number of discrete tasks, or for projects requiring less than $100,000 of Institute funding. Generally, use the form that best lends itself to representing most accurately the budget estimates for the project.

9. How much detail should be included in the budget narrative? The budget narrative of an application should provide the basis for computing all project-related costs, as indicated in section VII.D. of the SJI Grant Guideline. To aid in the development of application budget narratives, include the following information:

- Personnel estimates that accurately provide the amount of time to be spent by personnel involved with the project and the total associated costs, including current salaries for the designated personnel (e.g., Project Director, 50% for one year, annual salary of $50,000=$25,000). If salary costs are computed using an hourly or daily rate, the annual salary and number of hours or days in a work-year should be shown.
- Estimates for supplies and expenses supported by a complete description of the supplies to be used, nature and extent of printing to be done, anticipated telephone charges, and other common expenditures, with the basis for computing the estimates included (e.g., 100 reports x 75 pages each x 0.05/ page = $375.00). Supply and expense estimates offered simply as "based on experience" are not sufficient.

In order to expedite Institute review of the budget, make a final comparison of the amounts listed in the budget narrative with those listed on the budget form. In the rush to complete all parts of the application on time, there may be many last-minute changes; unfortunately, when there are discrepancies between the budget narrative and the budget form or the amount listed on the application cover sheet, it is not possible for the Institute to verify the amount of the request. A final check of the numbers on the form against those in the narrative will preclude such confusion. The Institute will provide an illustrative budget and budget form upon request.

10. What travel regulations apply to the budget estimates?

Transportation costs and per diem rates must comply with the policies of the applicant organization, and a copy of the applicant's travel policy should be submitted as an appendix to the application. If the applicant does not have a travel policy established in writing, then travel rates must be consistent with those established by the Institute or the Federal Government (a copy of the Institute's travel policy is available upon request). The budget narrative should state which regulations are in force for the project.

The budget narrative also should include the estimated fare, the number of persons traveling, the number of trips to be taken, and the length of stay. The estimated costs of travel, lodging, ground transportation, and other subsistence should be listed and explained separately. It is preferable for the budget to be based on the actual costs of traveling and from the project or meetings less. If the points of origin or destination are not known at the time the budget is prepared, an average airfare may be used to estimate the travel costs. For example, if it is anticipated that a project advisory committee will include members from around the country, a reasonable airfare from a central point to the meeting site or the average of airfares from each coast to the meeting site may be used.

Applicants should arrange travel so as to be able to take advantage of advance purchase price discounts whenever possible.

13. What meeting costs may be covered with grant funds? SJI grant funds may cover the reasonable cost of meeting rooms, necessary audio-visual equipment, meeting supplies, and working meals. However, they cannot be used to reimburse the cost of coffee or other types of refreshments or, for alcoholic beverages.

14. Does the budget truly reflect all costs required to complete the project? After preparing the program narrative portion of the application, applicants may find it helpful to list all the major tasks or activities required by the proposed project, including the preparation of products, and note the individual expenses, including personnel time, related to each. This will help to ensure that, for all tasks described in the application (e.g., development of a videotape, research site visits, distribution of a final report), the related costs appear in the budget and are explained correctly in the budget narrative.

Recommendations To Grantees

The Institute's staff works with grantees to help assure the smooth operation of the project and compliance with the Guideline. On the basis of monitoring more than 1,100 grants, the Institute offers the following suggestions to aid grantees in meeting the administrative and substantive requirements of their grants.

1. After the grant has been awarded, when are the first quarterly reports due? Quarterly Progress Reports and Financial Status Reports must be submitted within 30 days after the end of each calendar quarter—i.e., no later than January 30, April 30, July 30, and October 30—regardless of the project's start date. The reporting periods covered by each quarterly report end 30 days before the respective deadline for the report. When an award period begins December 1, for example, the first Quarterly Progress Report describing project activities between December 1 and December 31 will be due on January 30. A Financial Status Report should be submitted even if funds have not been obligated or expended.
By documenting what has happened over the past three months, Quarterly Progress Reports provide an opportunity for project staff and Institute staff to resolve any questions before they become problems, and make any necessary changes in the project time schedule, budget allocations, etc. The Quarterly Project Report should describe project activities, their relationship to the approved timeline, and any problems encountered and how they were resolved, and outline the tasks scheduled for the coming quarter. It is helpful to attach copies of relevant memos, draft products, or other requested information. An original and one copy of a Quarterly Progress Report and attachments should be submitted to the Institute.

Additional Quarterly Progress Report or Financial Status Report forms may be obtained from the grantee’s Program Manager at SJI, or photocopies may be made from the supply received with the award.

2. Do reporting requirements differ for renewal grants? Recipients of a continuation or on-going support grant are required to submit quarterly progress and financial status reports on the same schedule and with the same information as recipients of a grant for a single new project.

A continuation grant and each yearly grant under an on-going support award should be considered as a separate phase of the project. The reports should be numbered on a grant rather than project basis. Thus, the first quarterly report filed under a continuation grant or a yearly increment of an on-going support award should be designated as number one, the second as number two, and so on, through the final progress and financial status reports due within 90 days after the end of the grant period.

3. What information about project activities should be communicated to SJI? In general, grantees should provide prior notice of critical project events such as advisory board meetings or training sessions so that the Institute Program Manager can attend if possible. If methodological, schedule, staff, budget allocations, or other significant changes become necessary, the grantee should contact the Program Manager prior to implementing any of these changes, so that possible questions may be addressed in advance. Questions concerning the financial requirements section of the Guideline, quarterly financial reporting, or payment requests, should be addressed to the Grants Financial Manager listed in the award letter.

It is helpful to include the grant number assigned to the award on all correspondence to the Institute. Why is it important to address the special conditions that are attached to the award document? In some instances, a list of special conditions is attached to the award document. The special conditions are imposed to establish a schedule for reporting certain key information, to assure that the Institute has an opportunity to offer suggestions on critical stages of the project, and to provide reminders of some, but not all of the requirements contained in the Grant Guideline. Accordingly, it is important for grantees to check the special conditions carefully and discuss them with their Program Manager any questions or problems they may have with the conditions. Most concerns about timing, response time, and the level of detail required can be resolved in advance through a telephone conversation. The Institute’s primary concern is to work with grantees to assure that their projects accomplish their objectives, not to enforce rigid bureaucratic requirements. However, if a grantee fails to comply with a special condition or with other grant requirements, the Institute may, after proper notice, suspend payment of grant funds or terminate the grant.

Sections X., XI., and XII. of the Grant Guideline contain the Institute’s administrative and financial requirements. Institute Finance Division staff are always available to answer questions and provide assistance regarding these provisions.

5. What is a Grant Adjustment? A Grant Adjustment is the Institute’s form for acknowledging the satisfaction of special conditions, or approving changes in grant activities, schedule, staffing, sites, or budget allocations requested by the project director. It also may be used to correct errors in grant documents, add small amounts to a grant award, or deobligate funds from the grant.

6. What schedule should be followed in submitting requests for reimbursements or advance payments? Requests for reimbursements or advance payments may be made at any time after the project start date and before the end of the 90-day close-out period. However, the Institute follows the U.S. Treasury’s policy limiting advances to the minimum amount required to meet immediate cash needs. Given normal processing time, grantees should not seek to draw down funds for periods greater than 30 days from the date of the request.

7. Do procedures for submitting requests for reimbursement or advance payment differ for renewal grants? The basic procedures are the same for any grant. A continuation grant or the yearly grant under an on-going support award should be considered as a separate phase of the project. Payment requests should be numbered on a grant rather than a project basis. The first request for funds from a continuation grant or a yearly increment under an on-going support award should be designated as number one, the second as number two, and so on through the final payment request for that grant.

8. How long does it take to receive a grant report? A 90-day period is not intended as an administrative and financial status report. The fourth report, due within 90 days after the end of the grant period, can funds be reallocated from one budget category to another? The Institute recognizes that some flexibility is required in implementing a project design and budget. Thus, grantees may shift funds among direct cost budget categories. When any one reallocation or the cumulative total of reallocations are expected to exceed five percent of the approved project budget, a grantee must specify the proposed changes, explain the reasons for the changes, and request Institute approval.

The same standard applies to renewal grants. In addition, prior written Institute approval is required to shift leftover funds from the original award to cover activities to be conducted under the renewal award, or to use renewal grant monies to cover costs incurred during the original grant period.

9. What is the 90-day close-out period? Following the last day of the grant, a 90-day period is provided to allow for all grant-related bills to be received and posted, and grant funds drawn down to cover these expenses. No obligations of grant funds may be incurred during this period. The last day on which an expenditure of grant funds can be obligated is the end date of the grant period. Similarly, the 90-day period is not intended as an opportunity to finish and disseminate grant products. This should occur before the end of the grant period.

During the 90 days following the end of the award period, all monies that have been obligated should be expended. All payment requests must be received by the end of the 90-day “close-out period.” Any unexpended monies held by the grantee that remain after the 90-day follow-up period must be returned to the Institute. Any funds remaining in the grant that have not been drawn down by the grantee will be deobligated.

10. Are funds granted by SJI “Federal” funds? The State Justice Institute Act provides that, except for purposes under the Grants to the Institute shall not be considered a department, agency, or instrumentality
of the Federal Government.” 42 U.S.C. § 10704(c)(1). Because SJI receives appropriations from Congress, some grantee auditors have reported SJI grants funds as “Other Federal Assistance.” This classification is acceptable to SJI but is not required.

11. If SJI is not a Federal Agency, do OMB circulars apply with respect to audits? Except to the extent that they are inconsistent with the express provisions of the SJI Grant Guideline, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circulars A−110, A−21, A−87, A−88, A−102, A−122, A−128 and A−133 are incorporated into the Grant Guideline by reference. Because the Institute’s enabling legislation specifically requires the Institute to “conduct, or require each recipient to provide for, an annual fiscal audit” [see 42 U.S.C. § 10711(c)(1)], the Grant Guideline sets forth options for grantees to comply with this statutory requirement. (See Section XI.J.)

SJI will accept audits conducted in accordance with the Single Audit Act of 1984 and OMB Circulars A−128, or A−133, in satisfaction of the annual fiscal audit requirement. Grantees that are required to undertake these audits in conjunction with Federal grants may include SJI funds as part of the audit even if the receipt of SJI funds would not require such audits. This approach gives grantees an option to fold SJI funds into the governmental audit rather than to undertake a separate audit to satisfy SJI’s Guideline requirements. In sum, educational and nonprofit organizations that receive payments from the Institute that are sufficient to meet the applicability thresholds of OMB Circular A−133 must have their annual audit conducted in accordance with Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States rather than with generally accepted auditing standards. Grantees in this category that receive amounts below the minimum threshold referred to in Circular A−133 must also submit an annual audit to SJI, but they would have the option to conduct an audit of the entire grantee organization in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards; include SJI funds in an audit of Federal funds conducted in accordance with the Single Audit Act of 1984 and OMB Circulars A−128 or A−133; or conduct an audit of only the SJI funds in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. (See Guideline Section XI.J.) A copy of the above noted circulars may be obtained by calling OMB at (202) 395−7250. Does OMB have a CFDA number? Auditors often request that a grantee provide the Institute’s Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for guidance in conducting an audit in accordance with Government Accounting Standards. Because SJI is not a Federal agency, it has not been issued such a number, and there are no additional compliance tests to satisfy under the Institute’s audit requirements beyond those of a standard governmental audit.

Moreover, because SJI is not a Federal agency, SJI funds should not be aggregated with Federal funds to determine if the applicability threshold of Circular A−133 has been reached. For example, if in fiscal year 1996 grantee ‘X’ received $10,000 in Federal funds from a Department of Justice (DOJ) grant program and $20,000 in grant funds from SJI, the minimum A−133 threshold would not be met. The same distinction would preclude an auditor from considering the additional SJI funds in determining what Federal requirements apply to the DOJ funds.

Grantees that are required to satisfy either the Single Audit Act, OMB Circulars A−128, or A−133 and who include SJI grant funds in those audits, need to remember that because of its status as a private non-profit corporation, SJI is not on routing lists of cognizant Federal agencies. Therefore, the grantee needs to submit a copy of the audit report prepared for such a cognizant Federal agency directly to SJI. The Institute’s audit requirements may be found in Section XI.J. of the Grant Guideline.

The following Grant Guideline is proposed by the State Justice Institute for FY 1997:

State Justice Institute Grant Guideline

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Summary

This Guideline sets forth the programmatic, financial, and administrative requirements of grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts awarded by the State Justice Institute. The Institute, a private, nonprofit corporation established by an Act of Congress, is authorized to award grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts to improve the administration and quality of justice in the State courts.

Grants may be awarded to State and local courts and their agencies; national nonprofit organizations controlled by, operating in conjunction with, and serving the judicial branch of State governments; and national nonprofit organizations for the education and training of judges and support personnel of the judicial branch of State governments. The Institute may also award grants to other nonprofit organizations with expertise in judicial administration; institutions of higher education; individuals, partnerships, firms, or corporations; and private agencies with expertise in judicial administration if the objectives of the funded program can be better served by such an entity. Funds may be awarded, as well, to Federal, State or local agencies and institutions other than courts for services that cannot be provided adequately through nongovernmental arrangements. In addition, the Institute may provide financial assistance in the form of interagency agreements with other grantors.

The Institute will consider applications for funding support that address any of the areas specified in its enabling legislation, as amended. However, the Board of Directors of the Institute has designated certain program categories as being of special interest. See section II.B.

The Institute has established one round of competition for FY 1997 funds. The concept paper submission deadline is November 27, 1996.

It is anticipated that between $7 million and $9 million will be available for award. This Guideline applies to all concept papers and applications submitted, as well as grants awarded in FY 1997.
The awards made by the State Justice Institute are governed by the requirements of this Guideline and the authority conferred by Pub. L. 98-620, Title II, 42 U.S.C. 10701, et seq., as amended.

I. Background

The Institute was established by Pub. L. 98-620 to improve the administration of justice in the State courts in the United States. Incorporated in the State of Virginia as a private, nonprofit corporation, the Institute is charged, by statute, with the responsibility to:

A. Direct a national program of financial assistance designed to assure that each citizen of the United States is provided ready access to a fair and effective system of justice;
B. Foster coordination and cooperation with the Federal judiciary;
C. Promote recognition of the importance of the separation of powers doctrine to an independent judiciary; and
D. Encourage education for judges and support personnel of State court systems through national and State organizations, including universities.

To accomplish these broad objectives, the Institute is authorized to provide funds to State courts, national organizations which support and are supported by State courts, national judicial education organizations, and other organizations that can assist in improving the quality of justice in the State courts.

The Institute is supervised by an 11-member Board of Directors appointed by the President, by and with the consent of the Senate. The Board is statutorily composed of six judges, a State court administrator, and four members of the public, no more than two of whom can be of the same political party.

Through the award of grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements, the Institute is authorized to perform the following activities:

A. Support research, demonstrations, special projects, technical assistance, and training to improve the administration of justice in the State courts;
B. Provide for the preparation, publication, and dissemination of information regarding State judicial systems;
C. Participate in joint projects with Federal agencies and other private grantors;
D. Evaluate or provide for the evaluation of programs and projects funded by the Institute to determine their impact upon the quality of criminal, civil, and juvenile justice and the extent to which they have contributed to improving the quality of justice in the State courts;
E. Encourage and assist in furthering judicial education;
F. Encourage, assist, and serve in a consulting capacity to State and local justice system agencies in the development, maintenance, and coordination of criminal, civil, and juvenile justice programs and services; and
G. Be responsible for the certification of national programs that are intended to aid and improve State judicial systems.

II. Scope of the Program

During FY 1997, the Institute will consider applications for funding support that address any of the areas specified in its enabling legislation. The Board, however, has designated ten program categories as being of "special interest." See section II.B.

A. Authorized Program Areas

The Institute is authorized to fund projects addressing one or more of the following program areas listed in the State Justice Institute Act, the Battered Women's Testimony Act, the Judicial Training and Research for Child Custody Litigation Act, and the International Parental Kidnapping Crime Act.

1. Assistance to State and local court systems in establishing appropriate procedures for the selection and removal of judges and other court personnel and in determining appropriate levels of compensation;
2. Education and training programs for judges and other court personnel for the performance of their general duties and for specialized functions, and national and regional conferences and seminars for the dissemination of information on new developments and innovative techniques;
3. Research on alternative means for using judicial and nonjudicial personnel in court decisionmaking activities, implementation of demonstration programs to test such innovative approaches, and evaluations of their effectiveness;
4. Studies of the appropriateness and efficacy of court organizations and financing structures in particular States, and support to States to implement plans for improved court organization and financing;
5. Support for State court planning and budgeting staffs and the provision of technical assistance in resource allocation and service forecasting techniques;
6. Studies of the adequacy of court management systems in State and local courts, and implementation and evaluation of innovative responses to records management, data processing, court personnel management, reporting and transcription of court proceedings, and juror utilization and management;
7. Collection and compilation of statistical data and other information on the work of the courts and on the work of other agencies which relate to and affect the work of courts;
8. Studies of the causes of trial and appellate court delay in resolving cases, and establishing and evaluating experimental programs for reducing case processing time;
9. Development and testing of methods for measuring the performance of judges and courts and experiments in the use of such measures to improve the functioning of judges and the courts;
10. Studies of court rules and procedures, discovery devices, and evidentiary standards to identify problems with the operation of such rules, procedures, devices, and standards, and the development of alternative approaches to better reconcile the requirements of due process with the need for swift and certain justice, and testing of the utility of those alternative approaches;
11. Studies of the outcomes of cases in selected areas to identify instances in which the substance of justice meted out by the courts diverges from public expectations of fairness, consistency, or equity, and the development, testing and evaluation of alternative approaches to resolving cases in such problem areas;
12. Support for programs to increase court responsiveness to the needs of citizens through citizen education, improvement of court treatment of witnesses, victims, and jurors, and development of procedures for obtaining and using measures of public satisfaction with court processes to improve court performance;
13. Testing and evaluating experimental approaches to provide increased citizen access to justice, including processes which reduce the cost of litigating common grievances and alternative techniques and mechanisms for resolving disputes between citizens;
14. Collection and analysis of information regarding the admissibility and quality of expert testimony on the experiences of battered women offered as part of the defense in criminal cases under State law, as well as sources of and methods to obtain funds to pay costs incurred to provide such testimony, particularly in cases involving indigent women defendants;
15. Development of training materials to assist battered women, operators of domestic violence shelters, battered women's advocates, and attorneys to use expert testimony on the experiences of battered women in appropriate cases, and individuals with expertise in the experiences of battered women to develop skills appropriate to providing such testimony;

16. Development of training curricula to assist State courts to develop an understanding of, and appropriate responses to child custody litigation involving domestic violence;

17. Development of training curricula to assist State courts to develop an understanding of, and appropriate responses to child custody litigation involving domestic violence;

18. Dissemination of information and training materials and provision of technical assistance regarding the issues listed in paragraphs 14–17 above;

19. Development of national, regional, and in-State training and educational programs dealing with criminal and civil aspects of interstate and international parental child abduction;

20. Other programs, consistent with the purposes of the State Justice Institute Act, as may be deemed appropriate by the Institute, including projects dealing with the relationship between Federal and State court systems in areas where there is concurrent State-Federal jurisdiction and where Federal courts, directly or indirectly, review State court proceedings.

Funds will not be made available for the ordinary, routine operation of court systems or programs in any of these areas.

B. Special Interest Program Categories

1. General Description

The Institute is interested in funding both innovative programs and programs of proven merit that can be replicated in other jurisdictions. Although applications in any of the statutory program areas are eligible for funding in FY 1997, the Institute is especially interested in funding those projects that:

a. Formulate new procedures and techniques, or creatively enhance existing arrangements to improve the courts;

b. Address aspects of the State judicial systems that are in special need of serious attention;

c. Have national significance in terms of their impact or replicability in that they develop products, services, and techniques that may be used in other States; and

d. Create and disseminate products that effectively transfer the information and ideas developed to relevant audiences in State and local judicial systems or provide technical assistance to facilitate the adaptation of effective programs and procedures in other State and local jurisdictions.

A project will be identified as a "Special Interest" project if it meets the four criteria set forth above and (1) it falls within the scope of the "special interest" program areas designated below, or (2) information coming to the attention of the Institute from the State courts, their affiliated organizations, the research literature, or other sources demonstrates that the project responds to another special need or interest of the State courts.

Concept papers and applications which address a "Special Interest" category will be accorded a preference in the rating process. (See the selection criteria listed in sections VI.B., "Concept Paper Submission Requirements for New Projects," and VIII.B., "Application Review Procedures.")

2. Specific Categories

The Board has designated the areas set forth below as "Special Interest" program categories. The order of listing does not imply any ordering of priorities among the categories:

a. Improving Public Confidence in the Courts. This category includes demonstration, evaluation, research, and education projects designed to improve the responsiveness of courts to public concerns regarding the fairness, accessibility, timeliness, and comprehensibility of the court process, and test innovative methods for increasing the public's confidence in the State courts.

The Institute is particularly interested in supporting innovative projects that examine, develop, and test methods that trial or appellate courts may use to:

• Improve service to individual litigants and trial participants, including innovative methods for handling cases involving unrepresented litigants fairly and effectively and for dealing with litigants unwilling to follow administrative and legal procedures;

• Test methods for more clearly and effectively communicating information about judicial decisions, the trial and appellate court process, and court operations to litigants and the public;

• Develop policies, protocols, and procedures designed to prevent harassment, threats, and incidents endangering the lives and property of judges, court employees, jurors, litigants, witnesses, and members of the public associated with court proceedings;

• Eliminate race, ethnic, and gender bias in the courts;

• Address court-community problems resulting from the influx of legal and illegal immigrants, including projects to define the impact of immigration on State courts; design and assess procedures for use in custody, visitation, and other domestic relations cases when key family members or property are outside the United States; and develop protocols to facilitate service of process, the enforcement of orders of judgment, and the disposition of criminal and juvenile cases when a non-U.S. citizen or corporation is involved; and

• Demonstrate and evaluate methods for involving the community in the sentencing process, such as community impact statements, community oversight of compliance with community service and probation conditions, or other innovative court-community links focused on the sentencing process;

• Foster positive attitudes toward jury service and enhance the attractiveness of juror service through, e.g., incentives to participate, modifications of terms of service, and/or juror orientation and education programs.

• Demonstrate and evaluate the impact of methods for improving juror comprehension in criminal and civil cases, such as access to technology in the jury room to permit review of computerized exhibits of evidence presented in the case, use of specially qualified juries in complex cases, delivery of instructions throughout the trial, and testimony by court-appointed neutral experts;

• Examine the impact of the grand jury process on due process requirements, caseflow management, court operations, and the public's perception of the fairness of court proceedings, and develop appropriate recommendations for improving the management of the process; and

• Assess the impact of live television coverage of trials on court proceedings, public understanding, and fairness to litigants.

Institute funds may not be used to directly or indirectly support legal representation of individuals in specific cases.

Previous SJI-supported projects that address these issues include: a National Town Hall Meeting Videoconference, a National Conference on Eliminating Race and Ethnic Bias in the Courts, and projects to implement the action plans developed at the conferences; a guidebook for developing effective court-based programs for assisting pro se litigants, as well as development of a self-service center and touchscreen computer kiosks, videotapes, and written materials to assist unrepresented
litigants; educational materials for court employees on serving the public; a manual and other materials for managing and coordinating court interpretation services, and materials for training and certifying court interpreters; a colloquium on the adversary system; a demonstration of the use of community volunteers to monitor adult probationers and to monitor guardianships; evaluation of community-based court programs in New York City; studies of effective and efficient methods for providing legal representation to indigent parties in criminal and family cases and the applicability of various dispute resolution procedures to different cultural groups; guidelines for court-annexed day care systems; development of a manual for implementing innovations in jury selection, use, and management; development of a guide for making juries accessible to persons with disabilities; and an assessment of the effect of allowing jurors to discuss the evidence prior to the deliberations on the verdict.

b. Education and Training for Judges and Other Key Court Personnel. The Institute continues to be interested in supporting an array of projects to strengthen and broaden the availability of court education programs at the State, regional, and national levels. Accordingly, this category is divided into subsections: (i) Development of Innovative Educational Programs; (ii) Curriculum Adaptation Projects; and (iii) Scholarships.

1. Development of Innovative Educational Programs. This category includes support for the development and testing of educational programs for judges or court personnel that address key substantive and administrative issues of concern to the nation's courts, or assist local courts or State court systems to develop or enhance their capacity to deliver quality continuing education. Programs may be designed for presentation at the local, State, regional, or national level. Ordinarily, court education programs should be based on some form of assessment of the needs of the target audience; include clearly stated learning objectives that delineate the new knowledge or skills that participants will acquire; incorporate adult education principles and varying teaching/learning methods; and result in the development of a curriculum as defined in section III.J.

(a) The Institute is particularly interested in the development of education programs that:

• Incorporate adult education principles and varying teaching/learning methods, and result in the development of a curriculum as defined in section III.J.

• Include self-directed learning packages such as those using interactive computer-programs, videos, or other audio and visual media supported by written materials or manuals, or distance-learning approaches to assist those who do not have ready access to classroom-centered programs;

• Test the use of the Internet as a means of delivering educational programs for judges and court personnel, or for facilitating and organizing the exchange of information on trends, problems, and issues affecting the courts;

• Familiarize faculty with the effective use of instructional technology including methods for effectively presenting information through videos and satellite teleconferences;

• Involve collaboration between the judicial, executive, and legislative branches of government such as programs to explore what are ethically proper and improper interactions between judges and legislators;

• Enhance communication and cooperation among courts within a metropolitan area or multi-State region;

(b) The Institute also is interested in supporting the development and testing of curricula on critical issues such as:

• The development of judicial leadership abilities;

• The need for effective approaches to screening and sentencing adult and juvenile sexual offenders;

• The appropriate use and management of specialized calendars or court divisions (e.g., for substance abuse, domestic violence, or commercial cases) as well as the necessary substantive expertise to preside over such cases;

• The appropriate and effective methods for preventing harassment, threats or incidents endangering the lives and property of judges, court personnel, jurors, litigants, witnesses and the public in court facilities, and managing cases involving groups or individuals unwilling to cooperate with legal or administrative procedures;

• The application of the standards set forth in Daubert v. Merrell Dow Pharmaceuticals, Inc. governing the admissibility of scientific and technical evidence, and the application of the recently released National Academy of Sciences report on forensic DNA evidence;

• The problems resulting from Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP suits); and

• Other topics addressed by SJI-supported demonstration, evaluation, or research projects.

ii. Curriculum Adaptation Projects.

(a) Description of the Program. The Board is reserving up to $175,000 to provide support for projects that adapt and implement model curricula previously developed with SJI support. The goal of the Curriculum Adaptation program is to provide State and local courts with sufficient support to prepare and test a model curriculum, course module, national or regional conference program, or other model education program developed with SJI funds and modified to meet a State's or local jurisdiction's educational needs. Generally, it is anticipated that the adapted curriculum would become part of the grantees' ongoing educational offerings, and that local instructors would receive the training needed to enable them to make future presentations of the curriculum. An illustrative list of curriculum that may be appropriate for the adaptation is contained in Appendix III.

• Only State or local courts may apply for Curriculum Adaptation funding. Grants to support adaptation of educational programs previously developed with SJI funds are limited to no more than $20,000 each. As with other awards to State or local courts, cash or in-kind match must be provided equal to at least 50% of the grant amount requested.

• (b) Review Criteria. Curriculum Adaptation grants will be awarded on the basis of criteria including: the goals and objectives of the proposed project; the need for outside funding to support the program; the likelihood of effective implementation; the appropriateness of the educational approach in achieving the project's educational objectives; the likelihood of effective implementation and integration into the State's or local jurisdiction's ongoing educational programming; and expressions of interest by the judges and/or court personnel who would be directly involved in or affected by the project. In making curriculum adaptation awards, the Institute will also consider factors such as the reasonableness of the amount requested, compliance with the statutory match requirements, diversity of subject matter, geographic diversity, the level of appropriations available in the current year, and the amount expected to be available in succeeding fiscal years.

(c) Application Procedures. In lieu of concept papers and formal applications, applicants for grants may submit a detailed letter and three photocopies. Although there is no prescribed form for
the letter, nor a minimum or maximum page limit, letters of application should include the following information to assure that each of the criteria for evaluating applications is addressed:

- Project Description. What are the project's goals and learning objectives? What is the title of the model curriculum to be tried and who developed it? What program components would be implemented, and what benefits would be derived from this test? Why is this education program needed at the present time? Who will be responsible for adapting the model curriculum, and what types of modifications, if any, in length, format, and content are anticipated? Who will the participants be, how will they be recruited, and from where will they come (e.g., from across the State, from a single local jurisdiction, from a multi-State region)? How many participants are anticipated?
- Need for Funding. Why are sufficient State or local resources unavailable to support the modification and presentation of the model curriculum? What is the potential for replicating or integrating the program in the future using State or local funds, once it has been successfully adapted and tested?
- Likelihood of Implementation. What is the proposed timeline for modifying and presenting the program? Who would serve as faculty and how were they selected? Will the presentation of the program be evaluated and, if so, by whom? (Ordinarily, an independent evaluation is not necessary; however, the results of any evaluation should be included in the final report.) What measures will be taken to facilitate subsequent presentations of the adapted program?
- Expressions of Interest By Judges and/or Court Personnel. Does the proposed program have the support of the court system leadership, and of judges, court managers, and judicial education personnel who are expected to attend? (This may be demonstrated by attaching letters of support.)
- Budget and Matching State Contribution. Applicants should attach a copy of budget Form E (see Appendix V) and a budget narrative (see Section VII.B.) that describes the basis for the computation of all project-related costs and the source of the match offered.
- Local courts should attach a concurrence signed by the Chief Justice of the State or his or her designee. (See Form B, Appendix VI.) Letters of application may be submitted as a group. However, applicants should allow at least 90 days between the date of submission and the date of the proposed program to allow sufficient time for needed planning.

The Board of Directors has delegated its authority to approve Curriculum Adaptation grants to its Judicial Education Committee. The committee anticipates acting upon applications within 45 days after receipt. Grant funds will be available only after committee approval and negotiation of the final terms of the grant.

(d) Grantee Responsibilities. A recipient of a Curriculum Adaptation grant must:

1. Comply with the same quarterly reporting requirements as other Institute grantees (see Section X.L., infra);
2. Include in each grant product a prominent acknowledgment that support was received from the Institute, along with the "SJI" logo and a disclaimer paragraph (see Section X.Q. of the Guideline); and
3. Submit two copies of the manuals, handbooks, or conference packets developed under the grant at the conclusion of the grant period, along with a final report that includes any evaluation results and explains how the grantee intends to replicate the program in the future.

Applicants seeking other types of funding for developing and testing educational programs must comply with the requirements for concept papers and applications set forth in Sections VI and VII or the requirements for renewal applications set forth in Section IX. iii. Scholarships for Judges and Court Personnel. The Institute is reserving up to $200,000 to support a scholarship program for State court judges and court managers.

(a) Program Description/Scholarship Amounts. The purposes of the Institute scholarship program are to: enhance the knowledge, skills, and abilities of judges and court managers; enable State court judges and court managers to attend out-of-State educational programs sponsored by national and State providers that they could not otherwise attend because of limited State, local and personal budgets; and provide States, judicial educators, and the Institute with evaluative information on a range of judicial and court-related education programs.

Scholarships will be granted to individuals only for the purpose of attending an out-of-State educational program within the United States. The annual or midyear meeting of a State or national organization of which the applicant is a member does not qualify as an out-of-State educational program for scholarship purposes, even though it may include workshops or other training sessions.

A scholarship may cover the cost of tuition and transportation up to a maximum total of $1,500 per scholarship. (Transportation expenses include round-trip coach airfare or train fare. Recipients who drive to the site of the program may receive $.31/mile up to the amount of the advanced purchase round-trip airfare between their home and the program site.) Funds to pay tuition and transportation expenses in excess of $1,500, and other costs of attending the program such as lodging, meals, materials, and local transportation (including rental cars) at the site of the education program, must be obtained from other sources or borne by the scholarship recipient.

Scholarship applicants are encouraged to check other sources of financial assistance and to combine aid from various sources whenever possible. Scholarship recipients are encouraged to check with their tax advisor to determine whether the scholarship constitutes taxable income under Federal and State law.

(b) Eligibility Requirements. Because of the limited amount of funds available, scholarships can be awarded only to full-time judges of State or local trial and appellate courts; full-time professional, State or local court personnel with management responsibilities; and supervisory and management probation personnel in judicial branch probation offices. Senior judges, part-time judges, quasi-judicial hearing officers including referees and commissioners, State administrative law judges, staff attorneys, law clerks, line staff, law enforcement officers, and other executive branch personnel are not eligible to receive a scholarship.

(c) Application Procedures. Judges and court managers interested in receiving a scholarship must submit the Institute’s Judicial Education Scholarship Application Form (Form S1, see Appendix V). An applicant may apply for a scholarship for only one educational program during any one application cycle. Applications must be submitted by:

- October 1, 1996, for programs beginning between January 1, and March 31, 1997;
- January 7, 1997, for programs between April 1 and June 30, 1997;
- April 1, 1997, for programs beginning between July 1 and September 30, 1997; and
- July 1, 1997, for programs beginning between October 1, and December 31, 1997.

No exceptions or extensions will be granted. Applicants are encouraged not to wait for the decision on the
scholarship to register for the educational program they wish to attend.

(d) Concurrence Requirement. All scholarship applicants must obtain the written concurrence of the Chief Justice of his or her State's Supreme Court (or the Chief Justice's designee) on the Institute's Judicial Education Scholarship Concurrence form (Form S2, see Appendix V). Court managers, other than elected clerks of court, also should submit a letter of support from their supervisor. The Concurrence form (Form S2) may accompany the application or be sent separately. However, the original signed Concurrence form must be received by the Institute within two weeks after the appropriate application mailing deadline (i.e. by October 8, 1996, or January 14, April 8, or July 8, 1997). No application will be reviewed if a signed Concurrence form has not been received by the required date.

(e) Review Procedures/Selection Criteria. The Board of Directors has delegated the authority to approve or deny scholarships to its Judicial Education Committee. The Institute intends to notify each applicant whose scholarship has been approved within 60 days after the relevant application deadline. The Committee will reserve sufficient funds each quarter to assure the availability of scholarships throughout the year.

The factors that the Institute will consider in selecting scholarship recipients are:

• The applicant's need for education in the particular course subject and how the applicant would apply the information/skills gained;
• The benefits to the applicant's court or the State's court system that would be derived from the applicant's participation in the specific educational program, including a description of current legal, procedural, administrative, or other problems affecting the State's courts, related to topics to be addressed at the educational program (in addition to submission of a signed Form S2);
• The absence of educational programs in the applicant's State addressing the particular topic;
• How the applicant will disseminate the knowledge gained (e.g., by developing/teaching a course or providing in-service training for judges or court personnel at the State or local level);
• The length of time that the applicant intends to serve as a judge or court manager, assuming reelection or reappointment, where applicable;

(f) Non-transferability. Scholarships are not transferable to another individual. They may be used only for the course specified in the application unless the recipient submits a letter requesting to attend a different course. The letter must explain the reasons for the change; the need for the information or skills to be provided by the new course; how the information or skills will be used to benefit the individual, his or her court, and/or the courts of the State; and how the knowledge or skills gained will be disseminated. Requests to use a scholarship for a different course must be approved by the Judicial Education Committee of the Institute's Board of Directors. Ordinarily, decisions on such requests will be made within 30 days after the receipt of the request letter.

(g) Responsibilities of Scholarship Recipients. In order to receive the funds authorized by a scholarship award, recipients must submit a Scholarship Payment Voucher (Form S3) together with a tuition statement from the program sponsor, and a transportation fare receipt or statement of the driving mileage to and from the recipient's home to the site of the educational program. Recipients also must submit to the Institute a certificate of attendance at the program, an evaluation of the educational program they attended, and a copy of the notice of any scholarship funds received from other sources. A copy of the evaluation must be sent to the Chief Justice of their State.

A State or a local jurisdiction may impose additional requirements on scholarship recipients that are consistent with SJI's criteria and requirements, e.g., a requirement to serve as faculty on the subject at a State- or locally-sponsored judicial education program.

(h) Dispute Resolution and the Courts. This category includes education, research, evaluation, and demonstration projects to evaluate or enhance the effectiveness of court-connected dispute resolution programs. The Institute is interested in projects that facilitate comparison among research studies by using similar measures and definitions; address the nature and operation of ADR programs within the context of the court system as a whole; and compare dispute resolution processes to attorney settlement as well as trial. Specific topics of interest include:

• The appropriate timing for referrals to dispute resolution services and the effects of implementing such referrals at various stages during litigation;
• The effect of different referral methods including any differences in outcome between voluntary and mandatory referrals;
• The special procedures or approaches incorporated into court-connected dispute resolution programs to take into account the differences in various cultural communities' attitudes toward conflict and authority;
• The assessment of innovative approaches that provide rural courts and other under-served areas with adequate court-connected dispute resolution services; and
• The development and evaluation of innovative court-connected dispute resolution programs for resolving complex and multi-party cases.

Applicants should be aware that the Institute will not provide operational support for on-going ADR programs or start-up costs of non-innovative ADR programs. Courts also should be advised that it is preferable for the applicant to use its funds to support the operational costs of an innovative program and request Institute funds to support related technical assistance, training, and evaluation elements of the program.

In previous funding cycles, grants have been awarded to support evaluation of the use of mediation in civil, domestic relations, juvenile, probate, medical malpractice, appellate, and minor criminal cases. SJI grants also have supported assessments of the impact of private judging on State courts; multi-door courthouse programs; arbitration of civil cases; screening and intake procedures for mediation; the relationship between mediator training and qualifications, and case outcome and party satisfaction; and trial and appellate level civil settlement programs. In addition, SJI has supported the creation of a national ADR resource...
In previous funding cycles, grants have been awarded to support demonstration and evaluation of communications technology including the availability of electronic forms and information on the Internet to assist pro se litigants; access to case data via the Internet; guidelines for electronic transfer of court documents; the development of an electronic document management system; and a court management information display system; the integration of bar-coding technology with an existing automated case management system; demonstration of an on-bench automated system for generating and processing court orders and development of an automated judicial education management system; a document management system for small courts using imaging technology; evaluation of the use of automated teller machines for paying jurors; creation of a court technology laboratory to provide judges and court managers an opportunity to test automated court-related hardware and software; and establishment of a technical information service to respond to specific inquiries concerning court-related technologies.

Grants also provided support for national court technology conferences; the development of model rules on the use of computer-generated demonstrative evidence and electronic documentary evidence; preparation of guidelines on privacy and public access to electronic court information and on court access to the information superhighway; the testing of a computerized citizen intake and referral service; development of an "analytic judicial desktop system" to assist judges in making sentencing decisions; implementation and evaluation of a Statewide automated integrated case docketing and record-keeping system; a prototype computerized benchbook using hypertext technology; and computer simulation models to assist State courts in evaluating potential strategies for improving civil caseflow.

e. Court Planning, Management, and Financing. The Institute is interested in supporting projects that explore emerging issues that will affect the State courts as they enter the 21st Century, as well as projects that develop and test innovative approaches for managing the courts, securing and managing the resources required to fully meet the responsibilities of the judicial branch, and institutionalizing long-range planning processes. In particular the Institute is interested in:

1. Development, evaluation, education, research, and technical assistance projects to:
- Develop, implement, and assess innovative case management techniques for cases involving juveniles;
- Facilitate communication, information sharing, and coordination between the juvenile and criminal courts;
- Assess the effects of innovative management approaches designed to assure quality services to court users;
- Institutionalize long-range planning approaches in individual States and local jurisdictions, including development of an ongoing internal capacity to conduct environmental scanning, trends analysis, and benchmarking; and
- Develop and test mechanisms for linking assessments of effectiveness such as the Trial Court Performance Standards to fiscal planning and budgeting, including service efforts and accomplishments approaches (SEA), performance audits, and performance budgeting; and the testing of innovative programs and procedures for providing clear and open communications between the judicial and legislative branches of government.

ii. The preparation of essays exploring possible changes in the court process or judicial administration and their implications for judges, court managers, policymakers, and the public. Grants supporting such "think pieces" are limited to no more than $10,000. The resulting essay should be directed to the court community and of publishable quality.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to: the ramifications of "virtual trials" (i.e. proceedings in which several of the trial participants including the parties, counsel, witnesses, the judge, and the jury may not be physically in the courtroom); the implications of the greater use of technology-enhanced courtroom presentations, especially when there is an imbalance of resources among the parties; the appropriateness of modifying methods of selecting, qualifying, and using juries; and the use of technology to better inform and prepare jurors.

The Institute has funded planning, futures, and innovative management projects including: national and Statewide "future and the courts" conferences and training; development of curricula, guidebooks and a video on visioning, and a long-range planning guide for trial courts; the provision of technical assistance to courts conducting futures and long-range planning activities, including development of a court futures network on the Internet; a National Interbranch Conference on Funding the State Courts; a test of the feasibility of implementing
the Trial Court Performance Standards in four States; the development of
Appellate Court Performance Standards and Measures; the application of total
quality management principles to court operations, as well as the development of
a TQM guidebook and training materials for trial courts; revision of the
Standards on Judicial Administration; projects identifying the causes of delay
in trial and appellate courts; and the preparation of a national agenda for
reducing litigation cost and delay.

T. Resolution of Current Evidentiary Issues. This category includes
educational programs and other projects to assist judges in deciding questions
regarding:
• The admissibility of new forms of demonstrative evidence, including
computer simulations, and providing appropriate jury instructions regarding
such evidence;
• The appropriate use of expert testimony in criminal cases concerning
the possible mitigating impact of the prior victimization of the defendant;
• The admissibility and weight of complex scientific or technical evidence
and applying the standards set forth in Daubert v. Merrell Dow
Pharmaceuticals, Inc. governing the admissibility of scientific and technical
evidence;
• The admissibility of genetic evidence generally, and the findings of the
recently released National Academy of Sciences report evaluating forensic
DNA evidence, in particular;
• The admissibility of testimony based on recovered memory, and the
admissibility of expert testimony about memory recovery; and
• The application of rape shield laws and other limits on the introduction of
evidence or the cross-examination of witnesses.

In previous funding cycles, the Institute has supported the analysis of
issues related to the use of expert testimony in criminal cases involving
domestic violence; development of a computer-assisted training program on
evidentiary problems for juvenile and family court judges; training on
medical/legal and scientific evidence issues; a national conference on mass
tort litigation; regional seminars on evidentiary questions; production of a
videotape and other materials on scientific evidence; presentation of a
workshop on the use of DNA evidence in criminal proceedings; and
preparation of a benchbook for judges on the credibility, competence, and
courtroom treatment of child witnesses as well as protocols for questioning
child victims of crime.

1. Substance Abuse. This category includes projects to develop and
evaluate innovative techniques that courts may use to handle a large volume
of substance abuse-related criminal, civil, juvenile, and domestic relations
cases fairly and expeditiously. In particular, the Institute is interested in projects to:
• Prepare and test measures, forms, and other tools for self-evaluation of
a court-enforced substance abuse treatment program;
• Develop and test innovative management information systems to
facilitate the sharing of information among courts, and the agencies and
service providers involved in the operation of a court-enforced substance
abuse treatment program;
• Assess the effect of managed healthcare plans on the availability and cost
of drug treatment services for court-enforced treatment programs, and assist
judges in shaping managed care plans to enhance the availability of necessary
services at a reasonable cost;
• Develop and test educational programs for judges and court personnel
concerning the management of “drug courts” (i.e. specialized calendars for
substance abuse cases combined with court-enforced treatment programs),
developing collaborative efforts with community service agencies to support
the work of drug courts, or the ethical issues that may be involved in operating
a drug court; and
• Assess the applicability of the drug court model to substance abuse-related
cases involving juveniles and cases requiring other treatment or services in
addition to substance abuse treatment (e.g., child abuse, or mental health
cases).

The Institute has supported the presentation of the 1995 National
Symposium on the Implementation and Operation of Court-Enforced Drug
Treatment Programs as well as the 1991 National Conference on Substance
Abuse and the Courts, and efforts to implement the State and local plans
developed at these Conferences. It has also supported projects to evaluate:
court-enforced treatment programs; special court-ordered programs for women offenders, and
other court-based alcohol and drug assessment programs; replicate the Dade
County program in non-urban sites; involve community groups and families
in drug court programs; assess the impact of legislation and court decisions
dealing with drug-afflicted infants, and strategies for coping with increasing
caseload pressures; develop a benchbook and other educational
materials to assist judges in child abuse
and neglect cases involving parental
substance abuse and in developing
appropriate sentences for pregnant
substance abusers; test the use of a dual
diagnostic treatment model for domestic
violence cases in which substance abuse
was a factor, and present local and
regional educational programs for
judges and other court personnel on
substance abuse and its treatment.

2. Children and Families in Court. This category includes education,
demonstration, evaluation, technical assistance, and research projects to
identify and inform judges of innovative, appropriate, and effective
approaches for handling cases involving children and families. The Institute is
particularly interested in projects that:
• Assist courts in addressing the special needs of children in cases
involving family violence including the development and testing of innovative
protocols, procedures, educational programs, and other measures for
improving the capacity of courts to:
  • Adjudicate child custody cases in which family violence may be involved;
  • Determine and address the service needs of children exposed to family
violence and the methods for mitigating those effects when issuing protection,
custody, visitation, or other orders;
  • Adjudicate and monitor child abuse and neglect litigation and reconcile
the need to protect the child with the requirement to make reasonable efforts
to maintain or reunite the family.
• Enhance the fairness and effectiveness of juvenile delinquency
proceedings, including projects that:
  • Prepare curricula and materials on how to manage cases involving gang
members fairly, safely, and effectively, including the use of appropriate
procedures for determining pre-adjudication release, protecting
witnesses, and developing effective dispositions;
  • Prepare curricula and materials for judges and court staff on accurately
identifying those juvenile offenders who are likely to pursue criminal careers and
to intervene more effectively when such a youth is identified;
  • Develop and test effective approaches for the detention, adjudication, and disposition of
juveniles under age 13 who are accused of involvement in a violent offense;
• Improve the fairness and effectiveness of proceedings to determine
custody, visitation, and support issues, including projects that:
  • Develop and test guidelines, curricula, and other materials to assist
trial judges in determining the best interest of a child, particularly when an
adoption is contested, or when a parent
who has been awarded custody seeks to relocate;
• Develop and test guidelines, curricula, and other materials to assist trial judges in establishing and enforcing custody, visitation, and support orders in cases in which a child's parents were never married to each other.

iv. Improve the effectiveness and operating efficiency of juvenile and family courts, including projects to:
• Improve the capacity of courts, regardless of structure, to expeditiously coordinate and share appropriate information for multiple cases involving members of the same family;
• Develop and test innovative techniques for improving communication, sharing information, and coordination between juvenile and criminal courts and divisions; and
• Improve the handling of the criminal and civil aspects of interstate and international parental child abductions.

In previous funding cycles, the Institute supported a national and State conferences on courts, children, and the family; a review of juvenile courts in light of the upcoming 100th anniversary of the founding of the first juvenile court; a symposium on the resolution of interstate child welfare issues; the preparation of educational materials on the questioning of child witnesses, making reasonable efforts to preserve family, adjudicating allegations of child sexual abuse when custody is in dispute, child victimization, handling child abuse and neglect cases when parental substance abuse is involved, and on children as the silent victims of spousal abuse. Other Institute grants have supported the examination of supervised visitation programs, effective court responses when domestic violence and custody disputes coincide, and foster care review procedures.

In addition, the Institute has supported projects to enhance coordination of cases involving the same family that are being heard in different courts; assistance to States considering establishment of a family court; development of national and State-based training materials for guardians ad litem; examinations of the authority of the juvenile court to enforce treatment orders and the role of juvenile court judges; and development of innovative approaches for coordinating services for children and youth.

1. Improving the Courts' Response to Domestic Violence and Gender-Related Crimes of Violence. This category includes education, demonstration, technical assistance, evaluation, and research projects to improve the fair and effective processing, consideration, and disposition of cases concerning domestic violence and gender-related violent crimes, including projects on:
• The use and enforcement of intra- and inter-State protective orders and the implications for the courts of the full faith and credit provisions of the Violence Against Women Act;
• The use of electronic databases of protection orders;
• The evaluation of the effectiveness of social services programs and to assure that courts are fully accessible to victims of domestic violence and other gender-related violent crimes;
• Effective methods that courts can use to monitor and respond to stalking;
• Determining when it may be appropriate to refer a case involving family violence for mediation and what procedures and safeguards should be employed;
• Effective programs, procedures, and strategies to coordinate the response to domestic violence and gender-related crimes of violence among courts, criminal justice agencies, and sexual assault programs, and to assure that courts are fully accessible to victims of domestic violence and other gender-related violent crimes; and
• Effective sentencing approaches in cases involving domestic violence and other gender-related crimes, including methods for accurately identifying potentially lethal batterers.

Institute funds may not be used to provide operational support to programs offering direct services or compensation to victims of crimes.

In previous funding cycles, the Institute supported national and State conferences on family violence and the courts as well as projects to implement the action plans developed at these conferences; development of curricula for judges on handling family violence, rape, and sexual assault cases; preparation of descriptions of innovative court practices in family violence cases; evaluation of the effectiveness of court-ordered treatment for family violence offenders and of the use of alternatives to adjudication in child abuse cases; development of ways to integrate the effectiveness of civil protection orders for family violence victims; an examination of state-of-the-art court practices for handling family violence cases; recommendations on how to improve access to rural courts for victims of family violence; exploration of the policy issues related to and the development of curricula on the use of mediation in domestic relations cases involving allegations of violence; testing of videotapes and other educational programs for the parties in divorce actions and their children; and preparation of an analysis of the issues related to the use of expert testimony in criminal cases involving domestic violence.

j. The Relationship Between State and Federal Courts. This category includes education, research, demonstration, and evaluation projects designed to facilitate appropriate and effective communication, cooperation, and coordination between State and Federal courts. The Institute is particularly interested in innovative projects that:
• Develop and test curricula and other educational materials to illustrate effective methods being used at the trial court, State, and Circuit levels to coordinate cases and administrative activities, and share facilities; and
• Develop and test new approaches to:
  • Implement the habeas corpus provisions of the Anti-Terrorism Act of 1996;
  • Handle capital habeas corpus cases fairly and efficiently;
  • Coordinate and process mass tort cases fairly and efficiently at the trial and appellate levels;
  • Coordinate the adjudication of related State and Federal criminal cases;
  • Coordinate related State and Federal cases that may be brought under the Violence Against Women Act;
  • Exchange information and coordinate calendars among State and Federal courts; and
  • Share jury pools, alternative dispute resolution programs, and court services.

In previous funding cycles, the Institute has supported national and regional conferences on State-Federal judicial relationships, a national conference on mass tort litigation, and the Chief Justices' Special Committee on Mass Tort Litigation. In addition, the Institute has supported projects developing judicial impact statement procedures for national legislation affecting State courts, and projects examining methods of State and Federal trial and appellate court cooperation; procedures for facilitating certification of questions of law; the impact on the State courts of diversity cases and cases brought under 1983; the procedures used in Federal habeas corpus review of State court criminal
cases; the factors that motivate litigants to select Federal or State courts; and the mechanisms for transferring cases between Federal and State courts, as well as the methods for effectively consolidating, deciding, and managing complex litigation. The Institute has also supported a test of assigning specialized law clerks to trial courts hearing capital cases in order to improve the fairness and efficiency of death penalty litigation at the trial level, a clearinghouse of information on State constitutional law decisions, educational programs for State judges on coordination of Federal bankruptcy cases with State litigation, and a seminar examining the implications of the “Federalization” of crime.

C. Single Jurisdiction Projects

The Board will consider supporting a limited number of projects submitted by State or local courts that address the needs of only the applicant State or local jurisdiction. It has established two categories of Single Jurisdiction Projects:

1. Projects Addressing a Critical Need of a Single State or Local Jurisdiction

a. Description of the Program. The Board will set aside up to $300,000 to support projects submitted by State or local courts that address the needs of only the applicant State or local jurisdiction. A project under this section may address any of the topics included in the Special Interest Categories or Statutory Program Areas. In particular, the Institute is interested in proposals to replicate programs, procedures, or strategies that have been developed, demonstrated, or evaluated by SJI-supported projects. (A list of examples of such projects is contained in Appendix IV.) Replication grants are limited to no more than $30,000 each. Ordinarily, the Institute will not provide support solely for the purchase of equipment or software.

Concept papers for single jurisdiction projects may be submitted by a State court system, an appellate court, or a limited or general jurisdiction trial court. All awards under this category are subject to the matching requirements set forth in section X.B.1.

b. Application Procedures. Concept papers and applications requesting funds for projects under this section must meet the requirements of sections VI. ("Concept Paper Submission Requirements for New Projects") and VII. ("Application Requirements"), respectively, and must demonstrate that:

1. The proposed project is essential to meeting a critical need of the jurisdiction; and

2. The need cannot be met solely with State and local resources within the foreseeable future.

2. Technical Assistance Grants

a. Description of the Program. The Board will set aside up to $400,000 of Fiscal Year 1997 funds to support the provision of technical assistance to State and local courts. The exact amount to be awarded for these grants will depend on the number and quality of the applications submitted in this category and other categories of the Guideline. It is anticipated, however, that at least $100,000 will be available each quarter to support Technical Assistance grants. The program is designed to provide State and local courts with sufficient support to obtain technical assistance to diagnose a problem, develop a response to that problem, and initiate implementation of any needed changes. Technical Assistance grants are limited to no more than $30,000 each, and may cover the cost of obtaining the services of consultants, travel by a team of officials from one court to examine a practice, program, or facility in another jurisdiction that the applicant court is interested in replicating, or both. Technical assistance grant funds ordinarily may not be used to support production of a videotape. Normally, the technical assistance must be completed within 12 months after the start-date of the grant.

b. Eligibility for Technical Assistance Grants. Only a State or local court may apply for a Technical Assistance grant. As with other awards to State or local courts, cash or in-kind match must be provided equal to at least 50% of the grant amount.

c. Review Criteria. Technical Assistance grants will be awarded on the basis of criteria including: whether the assistance would address a critical need of the court; the soundness of the technical assistance approach to the problem; the qualifications of the consultant(s) to be hired, or the specific criteria that will be used to select the consultant(s); commitment on the part of the court to act on the consultant's recommendations; and the reasonableness of the proposed budget. The Institute also will consider factors such as the level and nature of the match that would be provided, diversity of subject matter, geographic diversity, the level of appropriations available to the Institute in the current year, and the amount expected to be available in succeeding fiscal years.

The Board has delegated its authority to approve these grants to its Technical Assistance grants will be awarded on the basis of criteria including: whether the assistance would address a critical need of the court; the soundness of the technical assistance approach to the problem; the qualifications of the consultant(s) to be hired, or the specific criteria that will be used to select the consultant(s); commitment on the part of the court to act on the consultant's recommendations; and the reasonableness of the proposed budget. The Institute also will consider factors such as the level and nature of the match that would be provided, diversity of subject matter, geographic diversity, the level of appropriations available to the Institute in the current year, and the amount expected to be available in succeeding fiscal years.

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d. Application Procedures. In lieu of formal applications, applicants for Technical Assistance grants may submit, at any time, an original and three copies of a detailed letter describing the proposed project and addressing the issues listed below. Letters from an individual trial or appellate court must be signed by the presiding judge or manager of that court. Letters from the State court system must be signed by the Chief Justice or State Court Administrator.

Although there is no prescribed form for the letter nor a minimum or maximum page limit, letters of application should include the following information to ensure that each of the criteria is addressed:

i. Need for Funding. What is the critical need facing the court? How will the proposed technical assistance help the court to meet this critical need? Why cannot State or local resources fully support the costs of the required consultant services?

ii. Project Description. What tasks would the consultant be expected to perform and how would they be accomplished? Who (organization or individual) would be hired to provide the assistance and how was this consultant selected? If a consultant has not yet been identified, what procedures and criteria would be used to select the consultant? (Applicants are expected to follow their jurisdiction's normal procedures for procuring consultant services.) What is the time frame for completion of the technical assistance? How would the court oversee the project and provide guidance to the consultant, and who at the court would be responsible for coordinating all project tasks and submitting quarterly progress and financial status reports?

If the consultant has been identified, a letter from that individual or organization documenting interest in and availability for the project, as well as the consultant's ability to complete the assignment within the proposed time period and for the proposed cost, should accompany the applicant's letter. The consultant must agree to submit a detailed written report to the court and the Institute upon completion of the technical assistance.

iii. Likelihood of Implementation. What steps have been taken or will be taken to facilitate implementation of the consultant's recommendations upon completion of the technical assistance? For example, if the support or cooperation of specific court officials or committees, other agencies, funding bodies, organizations, or a court other than the applicant will be needed to adopt the changes recommended by the consultant and approved by the court, how will they be involved in the review
of the recommendations and development of the implementation plan?

iv. Budget and Matching State Contribution. A completed Form E, "Preliminary Budget" (see Appendix V to the Grant Guideline), must be included with the applicant's letter requesting technical assistance. Please note that the estimated cost of the technical assistance services should be broken down into the categories listed on the budget form rather than aggregated under the Consultant/Contractual category.

The budget narrative should provide the basis for all project-related costs, including the basis for determining the estimated consultant costs (e.g., number of days per task times the requested daily consultant rate). Applicants should be aware that consultant rates above $300 per day must be approved in advance by the Institute, and that no consultant will be paid at a rate in excess of $500 per day. In addition, the budget should provide for submission of two copies of the consultant's final report to the Institute.

Recipients of technical assistance grants do not have to submit an audit, but must maintain appropriate documentation to support expenditures. (See section X.M.)

v. Support for the Project from the State Supreme Court or its Designated Agency or Council. Written concurrence on the need for the technical assistance must be submitted. This concurrence may be a copy of SJI Form B (see Appendix VI) signed by the Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court or the Chief Justice's designee, or a letter from the State Chief Justice or designee. The concurrence may be submitted with the applicant's letter or under separate cover prior to consideration of the application. The concurrence also must specify whether the State Supreme Court would receive, administer, and account for the grant funds, if awarded, or would designate the local court or a specified agency or court to receive the funds directly.

Letters of application may be submitted at any time; however, all of the letters received during a calendar quarter will be considered at one time. Applicants submitting letters between June 18, and September 30, 1996 will be notified of the Board's decision by December 9, 1996; those submitting letters between October 1, 1996 and January 10, 1997 will be notified by March 28, 1997. Notification of the Board's decisions concerning letters mailed between January 11 and March 14, 1997, will be made by May 27, 1997.


If the support or cooperation of agencies, funding bodies, organizations, or courts other than the applicant, would be needed in order for the consultant to perform the required tasks, written assurances of such support or cooperation must accompany the application letter. Support letters also may be submitted under separate cover; however, to ensure that there is sufficient time to bring them to the attention of the Board's Technical Assistance Committee, letters sent under separate cover must be received not less than two weeks prior to the Board meeting at which the technical assistance requests will be considered (i.e., by November 1, 1996, and February 1, 13, April 17, and July 11, 1997).

vi. Grantee Responsibilities. Technical Assistance grant recipients are subject to the same quarterly reporting requirements as other Institute grantees. At the conclusion of the grant period, a Technical Assistance grant recipient must complete a Technical Assistance Evaluation Form. The grantee also must submit to the Institute two copies of a final report that explains how it intends to act on the consultant's recommendations as well as two copies of the consultant's written report.

III. Definitions

The following definitions apply for the purposes of this guideline:

A. Institute

The State Justice Institute.

B. State Supreme Court

The highest appellate court in a State, or, for the purposes of the Institute program, a constitutionally or legislatively established judicial council that acts in place of that court. In States having more than one court with final appellate authority, State Supreme Court shall mean that court which also has administrative responsibility for the State's judicial system. State Supreme Court also includes the office of the court or council, if any, it designates to perform the functions described in this Guideline.

C. Designated Agency or Council

The office or judicial body which is authorized under State law or by delegation from the State Supreme Court to approve applications for funds and to receive, administer, and be accountable for those funds.

D. Grantee

The organization, entity, or individual to which an award of Institute funds is made. For a grant based on an application from a State or local court, grantee refers to the State Supreme Court or its designee.

E. Subgrantee

A State or local court which receives Institute funds through the State Supreme Court.

F. Match

The portion of project costs not borne by the Institute. Match includes both in-kind and cash contributions. Cash match is the direct outlay of funds by the grantee to support the project. In-kind match consists of contributions of time, services, space, supplies, etc., made to the project by the grantee or others (e.g., advisory board members) working directly on the project. Under normal circumstances, allowable match may be incurred only during the project period. When appropriate, and with the prior written permission of the Institute, match may be incurred from the date of the Board of Directors' approval of an award. Match does not include project-related income such as tuition or revenue from the sale of grant products, or the time of participants attending an education program. Amounts contributed as cash or in-kind match may not be recovered through the sale of grant products during or following the grant period.

G. Continuation Grant

A grant of no more than 24 months to permit completion of activities initiated under an existing Institute grant or enhancement of the products or services produced during the prior grant period.

H. On-going Support Grant

A grant of up to 36 months to support a project that is national in scope and that provides the State courts with services, programs or products for which there is a continuing important need.

I. Human Subjects

Individuals who are participants in an experimental procedure or who are asked to provide information about themselves, their attitudes, feelings, opinions and/or experiences through an interview, questionnaire, or other data collection technique.

J. Curriculum

The materials needed to replicate an education or training program.
developed with grant funds including, but not limited to: the learning objectives; the presentation methods; a sample agenda or schedule; an outline of presentations and other instructors’ notes; copies of overhead transparencies or other visual aids; exercises, case studies, hypotheticals, quizzes and other materials for involving the participants; background materials for participants; evaluation forms; and suggestions for replicating the program including possible faculty or the preferred qualifications or experience of those selected as faculty.

K. Products

Tangible materials resulting from funded projects including, but not limited to: curricula; monographs; reports; books; articles; manuals; handbooks; benchbooks; guidelines; videotapes; audiotapes; computer software; and CD-ROM disks.

IV. Eligibility for Award

In awarding funds to accomplish these objectives and purposes, the Institute has been authorized by Congress to award grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts to State and local courts and their agencies (42 U.S.C. 10705(b)(1)(A)); national nonprofit organizations controlled by, operating in conjunction with, and serving the judicial branches of State governments (42 U.S.C. 10705 (b)(1)(B)); and national nonprofit organizations for the education and training of judges and support personnel of the judicial branch of State governments (42 U.S.C. 10705(b)(1)(C)).

An applicant will be considered a national education and training applicant under section 10705(b)(1)(C) if: (1) the principal purpose or activity of the applicant is to provide education and training to State and local judges and court personnel; and (2) the applicant demonstrates a record of substantial experience in the field of judicial education and training.

The Institute also is authorized to make awards to other nonprofit organizations with expertise in judicial administration, institutions of higher education, individuals, partnerships, firms, corporations, and private agencies with expertise in judicial administration, provided that the objectives of the relevant program area(s) can be served better. In making this judgment, the Institute will consider the likely replicability of the projects’ methodology and results in other jurisdictions. For-profit organizations are also eligible for grants and cooperative agreements; however, they must waive their fees.

The Institute may also make awards to Federal, State or local agencies and institutions other than courts for services that cannot be adequately provided through nongovernmental arrangements.

In addition, the Institute may enter into inter-agency agreements with other public or private funders to support projects consistent with the purpose of the State Justice Institute Act.

Each application for funding from a State or local court must be approved, consistent with State law, by the State’s Supreme Court or its designated agency or council. The latter shall receive all Institute funds awarded to such courts and be responsible for assuring proper administration of Institute funds, in accordance with section XI.B.2. of this Guideline. A list of persons to contact in each State regarding approval of applications from State and local courts and administration of Institute grants to those courts is contained in Appendix I.

V. Types of Projects and Grants; Size of Awards

A. Types of Projects

Except as expressly provided in section II.B.2.b. and II.C. above, the Institute has placed no limitation on the overall number of awards or the number of awards in each special interest category. The general types of projects are:

1. Education and training;
2. Research and evaluation;
3. Demonstration; and
4. Technical assistance.

B. Types of Grants

The Institute has established the following types of grants:

1. Project grants (See sections II.B., and C.I., VI., and VII.).
2. Continuation grants (See sections III.H. and IX.A).
3. On-going Support grants (See sections III.I. and IX.B.).
4. Technical Assistance grants (See section II.C.2).
5. Curriculum Adaptation grants (See section II.B.2.b.i.i.).
6. Scholarships (See section II.B.2.b.iii).

C. Maximum Size of Awards

1. Except as specified below, applications for new project grants and applications for continuation grants may request funding in amounts up to $600,000. At the discretion of the Board, the funds for on-going support grants may be awarded either entirely from the Institute’s appropriations for the fiscal year of the award or from the Institute’s appropriations for successive fiscal years beginning with the fiscal year of the award. When funds to support the full amount of an on-going support grant are not awarded from the appropriations for the fiscal year of award, funds to support any subsequent years of the grant will be made available upon (1) the satisfactory performance of the project as reflected in the Quarterly Progress Reports required to be filed and grant monitoring, and (2) the availability of appropriations for that fiscal year.

2. Applications for on-going support grants may request funding in amounts up to $30,000.

3. Applications for technical assistance grants may request funding in amounts up to $20,000.

4. Applications for curriculum adaptation grants may request funding in amounts up to $1,500.

5. Applications for scholarships may request funding in amounts up to $1,500.

D. Length of Grant Periods

1. Grant periods for all new and continuation projects ordinarily will not exceed 15 months.

2. Grant periods for on-going support grants ordinarily will not exceed 36 months.

3. Grant periods for technical assistance grants and curriculum adaptation grants ordinarily will not exceed 12 months.

VI. Concept Paper Submission Requirements for New Projects

Concept papers are an extremely important part of the application process because they enable the Institute to learn the program areas of primary interest to the courts and to explore innovative ideas, without imposing heavy burdens on prospective applicants. The use of concept papers also permits the Institute to better project the nature and amount of grant awards. This requirement and the submission deadlines for concept papers and applications may be waived by the Executive Director for good cause (e.g., the proposed project could provide a significant benefit to the State courts or the opportunity to conduct the project did not arise until after the deadline).

A. Format and Content

All concept papers must include a cover sheet, a program narrative, and a preliminary budget, regardless of whether the applicant is proposing a
single project or a "package" of projects, or whether the applicant is requesting an accelerated award of a grant of less than $40,000.

1. The Cover Sheet

The cover sheet for all concept papers must contain:

a. A title describing the proposed project;

b. The name and address of the court, organization, or individual submitting the paper;

c. The name, title, address (if different from that in b.), and telephone number of a contact person(s) who can provide further information about the paper;

d. The letter of the Special Interest Category (see section II.B.2) or the number of the statutory Program Area (see section II.A) that the proposed project addresses most directly; and

e. The estimated length of the proposed project.

Applicants requesting the Board to waive the application requirement and approve a grant of less than $40,000 based on the concept paper, should add APPLICATION WAIVER REQUESTED to the information on the cover page.

2. The Program Narrative

The program narrative of a concept paper should be no longer than necessary, but in no case should exceed eight (8) double-spaced pages on 8½ by 11 inch paper. Margins must be at least 1 inch and type size must be at least 12 point and 12 cpi. The narrative should describe:

a. Why is this project needed and how will it benefit State courts? If the project is to be conducted in a specific location(s), applicants should discuss the particular needs of the project site(s) to be addressed by the project, why those needs are not being met through the use of existing materials, programs, procedures, services, or other resources, and the benefits that would be realized by the proposed site(s).

If the project is not site-specific, applicants should discuss the problems that the proposed project will address, why existing materials, programs, procedures, services, or other resources do not adequately resolve those problems, and the benefits that would be realized from the project by State courts generally.

b. What will be done if a grant is awarded? Applicants should include a summary description of the project to be conducted and the approach to be taken, including the anticipated length of the grant period. Applicants requesting a waiver of the application requirement for a grant of less than $40,000 should explain the proposed methods for conducting the project as fully as space allows, and include a detailed task schedule as an attachment to the concept paper.

c. How will the effects and quality of the project be determined? Applicants should include a summary description of how the project will be evaluated, including the evaluation criteria.

d. How will others find out about the project and be able to use the results? Applicants should describe the products that will result, the degree to which they will be applicable to courts across the nation, and the manner in which the products and results of the project will be disseminated.

3. The Budget

a. Preliminary Budget. A preliminary budget must be attached to the narrative that includes the information specified on Form E included in Appendix VI of this Guideline. Applicants should be aware that prior written Institute approval is required for any consultant rate in excess of $300 per day, and that Institute funds may not be used to pay a consultant in excess of $900 per day.

b. Concept Papers Requesting Accelerated Award of a Grant of Less than $40,000. Applicants requesting a waiver of the application requirement and approval of a grant based on a concept paper under section VI.C. must attach to Form E (see Appendix VI) a budget narrative explaining the basis for each of the items listed, and whether the costs would be paid from grant funds or through a matching contribution or other sources.

c. The Budget Narrative. Applicants should include a clear understanding of the project.

d. The estimated length of the project;

e. The letter of the Special Interest Category (see section II.B.2) or the number of the statutory Program Area (see section II.A) that the proposed project addresses most directly; and

f. The degree to which the findings, procedures, training, technology, or other results of the project can be disseminated.

4. Letters of Cooperation or Support

The Institute encourages concept paper applicants to attach letters of cooperation and support from the courts and related agencies that will be involved in or directly affected by the proposed project. Letters of support may also be sent under separate cover. However, in order to ensure that there is sufficient time to bring them to the Board's attention, support letters sent under separate cover must be received no later than January 13, 1997.

5. Page Limits

a. The Institute will not accept concept papers with program narratives exceeding the limits set in sections VI.A.2. The page limit does not include the cover page, budget form, the budget narrative if required under section VI.A.3.b., the task schedule if required under section VI.A.2.b., and any letters of cooperation or endorsements. Additional material should not be attached unless it is essential to impart a clear understanding of the project.

b. Applicants submitting more than one concept paper may include material that would be identical in each concept paper in a cover letter, and incorporate that material by reference in each paper. The incorporated material will be counted against the eight-page limit for each paper. A copy of the cover letter should be attached to each copy of each concept paper.

6. Sample Concept Papers

Sample concept papers from previous years' funding cycles are available from the Institute upon request.

B. Selection Criteria

1. All concept papers will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

a. The demonstration of need for the project;

b. The soundness and innovativeness of the approach described;

c. The benefits to be derived from the project;

d. The reasonableness of the proposed budget;

e. The proposed project's relationship to one of the "Special Interest" categories set forth in section II.B; and

f. The degree to which the findings, procedures, training, technology, or other results of the project can be transferred to other jurisdictions.

"Single jurisdiction" concept papers submitted pursuant to section II.C. will be rated on the proposed project's relation to one of the "Special Interest" categories set forth in section II.B., and on the special requirements listed in section II.C.1.

In determining which concept papers will be approved for award or selected for development into full applications, the Institute will also consider the availability of financial assistance from other sources for the project: the amount and nature (cash or in-kind) of the applicant's anticipated match; whether the applicant is a State court, a national court support or education organization, a non-court unit of government, or another type of entity eligible to receive grants under the Institute's enabling legislation (see 42 U.S.C. 10705(b) (as amended) and section IV above); the extent to which the proposed project would also benefit the Federal courts or help the State courts enforce Federal constitutional and legislative requirements, and the level of appropriations available to the Institute in the current year and the amount expected to be available in succeeding fiscal years.
C. Review Process

Concept papers will be reviewed competitively by the Board of Directors. Institute staff will prepare a narrative summary and a rating sheet assigning points for each relevant selection criterion for those concept papers which fall within the scope of the Institute's funding program and merit serious consideration by the Board. Staff will also prepare a list of those papers that, in the judgment of the Executive Director, propose projects that lie outside the scope of the Institute's funding program or are not likely to merit serious consideration by the Board. The narrative summaries, rating sheets, and list of non-reviewed papers will be presented to the Board for their review. Committees of the Board will review concept paper summaries within assigned program areas and prepare recommendations for the full Board. The full Board of Directors will then decide which concept paper applicants should be invited to submit formal applications for funding. The decision to invite an application is solely that of the Board of Directors.

The Board may waive the application requirement and approve a grant based on a concept paper for a project requiring less than $40,000, when the need for and benefits of the project are clear, and the methodology and budget require little additional explanation. Because the Institute’s experience has been that projects to conduct empirical research or program evaluation ordinarily require a more thorough explanation of the methodology to be used than can be provided within the space limitations of a concept paper, the Board is unlikely to waive the application requirement for such projects.

D. Submission Requirements

An original and three copies of all concept papers submitted for consideration in Fiscal Year 1997 must be sent by first class or overnight mail or by courier no later than November 27, 1996. A postmark or courier receipt will constitute evidence of the submission date. All envelopes containing concept papers should be marked CONCEPT PAPER and should be sent to: State Justice Institute, 1650 King Street, Suite 600, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. The Institute will send written notice to all persons submitting concept papers of the Board’s decisions regarding their papers and of the key issues and questions that arose during the review process. A decision by the Board not to invite an application may not be appealed, but does not prohibit resubmission of the concept paper or a revision thereof in a subsequent round of funding. The Institute will also notify the designated State contact listed in Appendix I when the Board invites applications that are based on concept papers which are submitted by courts within their State or which specify a participating site within their State.

Receipt of each concept paper will be acknowledged in writing. Extensions of the deadline for submission of concept papers will not be granted.

VII. Application Requirements for New Projects

An application for Institute funding support must include an application form; budget forms (with appropriate documentation); a project abstract and program narrative; a disclosure of potential conflict of interest; an explanation of the methodology to be used; and certain certifications and assurances. These required application forms are described below and are included in Appendix VII. They also may be requested via E-mail (SJI@clark.net) or by calling the Institute and requesting a copy (703-684-6100). Applicants may photocopy the forms to make completion easier.

A. Forms

1. Application Form (FORM A)

The application form requests basic information regarding the proposed project, the applicant, and the total amount of funding support requested from the Institute. It also requires the signature of an individual authorized to certify on behalf of the applicant that the information contained in the application is true and complete, that submission of the application has been authorized by the applicant, and that if funding for the proposed project is approved, the applicant will comply with the requirements and conditions of the award, including the assurances set forth in Form D.

2. Certificate of State Approval (FORM B)

An application from a State or local court must include a copy of FORM B signed by the State's Chief Justice or Chief Judge, the director of the designated agency, or the head of the designated council. The signature denotes that the proposed project has been approved by the State's highest court or the agency or council it has designated. It denotes further that if funding for the project is approved by the Institute, the court or the specified designee will receive, administer, and be accountable for the awarded funds.

3. Budget Forms (FORM C or C1)

Applicants may submit the proposed project budget either in the tabular format of FORM C or in the spreadsheet format of FORM C1. Applicants requesting $100,000 or more are strongly encouraged to use the spreadsheet format. If the proposed project period is for more than a year, a separate form should be submitted for each year or portion of a year for which grant support is requested.

In addition to FORM C or C1, applicants must provide a detailed budget narrative providing an explanation of the basis for the estimates in each budget category. (See section VII.D.)

If funds from other sources are required to conduct the project, either as match or to support other aspects of the project, the source, current status of the request, and anticipated decision date must be provided.

4. Assurances (FORM D)

This form lists the statutory, regulatory, and policy requirements and conditions with which recipients of Institute funds must comply.

5. Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

This form requires applicants other than units of State or local government to disclose whether they, or another entity that is part of the same organization as the applicant, have advocated a position before Congress on any issue, and to identify the specific subjects of their lobbying efforts. (See section X.D.)

B. Project Abstract

The abstract should highlight the purposes, goals, methods and anticipated benefits of the proposed project. It should not exceed one single-spaced page on 8½ by 11 inch paper.

C. Program Narrative

The program narrative for an application should not exceed 25 double-spaced pages on 8½ by 11 inch paper. Margins must be at least 1 inch, and type size must be at least 12-point and 12 cpi. The page limit does not include the forms, the abstract, the budget narrative, and any appendices containing resumes and letters of cooperation or endorsement. Additional background material should be attached only if it is essential to impart a clear understanding of the proposed project. Numerous and lengthy appendices are strongly discouraged.

The program narrative should address the following topics:
1. Project Objectives

The applicant should include a clear, concise statement of what the proposed project is intended to accomplish. In stating the objectives of the project, applicants should focus on the overall programmatic objective (e.g., to enhance understanding and skills regarding a specific subject, or to determine how a certain procedure affects the court and litigants) rather than on operational objectives (e.g., provide training for 32 judges and court managers, or review data from 300 cases).

2. Program Areas to be Covered

The applicant should list the Special Interest Category or Categories that are addressed by the proposed project (see section II.B.). If the proposed project does not fall within one of the Institute’s Special Interest Categories, the applicant should list the Statutory Program Area or Areas that are addressed by the proposed project. (See section II.A.)

3. Need for the Project

If the project is to be conducted in a specific location(s), the applicant should discuss the particular needs of the project site(s) to be addressed by the project and why those needs are not being met through the use of existing materials, programs, procedures, services, or other resources.

If the project is not site-specific, the applicant should discuss the problems that the proposed project would address, and why existing materials, programs, procedures, services, or other resources do not adequately resolve those problems. The discussion should include specific references to the relevant literature and to the experience in the field.

4. Tasks, Methods and Evaluation

a. Tasks and Methods. The applicant should delineate the tasks to be performed in achieving the project objectives and the methods to be used for accomplishing each task. For example:

i. For research and evaluation projects, the applicant should include the data sources, data collection strategies, variables to be examined, and analytic procedures to be used for conducting the research or evaluation and ensuring the validity and general applicability of the results. For projects involving human subjects, the discussion of methods should address the procedures for obtaining respondents’ informed consent, ensuring respondents’ privacy and freedom from risk or harm, and the protection of others who are not the subjects of research but would be affected by the research. If the potential exists for risk or harm to the human subjects, a discussion should be included that explains the value of the proposed research and the methods to be used to minimize or eliminate such risk.

ii. For education and training projects, the applicant should include the adult education techniques to be used in designing and presenting the program, including the teaching/learning objectives of the educational design, the teaching methods to be used, and the opportunities for structured interaction among the participants; how faculty will be recruited, selected, and trained; the proposed number and length of the conferences, courses, seminars, or workshops to be conducted and the estimated number of persons who will attend them; the materials to be provided and how they will be developed; and the cost to participants.

iii. For demonstration projects, the applicant should list the demonstration sites and the reasons they were selected, or if the sites have not been chosen, how they will be identified and their cooperation obtained; and how the program or procedures will be implemented and monitored.

iv. For technical assistance projects, the applicant should explain the types of assistance that will be provided; the particular issues and problems for which assistance will be provided; how requests will be obtained and the type of assistance determined; how suitable providers will be selected and briefed; how reports will be reviewed; and the cost to recipients.

b. Evaluation. Every project design must include an evaluation plan to determine whether the project met its objectives. The evaluation should be designed to provide an objective and independent assessment of the effectiveness or usefulness of the training or services provided; the impact of the procedures, technology or services tested; or the validity and applicability of the research conducted. In addition, where appropriate, the evaluation process should be designed to provide on-going or periodic feedback on the effectiveness or utility of particular programs, educational offerings, or achievements which can then be further refined as a result of the evaluation process. The plan should present the qualifications of the evaluator(s); describe the criteria, related to the project’s programmatic objectives that will be used to evaluate the project’s effectiveness; explain how the evaluation will be conducted, including the specific data collection and analysis techniques to be used; discuss why this approach is appropriate; and present a schedule for completion of the evaluation within the proposed project period.

The evaluation plan should be appropriate to the type of project proposed. For example:

i. Research. An evaluation approach suited to many research projects is a review by an advisory panel of the research methodology, data collection instruments, preliminary analyses, and products as they are drafted. The panel should be comprised of independent researchers and practitioners representing the perspectives affected by the proposed project.

ii. Education and Training. The most valuable approaches to evaluating educational or training programs will serve to reinforce the participants’ learning experience while providing useful feedback on the impact of the program and possible areas for improvement. One appropriate evaluation approach is to assess the acquisition of new knowledge, skills, attitudes or understanding through participant feedback on the seminar or training event. Such feedback might include a self-assessment on what was learned along with the participant’s response to the quality and effectiveness of faculty presentations, the format of sessions, the value or usefulness of the material presented, and other relevant factors. Another appropriate approach would be to use an independent observer who might request both verbal and written responses from participants in the program. When an education project involves the development of curricular materials, an advisory panel of relevant experts can be coupled with a test of the curriculum to obtain the reactions of participants and faculty as indicated above.

iii. Demonstration. The evaluation plan for a demonstration project should encompass an assessment of program effectiveness (e.g., how well did it work?); user satisfaction, if appropriate; the cost-effectiveness of the program; a process analysis of the program (e.g., was the program implemented as designed? did it provide the services intended to the targeted population?); the impact of the program (e.g., what effect did the program have on the court? what benefits resulted from the program?); and the replicability of the program or components of the program.

iv. Technical Assistance. For technical assistance projects, applicants should explain how the timeliness, and impact of the assistance provided will be determined, and
should develop a mechanism for feedback from both the users and providers of the technical assistance.

v. Evaluation plans involving human subjects should include a discussion of the procedures for obtaining respondents’ informed consent, ensuring the respondents’ privacy and freedom from risk or harm, and the protection of others who are not the subjects of evaluation but would be affected by it. Other than the provision of confidentiality to respondents, human subject protection issues ordinarily are not applicable to participants evaluating an education program.

5. Project Management

The applicant should present a detailed management plan including the starting and completion date for each task; the time commitments to the project of key staff and their responsibilities regarding each project task; and the procedures that will be used to entail tasks are performed on time, within budget, and at the highest level of quality. In preparing the project time line, Gantt Chart, or schedule, applicants should make certain that all project activities, including publication or reproduction of project products and their initial dissemination will occur within the proposed project period. The management plan must also provide for the submission of Quarterly Progress and Financial Reports within 30 days after the close of each calendar quarter (i.e., no later than January 30, April 30, July 30, and October 30). Applicants should be aware that the Institute is unlikely to approve more than one limited extension of the grant period. Therefore, the management plan should be as realistic as possible and fully reflect the time commitments of the proposed project staff and consultants.

6. Products

The application should contain a description of the products to be developed by the project (e.g., training curricula and materials, videotapes, articles, manuals, or handbooks), including when they will be submitted to the Institute.

a. Dissemination Plan. The application must explain how and to whom the products will be disseminated; describe how they will benefit the State courts, including how they can be used by judges and court personnel; identify development, production, and dissemination costs covered by the project budget; and present the basis on which products and services developed or provided under the grant will be offered to the courts community and the public at large (i.e., whether products will be distributed at no cost to recipients, or if costs are involved, the reason for charging recipients and the estimated price of the product). (See section X.V.) Ordinarily, applicants should schedule all product preparation and distribution activities within the project period. Applicants also must submit a diskette containing a one-page abstract summarizing the products resulting from a project in Word, WordPerfect or ASCII. The abstract should include the grant number and the name of a contact person together with that individual’s address, telephone number, and e-mail address (if applicable).

A copy of each product must be sent to the library established in each State to collect the materials developed with Institute support. (A list of these libraries is contained in Appendix II.) To facilitate their use, all videotaped products should be distributed in VHS format.

Twenty copies of all project products must be submitted to the Institute. A master copy of each videotape, in addition to 20 copies of each videotape product, must also be provided to the Institute.

b. Types of Products. The type of products to be prepared depend on the nature of the project. For example, in most instances, the products of a research, evaluation, or demonstration project should include an article summarizing the project findings that is publishable in a journal serving the courts community nationally, an executive summary that will be disseminated to the project’s primary audience, or both. Applicants proposing to conduct empirical research or evaluation projects with national import should describe how they will make their data available for secondary analysis after the grant period. (See section X.W.)

The curricula and other products developed by education and training projects should be designed for use outside the classroom so that they may be used again by original participants and others in the course of their duties.

c. Institute Review. Applicants must provide for submitting a final draft of all written grant products to the Institute for review and approval at least 30 days before the products are submitted for publication or reproduction. For products in a videotape or CD-ROM format, applicants must provide for incremental Institute review of the product at the treatment, script, rough-cut, and final stages of development, or their equivalents. No grant funds may be obligated for publication or reproduction of a final grant product without the written approval of the Institute.

d. Acknowledgment, Disclaimer, and Logo. Applicants must also provide for including in all project products a prominent acknowledgment that support was received from the Institute and a disclaimer paragraph based on the example provided in section X.Q. of the Guideline. The “SJI” logo must appear on the front cover of a written product, or in the opening frames of a video product, unless the Institute approves another placement.

7. Applicant Status

An applicant that is not a State or local court and has not received a grant from the Institute within the past two years should state whether it is either a national non-profit organization controlled by, operating in conjunction with, and serving the judicial branches of State governments; or a national non-profit organization for the education and training of State court judges and support personnel. See section IV. If the applicant is a nonjudicial unit of Federal, State, or local government, it must explain whether the proposed services could be adequately provided by non-governmental entities.

8. Staff Capability

The applicant should include a summary of the training and experience of the key staff members and consultants that qualify them for conducting and managing the proposed project. Resumes of identified staff should be attached to the application. If one or more key staff members and consultants are not known at the time of the application, a description of the criteria that will be used to select persons for these positions should be included.

9. Organizational Capacity

Applicants that have not received a grant from the Institute within the past two years should include a statement describing the capacity of the applicant to administer grant funds including the financial systems used to monitor project expenditures (and income, if any), and a summary of the applicant’s past experience in administering grants, as well as any resources or capabilities that the applicant has that will particularly assist in the successful completion of the project.

Unless requested otherwise, an applicant that has received a grant from the Institute within the past two years should describe only the changes in its
organizational capacity, tax status, or financial capability that may affect its capacity to administer a grant.

If the applicant is a non-profit organization (other than a university), it must also provide documentation of its 501(c) tax exempt status as determined by the Internal Revenue Service and a copy of a current certified audit report. For purposes of this requirement, "current" means no earlier than two years prior to the current calendar year. If a current audit report is not available, the Institute will require the organization to complete a financial capability questionnaire which must be signed by a Certified Public Accountant.

Other applicants may be required to provide a current audit report, a financial capability questionnaire, or both, if specifically requested to do so by the Institute.

10. Statement of Lobbying Activities

Non-governmental applicants must submit the Institute's Disclosure of Lobbying Activities Form that requests them to state whether they, or another entity that is a part of the same organization as the applicant, have advocated a position before Congress on any issue, and identifies the specific subjects of their lobbying efforts.

11. Letters of Cooperation or Support

If the cooperation of courts, organizations, agencies, or individuals other than the applicant is required to conduct the project, the applicant should attach written assurances of cooperation and availability to the application, or send them under separate cover. In order to ensure that there is sufficient time to bring them to the Board's attention, letters of support sent under separate cover must be received at least four weeks before the meeting of the Board of Directors at which the application will be considered (i.e., no later than January 24, 1997, April 3, 1997, or June 27, 1997, respectively).

D. Budget Narrative

The budget narrative should provide the basis for the computation of all project-related costs. Additional background or schedules may be attached if they are essential to obtaining a clear understanding of the proposed budget. Numerous and lengthy appendices are strongly discouraged.

The budget narrative should cover the costs of all components of the project and clearly identify costs attributable to the project evaluation. Under OMB grant guidelines incorporated by reference in this Guideline, grant funds may not be used to pay for coffee breaks during seminars or meetings, or to purchase alcoholic beverages.

1. Justification of Personnel Compensation

The applicant should set forth the percentages of time to be devoted by the individuals who will serve as the staff of the proposed project, the annual salary of each of those persons, and the number of work days per year used for calculating the percentages of time or daily rate of those individuals. The applicant should explain any deviations from current rates or established written organization policies. If grant funds are requested to pay the salary and related costs for a current employee of a court or other unit of government, the applicant should explain why this would not constitute a supplantation of State or local funds in violation of 42 U.S.C. 10706 (d)(1). An acceptable explanation may be that the position to be filled is a new one established in conjunction with the project or that the grant funds will be supporting only the portion of the employee's time that will be dedicated to new or additional duties related to the project.

2. Fringe Benefit Computation

The applicant should provide a description of the fringe benefits provided to employees. If percentages are used, the authority for such use should be presented as well as a description of the elements included in the determination of the percentage rate.

3. Consultant/Contractual Services and Honoraria

The applicant should describe the tasks each consultant will perform, the estimated total amount to be paid to each consultant, the basis for compensation rates (e.g., number of days x the daily consultant rates), and the method for selection. Rates for consultant services must be set in accordance with section XI.H.2.c. Honorarium payments must be justified in the same manner as other consultant payments. Prior written Institute approval is required for any consultant rate in excess of $300 per day; Institute funds may not be used to pay a consultant at a rate in excess of $900 per day.

4. Travel

Transportation costs and per diem rates must comply with the policies of the applicant organization. If the applicant does not have an established travel policy, then travel rates shall be consistent with those established by the Institute or the Federal Government. (A copy of the Institute's travel policy is available upon request.) The budget narrative should include an explanation of the rate used, including the components of the per diem rate and the basis for the estimated transportation expenses. The purpose for travel should also be included in the narrative.

5. Equipment

Grant funds many be used to purchase only the equipment that is necessary to demonstrate a new technological application in a court, or that is otherwise essential to accomplishing the objectives of the project. Equipment purchases to support basic court operations ordinarily will not be approved. The applicant should describe the equipment to be purchased or leased and explain why the acquisition of that equipment is essential to accomplish the project's goals and objectives. The narrative should clearly identify which equipment is to be leased and which is to be purchased. The method of procurement should also be described. Purchases for automatic data processing equipment must comply with section XI.H.2.b.

6. Supplies

The applicant should provide a general description of the supplies necessary to accomplish the goals and objectives of the grant. In addition, the applicant should provide the basis for the amount requested for this expenditure category.

7. Construction

Construction expenses are prohibited except for the limited purposes set forth in section X.H.2. Any allowable construction or renovation expense should be described in detail in the budget narrative.

8. Telephone

Applicants should include anticipated telephone charges, distinguishing between monthly charges and long distance charges in the budget narrative. Also, applicants should provide the basis used in developing the monthly and long distance estimates.

9. Postage

Anticipated postage costs for project-related mailings should be described in the budget narrative. The cost of special mailings, such as for a survey or for announcing a workshop, should be distinguished from routine operational mailing costs. The bases for all postage estimates should be included in the justification material.
10. Printing/Photocopying

Anticipated costs for printing or photocopying should be included in the budget narrative. Applicants should provide the details underlying these estimates in support of the request.

11. Indirect Costs

Applicants should describe the indirect cost rates applicable to the grant in detail. If costs often included within an indirect cost rate are charged directly (e.g., a percentage of the time of senior managers to supervise project activities), the applicant should specify that these costs are not included within their approved indirect cost rate. These rates must be established in accordance with section XI.H.4. If the applicant has an indirect cost rate or allocation plan approved by any Federal granting agency, a copy of the approved rate agreement should be attached to the application.

12. Match

The applicant should describe the source of any matching contribution and the nature of the match provided. Any additional contributions to the project should be described in this section of the budget narrative as well. If in-kind match is to be provided, the applicant should describe how the amount and value of the time, services or materials actually contributed will be documented sufficiently clearly to permit them to be included in an audit of the grant. Applicants should be aware that the time spent by participants in education courses does not qualify as in-kind match.

Applicants that do not contemplate making matching contributions continuously throughout the course of the project or on a task-by-task basis must provide a schedule within 30 days after the beginning of the project period indicating at what points during the project period the matching contributions will be made. (See sections III.F., VIII.B., X.B. and XI.D.1.)

E. Submission Requirements

1. An application package containing the application, an original signature on FORM A (and on FORM B, if the application is from a State or local court, or on the Disclosure of Lobbying Form if the applicant is not a unit of State or local government), and four photocopies of the application package must be sent by first class or overnight mail, or by courier no later than May 9, 1997. A postmark or courier receipt will constitute evidence of the submission date. Please mark APPLICATION on all application package envelopes and send to: State Justice Institute, 1650 King Street, Suite 600, Alexandria, Virginia 22314.

Receipt of each proposal will be acknowledged in writing. Extensions of the deadline for receipt of applications will not be granted. See section VII.C.11. for receipt deadlines for letters of support.

2. Applicants submitting more than one application may include material that would be identical in each application in a cover letter, and incorporate that material by reference in each application. The incorporated material will be counted against the 25-page limit for the program narrative. A copy of the cover letter should be attached to each copy of each application.

VIII. Application Review Procedures

A. Preliminary Inquiries

The Institute staff will answer inquiries concerning application procedures. The staff contact will be named in the Institute’s letter acknowledging receipt of the application.

B. Selection Criteria

1. All applications will be rated on the basis of the criteria set forth below. The Institute will accord the greatest weight to the following criteria:

   a. The soundness of the methodology;
   b. The demonstration of need for the project;
   c. The appropriateness of the proposed evaluation design;
   d. The applicant’s management plan and organizational capabilities;
   e. The qualifications of the project’s staff;
   f. The products and benefits resulting from the project including the extent to which the project will have long-term benefits for State courts across the nation;
   g. The degree to which the findings, procedures, training, technology, or other results of the project can be transferred to other jurisdictions;
   h. The reasonableness of the proposed budget;
   i. The demonstration of cooperation and support of other agencies that may be affected by the project; and
   j. The proposed project’s relationship to one of the “Special Interest” categories set forth in section II.B.

2. In determining which applications to fund, the Institute will also consider whether the applicant is a State court, a national court support or education organization, a non-court unit of government, or other type of entity eligible to receive grants under the Institute’s enabling legislation (see 42 U.S.C. 10705(6) (as amended) and Section IV above); the availability of financial assistance from other sources for the project; the amount and nature (cash or in-kind) of the applicant’s match; the extent to which the proposed project would also benefit the Federal courts or help State courts enforce Federal constitutional and legislative requirements; and the level of appropriations available to the Institute in the current year and the amount expected to be available in succeeding fiscal years.

C. Review and Approval Process

Applications will be reviewed competitively by the Board of Directors. The Institute staff will prepare a narrative summary of each application, and a rating sheet assigning points for each relevant selection criterion. When necessary, applications may also be reviewed by outside experts. Committees of the Board will review applications within assigned program categories and prepare recommendations to the full Board. The full Board of Directors will then decide which applications to approve for a grant. The decision to award a grant is solely that of the Board of Directors. Awards approved by the Board will be signed by the Chairman of the Board on behalf of the Institute.

D. Return Policy

Unless a specific request is made, unsuccessful applications will not be returned. Applicants are advised that Institute records are subject to the provisions of the Federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

E. Notification of Board Decision

The Institute will send written notice to applicants concerning all Board decisions to approve, defer, or deny their respective applications and the key issues and questions that arose during the review process. A decision by the Board to deny an application may not be appealed, but does not prohibit resubmission of a proposal based on that application in a subsequent round of funding. The Institute will also notify the designated State contact listed in Appendix I when grants are approved by the Board to support projects that will be conducted by or involve courts in their State.

F. Response to Notification of Approval

Applicants have 30 days from the date of the letter notifying them that the Board has approved their application to respond to any revisions requested by the Board. If the requested revisions (or a reasonable schedule for submitting
such revisions) have not been submitted to the Institute within 30 days after
notification, the approval will be
automatically rescinded and the
application presented to the Board for
reconsideration.

IX. Renewal Funding Procedures and
Requirements

The Institute recognizes two types of
renewal funding as described below—
"continuation grants" and "on-going
support grants." The award of an initial
grant to support a project does not
constitute a commitment by the Institute
to renew funding. The Board of
Directors anticipates allocating no more
than $2 million of available FY 1997
grant funds for renewal grants.

A. Continuation Grants

1. Purpose and Scope

Continuation grants are intended to
support projects with a limited duration
that involve the same type of activities
as the previous project. They are intended
to enhance the specific program or service produced or
established during the prior grant
period. They may be used, for example,
when a project is divided into two or
more sequential phases, for secondary
analysis of data obtained in an Institute-
supported research project, or for more
extensive testing of an innovative
technology, procedure, or program
developed with SJI grant support.

In order for a project to be considered
for continuation funding, the grantee
must have completed the project tasks
and met all grant requirements and
conditions in a timely manner, absent
extenuating circumstances or prior
Institute approval of changes to the
project design. Continuation grants are
not intended to provide support for a
project for which the grantee has
underestimated the amount of time or
funds needed to accomplish the project
tasks.

2. Application Procedures—Letters of
Intent

In lieu of a concept paper, a grantee
seeking a continuation grant must
inform the Institute, by letter, of its
time to submit an application for such
funding as soon as the need for renewal
funding becomes apparent but no less
than 120 days before the end of the
current grant period.

a. A letter of intent must be no more
than 3 single-spaced pages on 8½ by 11
inch paper and must contain a concise
but thorough explanation of the need for
continuation; an estimate of the funds to
be requested; and a brief description of
anticipated changes in the scope, focus
or audience of the project.

b. Within 30 days of receiving a letter
of intent, Institute staff will review the
proposed activities for the next project
period and inform the grantee of
specific issues to be addressed in the
continuation application and the date
by which the application for a
continuation grant must be submitted.

3. Application Format

An application for a continuation
grant must include an application form,
budget forms (with appropriate
documentation), a project abstract
conforming to the format set forth in
section VII.B., a program narrative, a
budget narrative, a disclosure of
lobbying form (from applicants other
than units of State or local government),
and certain certifications and
assurances.

The program narrative should
conform to the length and format
requirements set forth in section VII.C.
However, rather than the topics listed in
section VII.C., the program narrative of
an application for a continuation grant
should include:

a. Project Objectives. The applicant
should clearly and concisely state what
the continuation project is intended to
accomplish.

b. Need for Continuation. The applicant
should explain why
continuation of the project is necessary
to achieve the goals of the project, and
how the continuation will benefit the
participating courts or the courts
community generally. That is, to what
extent will the original goals and
objectives of the project be unfulfilled if
the project is not continued, and
conversely, how will the findings or
results of the project be enhanced by
continuing the project?

A continuation application requesting
a package grant to support more than
one project should explain, in addition,
how the proposed projects are related;
how their operation and administration
would be enhanced by the grant; the
advantages of funding the projects as a
package rather than individually; and
the disadvantages, if any, that would
accrue by considering or funding them
separately.

The applicant should discuss the status
of all activities conducted during the
previous project period. Applicants
should identify any activities that were
not completed, and explain why.
A continuation application requesting a
package grant must describe separately
the activities undertaken in each of the
projects included within the proposed
package.

d. Evaluation Findings. The applicant
should present the key findings, impact,
or recommendations resulting from the
evaluation of the project, if they are
available, and how they will be
addressed during the proposed
continuation. If the findings are not yet
available, applicants should provide the
date by which they will be submitted to
the Institute. Ordinarily, the Board will
not consider an application for
continuation funding until the Institute
has received the evaluator's report.

e. Tasks, Methods, Staff and Grantee
Capability. The applicant should fully
describe any changes in the tasks to be
performed, the methods to be used, the
products of the project, and how and to
whom those products will be
disseminated, as well as any changes in
the assigned staff or the grantee's
organizational capacity. Applicants
should include, in addition, the criteria
and methods by which the proposed
continuation project would be
evaluated.

A continuation application for a
package grant must address these issues
separately for each project included in
the proposed package, using the same
alphabetical identifiers and project titles
as in the original application.

f. Task Schedule. The applicant
should present a detailed task schedule
and timeline for the next project period.

g. Other Sources of Support. The
applicant should indicate why other
sources of support are inadequate,
inappropriate or unavailable.

4. Budget and Budget Narrative

The applicant should provide a
complete budget and budget narrative
conforming to the requirements set forth
in paragraph VII.D. Changes in the
funding level requested should be
discussed in terms of corresponding
increases or decreases in the scope of
activities or services to be rendered.

5. References to Previously Submitted
Material

An application for a continuation
grant should not repeat information
contained in a previously approved
application or other previously
submitted materials, but should provide
specific references to such materials
where appropriate.

6. Submission Requirements, Review
and Approval Process, and Notification
of Decision

The submission requirements set forth
in section VII.E., other than the deadline
for mailing, apply to applications for a
continuation grant. Such applications
will be rated on the selection criteria set
forth in section VII.A. The key findings
and recommendations resulting from an
evaluation of the project and the
proposed response to those findings and recommendations will also be
considered. The review and approval process, return policy, and notification
procedures are the same as those for new projects set forth in sections
VIII.C.±VIII.E.
B. On-going Support Grants
1. Purpose and Scope
On-going support grants are intended to support projects that are national in
scope and that provide the State courts with services, programs or products
for which there is a continuing important need. An on-going support grant may
also be used to fund longitudinal research that directly benefits the State
courts. On-going support grants are subject to the limits on size and
duration set forth in V.C.2. and V.D.2. The Board will consider awarding an
on-going support grant for a period of up to 36 months. The total amount of
the grant will be fixed at the time of the initial award. Funds ordinarily will be
made available in annual increments as specified in section V.C.2.
A project is eligible for consideration for an on-going support grant if:
a. The project is supported by and has been evaluated under a grant from the
Institute;
b. The project is national in scope and provides a significant benefit to the
State courts;
c. There is a continuing important need for the services, programs or
products provided by the project as indicated by the level of use and
support by members of the court community;
d. The project is accomplishing its objectives in an effective and efficient
manner; and
\[\text{e. It is likely that the service or program provided by the project would be curtailed or significantly reduced without Institute support.}\]
Each project supported by an on-going
support grant must include an
evaluation component assessing its
effectiveness and operation throughout
the grant period. The evaluation should
be independent, but may be designed
collaboratively by the evaluator and the
grantee. The design should call for
regular feedback from the evaluator to the
grantee throughout the project period concerning recommendations for
mid-course corrections or improvement of the project, as well as periodic reports
to the Institute at relevant points in the
project.
An interim evaluation report must be
submitted 18 months into the grant
period. The decision to obligate Institute
funds to support the third year of the
project will be based on the interim
evaluation findings and the applicant's
response to any deficiencies noted in the
report.
A final evaluation assessing the
effectiveness, operation of, and
continuing need for the project must be
submitted 90 days before the end of the
3-year project period.
In addition, a detailed annual task
schedule must be submitted not later than 45 days before the end of the first
and second years of the grant period,
along with an explanation of any
necessary revisions in the projected
costs for the remainder of the project
period. (See also section IX.B.3.h.)
2. Letters of Intent
In lieu of a concept paper, a grantee seeking an on-going support grant must inform the Institute, by letter, of its intent to submit an application for such funding as soon as the need for renewal funding becomes apparent but no less than 120 days before the end of the current grant period. The letter of intent should be in the same format as that prescribed for continuation grants in section IX.A.2.a.
3. Format
An application for an on-going
support grant must include an
application form, budget forms (with
appropriate documentation), a project
abstract conforming to the format set
forth in section VII.B., a program
narrative, a budget narrative, and certain
certifications and assurances.
The program narrative should conform to the length and format
requirements set forth in section VII.C.
However, rather than the topics listed in
section VII.C., the program narrative of applications for on-going support grants should address:
a. Description of Need for and
Benefits of the Project. The applicant should provide a detailed discussion of the
benefits provided by the project to the State courts around the country, including the degree to which State
courts, State court judges, or State court managers and personnel are using the services or programs provided by
the project.
b. Demonstration of Court Support. The applicant should demonstrate support for the continuation of the
project from the courts community.
c. Report on Current Project Activities. The applicant should discuss the extent
to which the project has met its goals and objectives, identify any activities that have not been completed, and explain
why.
d. Evaluation Findings. The applicant should attach a copy of the final
evaluation report regarding the
effectiveness, impact, and operation of
the project, specify the key findings or recommendations resulting from the
evaluation, and explain how they will be
addressed during the proposed
renewal period. Ordinarily, the Board
will not consider an application for
ongoing support until the Institute has
received the evaluator's report.
\[\text{e. Objectives, Tasks, Methods, Staff and Grantee Capability. The applicant should describe fully any changes in the objectives; tasks to be performed; the methods to be used; the products of the project; how and to whom those products will be disseminated; the assigned staff; and the grantee's organizational capacity.}\]
f. Task Schedule. The applicant should present a general schedule for
the full proposed project period and a
detailed task schedule for the first year
of the proposed new project period.
g. Other Sources of Support. The applicant should indicate why other
sources of support are inadequate, inappropriate or unavailable.
4. Budget and Budget Narrative
The applicant should provide a
complete three-year budget and budget
narrative conforming to the
requirements set forth in paragraph
VII.D. Changes in the funding level
requested should be discussed in terms of corresponding increases or decreases
in the scope of activities or services to be rendered. A complete budget narrative should be provided for each
year, or portion of a year, for which
grant support is requested. Changes in the
funding level requested should be
discussed in terms of corresponding
increases or decreases in the scope of
activities or services to be rendered. The
budget should provide for realistic costof-living and staff salary increases
over the course of the requested project
period. Applicants should be aware that
the Institute is unlikely to approve a
supplemental budget increase for an
ongoing support grant in the absence of
well-documented, unanticipated factors
that clearly justify the requested increase.
5. References to Previously Submitted
Material
An application for an on-going
support grant should not repeat
information contained in a previously
approved application or other
previously submitted materials, but
should provide specific references to
such materials where appropriate.
6. Submission Requirements, Review and Approval Process, and Notification of Decision

The submission requirements set forth in section VII.E., other than the deadline for mailing applications for an ongoing support grant. Such applications will be rated on the selection criteria set forth in section VIII.B. The key findings and recommendations resulting from an evaluation of the project and the proposed response to those findings and recommendations will also be considered. The review and approval process, return policy, and notification procedures are the same as those for new projects set forth in sections VIII.C. - VIII.E.

X. Compliance Requirements

The State Justice Institute Act contains limitations and conditions on grants, contracts and cooperative agreements of which applicants and recipients should be aware. In addition to eligibility requirements which must be met to be considered for an award from the Institute, all applicants should be aware and all recipients will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the following:

A. State and Local Court Systems

Each application for funding from a State or local court must be approved, consistent with State law, by the State's Supreme Court, or its designated agency or council. The Supreme Court or its designee shall receive, administer, and be accountable for all funds awarded on the basis of such an application. 42 U.S.C. 10705(b)(4). Appendix I to this Guideline lists the person to contact in each State regarding the administration of Institute grants to State and local courts.

B. Matching Requirements

1. All awards to courts or other units of State or local government (not including publicly supported institutions of higher education) require a match from private or public sources of not less than 50% of the total amount of the Institute’s award. For example, if the total cost of a project is anticipated to be $150,000, a State court or executive branch agency may request up to $100,000 from the Institute to implement the project. The remaining $50,000 (50% of the $100,000 requested from the Institute) must be provided as a match. A cash match, non-cash match, or both may be provided, but the Institute will give preference to those applicants that provide a cash match to the Institute’s award. (For a further definition of match, see section III.F.)

The requirement to provide match may be waived in exceptionally rare circumstances upon approval of the Chief Justice of the highest court in the State and the Board of Directors. 42 U.S.C. 10705(d).

2. Other eligible recipients of Institute funds are not required to provide a match, but are encouraged to contribute to meeting the costs of the project. In instances where match is proposed, the grantee is responsible for ensuring that the total amount proposed is actually contributed. If a proposed contribution is not fully met, the Institute may reduce the award amount accordingly, in order to maintain the ratio originally provided for in the award agreement (see sections VIII.B above and XI.D).

C. Conflict of Interest

Personnel and other officials connected with Institute-funded programs shall adhere to the following requirements:

1. No official or employee of a recipient court or organization shall participate personally through decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, the rendering of advice, investigation, or otherwise in any proceeding, application, request for a ruling or other determination, contract, grant, cooperative agreement, claim, controversy, or other particular matter in which Institute funds are used, where to his/her knowledge he/she or his/her immediate family, partners, organization other than a public agency in which he/she is serving as officer, director, trustee, partner, or employee or any person or organization with whom he/she is negotiating or has any arrangement concerning prospective employment, has a financial interest.

2. In the use of Institute project funds, an official or employee of a recipient court or organization shall avoid any action which might result in or create the appearance of:
   a. Using an official position for private gain; or
   b. Affecting adversely the confidence of the public in the integrity of the Institute program.

3. Requests for proposals or invitations for bids issued by a recipient of Institute funds or a subcontractor will provide notice to prospective bidders that the contractors who develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work and/or requests for proposals for a proposed procurement will be excluded from bidding programs with existing a proposal to compete for the award of such procurement.

D. Lobbying

Funds awarded to recipients by the Institute shall not be used, indirectly or directly, to influence Executive orders or similar promulgations by Federal, State or local agencies, or to influence the passage or defeat of any legislation by Federal, State or local legislative bodies. 42 U.S.C. 10706(a).

It is the policy of the Board of Directors to award funds only to support applications submitted by organizations that would carry out the objectives of their applications in an unbiased manner. Consistent with this policy and the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 10706, the Institute will not knowingly award a grant to an applicant that has, directly or through an entity that is part of the same organization as the applicant, advocated a position before Congress on the specific subject matter of the application.

E. Political Activities

No recipient shall contribute or make available Institute funds, program personnel, or equipment to any political party or association, or the campaign of any candidate for public or party office. Recipients are also prohibited from using funds in advocating or opposing any ballot measure, initiative, or referendum. Officers and employees of recipients shall not intentionally identify the Institute or recipients with any partisan or nonpartisan political activity associated with a political party or association, or the campaign of any candidate for public or party office. 42 U.S.C. 10706(a).

F. Advocacy

No funds made available by the Institute may be used directly or indirectly to support legal assistance to parties in litigation, including cases involving capital punishment.

G. Prohibition Against Litigation Support

No funds made available by the Institute may be used directly or indirectly to support legal assistance to parties in litigation, including cases involving capital punishment.

H. Supplantation and Construction

To ensure that funds are used to supplement and improve the operation of State courts, rather than to support basic court services, funds shall not be used for the following purposes:

1. To supplant State or local funds supporting a program or activity (such as paying the salary of court employees who would be performing their normal
duties as part of the project, or paying for any fee that is part of the
court's normal operations); 2. To construct court facilities or
structures, except to remodel existing
facilities or to demonstrate new
architectural or technological
techniques, or to provide temporary
facilities for new personnel or for
personnel involved in a demonstration
or experimental program; or
3. Solely to purchase equipment.

I. Confidentiality of Information

Except as provided by Federal law
other than the State Justice Institute Act,
no recipient of financial assistance from
SJI may use or reveal any research or
statistical information furnished under
the Act by any person and identifiable
to any specific private person for any
purpose other than the purpose for
which the information was obtained.
Such information and copies thereof
shall be immune from legal process, and
shall not, without the consent of the
person furnishing such information, be
admitted as evidence or used for any
purpose in any action, suit, or other
judicial, legislative, or administrative
proceeding.

J. Human Research Protection

All research involving human subjects
shall be conducted with the informed
consent of those subjects and in a
manner that will ensure their privacy
and freedom from risk or harm and the
protection of persons who are not
subjects of the research but would be
affected by it, unless such procedures
and safeguards would make the research
impractical. In such instances, the
Institute must approve procedures
designed by the grantee to provide
human subjects with relevant
information about the research after
their involvement and to minimize or
eliminate risk or harm to those subjects
due to their participation.

K. Nondiscrimination

No person may, on the basis of race,
sex, national origin, disability, color, or
creed be excluded from participation in,
denied the benefits of, or otherwise
subjected to discrimination under any
program or activity supported by
Institute funds. Recipients of Institute
funds must immediately take any
measures necessary to effectuate this
provision.

L. Reporting Requirements

Recipients of Institute funds, other
than scholarships awarded under
section II.B.2.b.v., shall submit
Quarterly Progress and Financial
Reports within 30 days of the close of
each calendar quarter (that is, no later
than January 30, April 30, July 30, and
October 30). Two copies of each report
must be sent. The Quarterly Progress
Reports shall include a narrative
description of project activities during
the calendar quarter, the relationship
between those activities and the task
schedule and objectives set forth in the
approved application or an approved
adjustment thereto, any significant
problem areas that have developed and
how they will be resolved, and the
activities scheduled during the next
reporting period.

The quarterly financial status report
shall be submitted in accordance with
section XI.G.2. of this guideline. A final
project progress report and financial
status report shall be submitted within
90 days after the end of the grant period
in accordance with section XI.K.2. of
this Guideline.

M. Audit

Recipients, other than those noted
below, must provide for an annual fiscal
audit which shall include an opinion on
whether the financial statements of
the grantee present fairly its financial
position and financial operations are in
accordance with generally accepted
accounting principles. (See section XI.J.
of the Guideline for the requirements of
such audits.) Recipients of a
scholarship, curriculum adaptation, or
technical assistance grant are not
required to submit an audit, but must
maintain appropriate documentation to
support all expenditures.

N. Suspension of Funding

After providing a recipient reasonable
notice and opportunity to submit
written documentation demonstrating
why fund termination or suspension
should not occur, the Institute may
terminate or suspend funding of a
project that fails to comply substantially
with the Act, the Guideline, or the terms
and conditions of the award. 42 U.S.C.
10708(a).

O. Title to Property

At the conclusion of the project, title
to all expendable and nonexpendable
personal property purchased with
Institute funds shall vest in the recipient
court, organization, or individual that
purchased the property if certification is
made to the Institute that the property
will continue to be used for the
authorized purposes of the Institute-
funded project or other purposes
consistent with the State Justice
Institute Act, as approved by the
Institute. If such certification is not
made or the Institute disapproves such
certification, title to all such property
with an aggregate or individual value of
$1,000 or more shall vest in the
Institute, which will direct the
disposition of the property.

P. Original Material

All products prepared as the result of
Institute-supported projects must be
originally-developed material unless
otherwise specified in the award
documents. Material not originally
developed that is included in such
products must be properly identified,
whether the material is in a verbatim or
extensive paraphrase format.

Q. Acknowledgment and Disclaimer

Recipients of Institute funds shall
acknowledge prominently on all
products developed with grant funds
that support was received from the
Institute. The "SJI" logo must appear
on the front cover of a written product, or
in the opening frames of a video
product, unless another placement is
approved in writing by the Institute.
This includes final products printed or
otherwise reproduced during the grant
period, as well as reprints or
reproductions of those materials
following the end of the grant period. A
camera-ready logo sheet is available
from the Institute upon request.

Recipients also shall display the
following disclaimer on all grant
products:

"This [document, film, videotape, etc.] was
developed under [grant/cooperative
agreement, number SJI- (insert number)] from
the State Justice Institute. The points of view
expressed are those of the [author(s),
filmmaker(s), etc.] and do not necessarily
represent the official position or policies of the
State Justice Institute."

R. Institute Approval of Grant Products

No grant funds may be obligated for
publication or reproduction of a final
product developed with grant funds
without the written approval of the
Institute. Grantees shall submit a final
draft of each written product to the
Institute for review and approval. These
drafts shall be submitted at least 30 days
before the product is scheduled to be
sent for publication or reproduction to
permit Institute review and
incorporation of any appropriate
changes agreed upon by the grantee and
the Institute. Grantees shall provide for
timely reviews by the Institute of
videotape or CD-ROM products at the
treatment, script, rough cut, and final
stages of development or their
equivalents, prior to initiating the next
stage of product development.
S. Distribution of Grant Products

In addition to the distribution specified in the grant application, grantees shall send:

1. Twenty copies of each final product developed with grant funds to the Institute, unless the product was developed under either a curriculum adaptation or a technical assistance grant, in which case submission of 2 copies is required.
2. A mastercopy of each videotape produced with grant funds to the Institute.
3. A one-page abstract to be submitted to the Institute summarizing the products produced during the project for posting on the Internet together with a diskette containing the abstract in Word, WordPerfect, or ASCII. The abstract should include the grant number, a contact name, address, telephone numbers, and e-mail address (if applicable).
4. One copy of each final product developed with grant funds to the library established in each State to collect materials prepared with Institute support. (A list of these libraries is contained in Appendix II. Labels for these libraries are available from the Institute upon request.) Recipients of curriculum adaptation and technical assistance grants are not required to submit final products to State libraries.

T. Copyrights

Except as otherwise provided in the terms and conditions of an Institute award, a recipient is free to copyright any books, publications, or other copyrightable materials developed in the course of an Institute-supported project, but the Institute shall reserve a royalty-free, nonexclusive and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use, and to authorize others to use, the materials for purposes consistent with the State Justice Institute Act.

U. Inventions and Patents

If any patentable items, patent rights, processes, or inventions are produced in the course of Institute-sponsored work, such fact shall be promptly and fully reported to the Institute. Unless there is a prior agreement between the grantee and the Institute on disposition of such items, the Institute shall determine whether protection of the invention or discovery shall be sought. The Institute will also determine how the rights in the invention or discovery, including rights under any patent issued thereon, shall be allocated and administered in order to protect the public interest consistent with ‘‘Government Patent Policy’’ (President’s Memorandum for Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies, February 18, 1983, and statement of Government Patent Policy).

V. Charges for Grant-Related Products/Recovery of Costs

When Institute funds fully cover the cost of developing, producing, and disseminating a product (e.g., a report, curriculum, videotape or software), the product should be distributed to the field without charge. When Institute funds only partially cover the development, production, or dissemination costs, the grantee may, with the Institute’s prior written approval, recover its costs for developing, producing, and disseminating the material to those requesting it, to the extent that those costs were not covered by Institute funds or graantee matching contributions. Applicants should disclose their intent to sell grant-related products in both the concept paper and the application. Grantees must obtain the written, prior approval of the Institute of their plans to recover project costs through the sale of grant products.

Written requests to recover costs ordinarily should be received during the grant period and should specify the nature and extent of the costs to be recovered, the reason that such costs were not budgeted (if the rationale was not disclosed in the approved application), the number of copies to be sold, the intended audience for the products to be sold, and the proposed sale price. If the product is to be sold for more than $25.00, the written request also should include a detailed itemization of costs that will be recovered and a certification that the costs were not supported by either Institute grant funds or grantee matching contributions.

In the event that the sale of grant products results in revenues that exceed the costs to develop, produce, and disseminate the product, the revenue must continue to be used for the authorized purposes of the Institute-funded project or other purposes consistent with the State Justice Institute Act that have been approved by the Institute. See sections III.F. and XI.F. for requirements regarding project-related income realized during the project period.

W. Availability of Research Data for Secondary Analysis

Upon request, grantees must make available for secondary analysis a diskette(s) or data tape(s) containing research and evaluation data collected under an Institute grant and the accompanying code manual. Grantees may recover the actual cost of duplicating and mailing or otherwise transmitting the data set and manual from the person or organization requesting the data. Grantees may provide the requested data set in the format in which it was created and analyzed.

X. Approval of Key Staff

If the qualifications of an employee or consultant assigned to a key project staff position are not described in the application or if there is a change of a person assigned to such a position, a recipient shall submit a description of the qualifications of the newly assigned person to the Institute. Prior written approval of the qualifications of the new person assigned to a key staff position must be received from the Institute before the salary or consulting fee of that person and associated costs may be paid or reimbursed from grant funds.

XI. Financial Requirements

A. Accounting Systems and Financial Records

All grantees, subgrantees, contractors, and other organizations directly or indirectly receiving Institute funds are required to establish and maintain accounting systems and financial records to accurately account for funds they receive. These records shall include total program costs, including Institute funds, State and local matching shares, and any other fund sources included in the approved project budget.

1. Purpose

The purpose of this section is to establish accounting system requirements and to offer guidance on procedures which will assist all grantees/subgrantees in:

a. Complying with the statutory requirements for the awarding, disbursement, and accounting of funds;
b. Complying with regulatory requirements of the Institute for the financial management and disposition of funds;
c. Generating financial data which can be used in the planning, management and control of programs; and
d. Facilitating an effective audit of funded programs and projects.

2. References

Except where inconsistent with specific provisions of this Guideline, the following regulations, directives and reports are applicable to Institute grants and cooperative agreements under the same terms and conditions that apply to
Federal grantees. These materials supplement the requirements of this section for accounting systems and financial recordkeeping and provide additional guidance on how these requirements may be satisfied. (Circulars may be obtained from OMB by calling 202-395-7250.)

1. Properly accounts for receipt of funds under each grant awarded and the expenditure of funds for each grant by category of expenditure (including matching contributions and project income);

a. Reviewing Financial Operations. The State Supreme Court or its designee should be familiar with, and periodically monitor, its subgrantees' financial operations, records system and procedures. Particular attention should be directed to the maintenance of current financial data.

b. Recording Financial Activities. The subgrantee's grant award or contract obligation, as well as cash advances and other financial activities, should be recorded in the financial records of the State Supreme Court or its designee in summary form. Subgrantee expenditures should be recorded on the books of the State Supreme Court OR evidenced by report forms duly filed by the subgrantee. Non-Institute contributions applied to projects by subgrantees should likewise be recorded, as should any project income resulting from program operations.

c. Budgeting and Budget Review. The State Supreme Court or its designee should ensure that each subgrantee prepares an adequate budget as the basis for its award commitment. The detail of each project budget should be maintained on file by the State Supreme Court.

d. Accounting for Non-Institute Contributions. The State Supreme Court or its designee will ensure, in those instances where subgrantees are required to furnish non-Institute matching funds, that the requirements and limitations of the Guideline are applied to such funds.

e. Audit Requirement. The State Supreme Court or its designee is required to ensure that subgrantees have met the necessary audit requirements as set forth by the Institute (see sections X.M. and XI.J).

f. Reporting Irregularities. The State Supreme Court, its designees, and its subgrantees are responsible for promptly reporting to the Institute the nature and circumstances surrounding any financial irregularities discovered.

C. Accounting System

The grantees are responsible for establishing and maintaining an adequate system of accounting and internal controls for itself and for ensuring that an adequate system exists for each of its subgrantees and contractors. An acceptable and adequate accounting system is considered to be one which:

1. Properly accounts for receipt of funds under each grant awarded and the expenditure of funds for each grant by category of expenditure (including matching contributions and project income);

2. Assures that expended funds are applied to the appropriate budget category included within the approved grant;

3. Presents and classifies historical costs of the grant as required for budgetary and evaluation purposes;

4. Provides cost and property controls to assure optimal use of grant funds;

5. Is integrated with a system of internal controls adequate to safeguard the funds and assets covered, check the accuracy and reliability of the accounting data, promote operational efficiency, and assure conformance with any general or special conditions of the grant;

6. Meets the prescribed requirements for periodic financial reporting of operations; and

7. Provides financial data for planning, control, measurement and evaluation of direct and indirect costs.

D. Total Cost Budgeting and Accounting

Accounting for all funds awarded by the Institute shall be structured and executed on a "total project cost" basis. That is, total project costs, including Institute funds, State and local matching shares, and any other fund sources included in the approved project budget shall be the foundation for fiscal administration and accounting. Grant applications and financial reports require budget and cost estimates on the basis of total costs.

1. Timing of Matching Contributions

Matching contributions need not be applied at the exact time of the obligation of Institute funds. However, the full matching share must be obligated during the award period, except that with the prior written permission of the Institute, contributions made following approval of the grant by the Institute's Board but before the beginning of the grant may be counted as match. Grantees that do not contemplate making matching contributions continuously throughout the course of a project, or on a task-by-task basis, are required to submit a schedule within 30 days after the beginning of the project period indicating at what points during the project period the matching contributions will be made. In instances where a proposed cash match is not fully met, the Institute may reduce the award amount accordingly, in order to maintain the ratio originally provided for in the award agreement.

2. Records for Match

All grantees must maintain records which clearly show the source, amount, and timing of all matching
contribute. In addition, if a project has included, within its approved budget, contributions which exceed the required matching portion, the grantee must maintain records of those contributions in the same manner as it does the Institute funds and required matching shares. For all grants made to State and local courts, the State Supreme Court has primary responsibility for grantee/subgrantee compliance with the requirements of this section. (See section XI.B.2.)

E. Maintenance and Retention of Records

All financial records, supporting documents, statistical records and all other records pertinent to grants, subgrants, cooperative agreements or contracts under grants shall be retained by each organization participating in a project for at least three years for purposes of examination and audit. State Supreme Courts may impose record retention and maintenance requirements in addition to those prescribed in this chapter.

1. Coverage

The retention requirement extends to books of original entry, source documents supporting accounting transactions, the general ledger, subsidiary ledgers, personnel and payroll records, canceled checks, and related documents and records. Source documents include copies of all grant and subgrant awards, applications, and required grants/subgrant financial and narrative reports. Personnel and payroll records shall include the time and attendance reports for all individuals reimbursed under a grant, subgrant or contract, whether they are employed full-time or part-time. Time and effort reports will be required for consultants.

2. Retention Period

The three-year retention period starts from the date of the submission of the final expenditure report or, for grants which are renewed annually, from the date of submission of the annual expenditure report.

3. Maintenance

Grantees and subgrantees are expected to see that records of different fiscal years are separately identified and maintained so that requested information can be readily located. Grantees and subgrantees are also obligated to protect records adequately against fire or other damage. When records are stored away from the grantee/subgrantee’s principal office, a written index of the location of stored records should be on hand, and ready access should be assured.

4. Access

Grantees and subgrantees must give any authorized representative of the Institute access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, and documents related to an Institute grant.

F. Project-Related Income

Records of the receipt and disposition of project-related income must be maintained by the grantee in the same manner as required for the project funds that gave rise to the income. The policies governing the disposition of the various types of project-related income are listed below.

1. Interest

A State and any agency or instrumentality of a State including State institutions of higher education and State hospitals, shall not be held accountable for interest earned on advances of project funds. When funds are awarded to subgrantees through a State, the subgrantees are not held accountable for interest earned on advances of project funds. Local units of government and nonprofit organizations that are direct grantees must refund any interest earned. Grantees shall order their affairs so as to ensure minimum balances in their respective grant cash accounts.

2. Royalties

The grantee/subgrantee may retain all royalties received from copyrights or other works developed under projects or from patents and inventions, unless the terms and conditions of the project provide otherwise.

3. Registration and Tuition Fees

Registration and tuition fees shall be used to pay project-related costs not covered by the grant, or to reduce the amount of grant funds needed to support the project. Registration and tuition fees may be used for other purposes only with the prior written approval of the Institute. Estimates of registration and tuition fees, and any expenses to be offset by the fees, should be included in the application budget forms and narrative.

4. Income from the Sale of Grant Products

When grant funds fully cover the cost of producing and disseminating a limited number of copies of a product, the grantee may, with the written prior approval of the Institute, sell additional copies reproduced at its expense only at a price intended to recover actual reproduction and distribution costs that were not covered by Institute grant funds or grantee matching contributions to the project. When grant funds only partially cover the costs of developing, producing and disseminating a product, the grantee may, with the written prior approval of the Institute, recover costs for developing, reproducing, and disseminating the material to the extent that those costs were not covered by Institute grant funds or grantee matching contributions. If the grantee recovers its costs in this manner, then amounts expended by the grantee to develop, produce, and disseminate the material may not be considered match.

If the sale of products occurs during the project period, the costs and income generated by the sales must be reported on the Quarterly Financial Status Reports and documented in an auditable manner. Whenever possible, the intent to sell a product should be disclosed in the concept paper and application or reported to the Institute in writing once a decision to sell products has been made. The grantee must request approval to recover its product development, reproduction, and dissemination costs as specified in section X.V.

5. Other

Other project income shall be treated in accordance with disposition instructions set forth in the project’s terms and conditions.

G. Payments and Financial Reporting Requirements

1. Payment of Grant Funds

The procedures and regulations set forth below are applicable to all Institute grant funds and grantees.

a. Request for Advance or Reimbursement of Funds

Grantees will receive funds on a “Check-Issued” basis. Upon receipt, review, and approval of a Request for Advance or Reimbursement by the Institute, a check will be issued directly to the grantee or its designated fiscal agent. A request must be limited to the grantee’s immediate cash needs. The Request for Advance or Reimbursement, along with the instructions for its preparation, will be included in the official Institute award package.

b. Continuation and On-Going Support Awards

For purposes of submitting Requests for Advance or Reimbursement, recipients of continuation and on-going support grants should treat each grant as a new project and number their requests accordingly (i.e. on a grant rather than a project basis). For example, the first
request for payment from a continuation grant or each year of an on-going support would be number 1, the second number 2, etc. (See Recommendations to Grantees in the Introduction for further guidance.)

b. Additional Requirements for Renewal Grants. Grantees receiving a continuation or on-going support grant should number their quarterly Financial Status Reports on a grant rather than a project basis. For example, the first quarterly report for a continuation grant or each year of an on-going support award should be number 1, the second number 2, etc.

c. Termination of Advance and Reimbursement Funding. When a grantee organization receiving cash advances from the Institute:

1. Demonstrates an unwillingness or inability to attain program or project goals, or to establish procedures that will minimize the time elapsing between cash advances and disbursements, or cannot adhere to guideline requirements or special conditions;

ii. Engages in the improper award and administration of subgrants or contracts; or

iii. Is unable to submit reliable and/or timely reports;

the Institute may terminate advance and reimbursement to the grantee organization to finance its operations with its own working capital. Payments to the grantee shall then be made by check to reimburse the grantee for actual cash disbursements. In the event the grantee continues to be deficient, the Institute may suspend reimbursement payments until the deficiencies are corrected.

d. Principle of Minimum Cash on Hand. Recipient organizations should request funds based upon immediate disbursement requirements. Grantees should time their requests to ensure that cash on hand is the minimum needed for disbursements to be made immediately or within a few days. Idle funds in the hands of subgrantees will impair the goals of good cash management.

2. Financial Reporting

a. General Requirements. In order to obtain financial information concerning the use of funds, the Institute requires that grantees/subgrantees of these funds submit timely reports for review.

Three copies of the Financial Status Report are required from all grantees, other than recipients of scholarships under section II.B.2.b.iii., for each active quarter on a calendar-quarter basis. This report is due within 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter. It is designed to provide financial information relating to Institute funds, State and local matching shares, and any other fund sources included in the approved project budget. The report contains information on obligations as well as outlays. A copy of the Financial Status Report, along with instructions for its preparation, will be included in the official Institute Award package. In circumstances where an organization requests substantial payments for a project prior to the completion of a given quarter, the Institute may request a brief summary of the amount requested, by object class, in support of the Request for Advance or Reimbursement.

b. Equipment. Grant funds may be used to purchase or lease only that equipment which is essential to accomplishing the goals and objectives of the project. The written prior approval of the Institute is required for costs which are considered necessary to the project but occur prior to the award date of the grant.

c. Consultants. The written prior approval of the Institute is required for costs that are usually treated as indirect costs. It is the policy of the Institute that all costs should be budgeted directly; however, if the rate of compensation to be paid a consultant exceeds $900 per day.

3. Travel Costs

Transportation and per diem rates must comply with the policies of the applicant organization. If the applicant does not have an established written travel policy, then travel rates shall be consistent with those established by the Institute or the Federal Government.

Table: Travel Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Maximum Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>$300 per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel</td>
<td>$150 per day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals and Tips</td>
<td>$50 per day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In order to be reimbursed for travel costs, the grantee must prepare a travel policy that is acceptable to the Institute.

4. Indirect Costs

These are costs of an organization that are not readily assignable to a particular project, but are necessary to the operation of the organization and the performance of the project. The cost of operating and maintaining facilities, depreciation, and administrative salaries are examples of the types of costs that are usually treated as indirect costs. It is the policy of the Institute that all costs should be budgeted directly; however, if a recipient has an indirect cost rate approved by a Federal agency as set forth below, the Institute will accept that rate.

a. Approved Plan Available

i. The Institute will accept an indirect cost rate or allocation plan approved for a grantee during the preceding two years by any Federal granting agency on the basis of allocation methods substantially in accord with those set forth in the applicable cost circulars. A copy of the approved rate agreement must be submitted to the Institute.

ii. Where flat rates are accepted in lieu of actual indirect costs, grantees may not also charge expenses normally included in overhead pools, e.g., accounting services, legal services, building occupancy and maintenance, etc., as direct costs.

iii. Organizations with an approved indirect cost rate, utilizing total direct costs as the base, usually exclude contracts under grants from any overhead recovery. The negotiated agreement will stipulate that contracts are excluded from the base for overhead recovery.

b. Establishment of Indirect Cost Rates

In order to be reimbursed for indirect costs, a grantee or organization must first establish an appropriate indirect cost rate. To do this, the grantee must prepare an indirect cost rate proposal and submit it to the Institute. The proposal must be submitted within three months after the start of the grant period to assure recovery of the full amount of allowable indirect costs, and it must be developed in accordance with principles and procedures appropriate.
to the type of grantee institution involved as specified in the applicable OMB Circular. Copies of OMB Circulars may be obtained directly from OMB by calling (202) 395-7250.

c. No Approved Plan. If an indirect cost proposal for recovery of actual indirect costs is not submitted to the Institute within three months after the start of the grant period, indirect costs will be irrevocably disallowed for all months prior to the month that the indirect cost proposal is received. This policy is effective for all grant awards.

I. Procurement and Property Management Standards

1. Procurement Standards

For State and local governments, the Institute adopts the standards set forth in Attachment O of OMB Circular A-102. Institutions of higher education, hospitals, and other non-profit organizations will be governed by the standards set forth in Attachment O of OMB Circular A-110.

2. Property Management Standards

The property management standards as prescribed in Attachment N of OMB Circulars A-102 and A-110 shall be applicable to all grantees and subgrantees of Institute funds except as provided in section X.O.

All grantees/subgrantees are required to be prudent in the acquisition and management of property with grant funds. If suitable property required for the successful execution of projects is already available within the grantee or subgrantee organization, expenditures of grant funds for the acquisition of new property will be considered unnecessary.

J. Audit Requirements

1. Implementation

Each recipient of a grant from the Institute, other than a scholarship, curriculum adaptation, or technical assistance grant (including a State or local court receiving a grant from the State Supreme Court) shall provide for an annual fiscal audit. The audit may be of the entire grantee organization (e.g., a university) or of the specific project funded by the Institute. Audits conducted in accordance with the Single Audit Act of 1984 and OMB Circular A-128, or OMB Circular A-133 shall satisfy the requirement for an annual fiscal audit. The audit shall be conducted by an independent Certified Public Accountant, or a State or local agency authorized to audit government agencies.

Grantees who receive funds from a Federal agency and who satisfy audit requirements of the cognizant Federal agency should submit a copy of the audit report prepared for that Federal agency to the Institute in order to satisfy the provisions of this section. Cognizant Federal agencies do not send reports to the Institute. Therefore, each grantee must send this report directly to the Institute.

2. Resolution and Clearance of Audit Reports

Timely action on recommendations by responsible management officials is an integral part of the effectiveness of an audit. Each grant recipient shall have policies and procedures for acting on audit recommendations by designating officials responsible for follow-up, maintaining a record of the actions taken on recommendations and time schedules, responding to and acting on audit recommendations, and submitting periodic reports to the Institute on recommendations and actions taken.

3. Consequences of Non-Resolution of Audit Issues

It is the general policy of the State Justice Institute not to make new grant awards to an applicant having an unresolved audit report involving Institute awards. Failure of the grantee organization to resolve audit questions may also result in the suspension or termination of payments for active Institute grants to that organization.

K. Close-Out of Grants

1. Definition

Close-out is a process by which the Institute determines that all applicable administrative and financial actions and all required work of the grant have been completed by both the grantee and the Institute.

2. Grantee Close-Out Requirements

Within 90 days after the end date of the grant or any approved extension thereof (See section XI.K.3.), the following documents must be submitted to the Institute by the grantee other than a recipient of a scholarship under section II.B.2.b.v. These reporting requirements apply at the conclusion of or termination of payments for active Institute grants to that organization.

3. Extension of Close-out Period

Upon the written request of the grantee, the Institute may extend the close-out period to assure completion of the Grantee's closeout requirements. Requests for an extension must be submitted at least 14 days before the end of the close-out period and must explain why the extension is necessary and what steps will be taken to assure that all the grantee's responsibilities will be met by the end of the extension period.

XII. Grant Adjustments

All requests for program or budget adjustments requiring Institute approval must be submitted in a timely manner by the project director. All requests for changes from the approved application will be carefully reviewed for both consistency with this Guideline and the enhancement of grant goals and objectives.

A. Grant Adjustments Requiring Prior Written Approval

There are several types of grant adjustments which require the prior written approval of the Institute. Examples of these adjustments include:

1. Budget revisions among direct cost categories which, individually or in the aggregate, exceed or are expected to exceed five percent of the approved original budget or the most recently approved revised budget. For the purposes of this section, the Institute will view budget revisions cumulatively.
For continuation and on-going support grants, funds from the original award may be used during the renewal grant period and funds awarded by a continuation or on-going support grant may be used to cover project-related expenditures incurred during the original award period, provided with the prior written approval of the Institute.

2. A change in the scope of work to be performed or the objectives of the project (see section XII. D.).

3. A change in the project site.

4. A change in the project period, such as an extension of the grant period and/or extension of the final financial or progress report deadline (see section XII. E.).

5. Satisfactory of special conditions, if required.

6. A change in or temporary absence of the project director (see sections XII. F. and G.).

7. The assignment of an employee or consultant to a key staff position whose qualifications were not described in the application, or a change of a person assigned to a key project staff position (see section X.X.).

8. A change in the name of the grantee organization.

9. A transfer or contracting out of grant-supported activities (see section XII. H.).

10. A transfer of the grant to another recipient.

11. Preagreement costs, the purchase of automated data processing equipment and software, and consultant rates, as specified in section XI. H. 2.

12. A change in the nature or number of the products to be prepared or the manner in which a product would be distributed.

B. Request for Grant Adjustments

All grantees and subgrantees must promptly notify their SJI program manager, in writing, of events or proposed changes which may require an adjustment to the approved application. In requesting an adjustment, the grantee must set forth the reasons and basis for the proposed adjustment and any other information the program manager determines would help the Institute's review.

C. Notification of Approval/Disapproval

If the request is approved, the grantee will be sent a Grant Adjustment signed by the Executive Director or his designee. If the request is denied, the grantee will be sent a written explanation of the reasons for the denial.

D. Changes in the Scope of the Grant

A grantee/subgrantee may make minor changes in methodology, approach, or other aspects of the grant to expedite achievement of the grant's objectives with subsequent notification of the SJI program manager. Major changes in scope, duration, training methodology, or other significant areas must be approved in advance by the Institute.

E. Date Changes

A request to change or extend the grant period must be made at least 30 days in advance of the end date of the grant. A revised task plan should accompany requests for a no-cost extension of the grant period, along with a revised budget where shifts among budget categories will be needed. A request to change or extend the deadline for the final financial report or final progress report must be made at least 14 days in advance of the report deadline (see section XI.K.3.).

F. Temporary Absence of the Project Director

Whenever absence of the project director is expected to exceed a continuous period of one month, the plans for the conduct of the project director's duties during such absence must be approved in advance by the Institute. This information must be provided in a letter signed by an authorized representative of the grantee/subgrantee at least 30 days before the departure of the project director, or as soon as it is known that the project director will be absent. The grant may be terminated if arrangements are not approved in advance by the Institute.

G. Withdrawal of/Change in Project Director

If the project director relinquishes or expects to relinquish active direction of the project, the Institute must be notified immediately. In such cases, if the grantee/subgrantee wishes to terminate the project, the Institute will forward procedural instructions upon notification of such intent. If the grantee wishes to continue the project under the direction of another individual, a statement of the candidate's qualifications should be sent to the Institute for review and approval. The grant may be terminated if the qualifications of the proposed individual are not approved in advance by the Institute.

H. Transferring or Contracting Out of Grant-Supported Activities

A principal activity of the grant-supported project shall not be transferred or contracted out to another organization without specific prior approval by the Institute. All such arrangements should be formalized in a contract or other written agreement between the parties involved. Copies of the proposed contract or agreement must be submitted for prior approval at the earliest possible time. The contract or agreement must state, at a minimum, the activities to be performed, the time schedule, the policies and procedures to be followed, the dollar limitation of the agreement, and the cost principles to be followed in determining what costs, both direct and indirect, are to be allowed. The contract or other written agreement must not affect the grantee's overall responsibility for the direction of the project and accountability to the Institute.

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David I. Tevelin, Executive Director.

Appendix I—List of State Contacts Regarding Administration of Institute Grants to State and Local Courts

Mr. Frank Gregory, Administrative Director, Administrative Office of the Courts, 300 Dexter Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama 36130, (205) 834-7990
Mr. Arthur H. Snowden II, Administrative Director, Alaska Court System, 303 K Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99501, (907) 264-0547
Nashville, Tennessee 37243–0607, (615) 741–2687
Mr. Jerry L. Benedict, Administrative Director, Office of Court
Administration of the Texas Judicial System, 205 West 14th Street, Suite 600, Austin, Texas 78701, (512) 463–1625
Mr. Daniel Becker, State Court Administrator, Administrative Office of the Courts, 230 South 500 East, Salt Lake City, Utah 84102, (801) 578–3800
Mr. Lee Suskin, Acting Court Administrator, Supreme Court of Vermont, 109 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05602, (802) 828–3278
Ms. Viola E. Smith, Clerk of the Court/Administrator, Territorial Court of the Virgin Islands, P.O. Box 70, Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00801, (809) 774–6680, ext. 248
Mr. Robert N. Baldwin, Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Virginia, 100 North Ninth Street, 3rd Floor, Richmond, Virginia 23219, (804) 786–6455
Ms. Mary C. McQueen, Administrator for the Courts, Supreme Court of Washington, P.O. Box 41174, Olympia, Washington 98504, (360) 357–2121
Mr. Ted J. Philiyaw, Administrative Director of the Courts, E–400, State Capitol Bldg., 1900 Kanawha Blvd., East, Charleston, West Virginia 25305, (304) 558–0145
Mr. J. Denis Moran, Director of State Courts, P.O. Box 1688, Madison, Wisconsin 53701–1688, (608) 266–6828
Mr. Allen C. Johnson, Court Administrator, Supreme Court of Wyoming, Supreme Court Building, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, (307) 777–7480

Appendix II—SJII Libraries; Designated Sites and Contacts
State: Alabama.
Location: Supreme Court Library.
Contact: Mr. William C. Younger, State Law Librarian, Alabama State Law Library, Alabama State House Station 43, Montgomery, Montgomery, Montgomery 36130, (205) 242–4347.

State: Alaska.
Location: Anchorage Law Library.

State: Arizona.
Location: State Law Library.

State: Arkansas.
Location: Administrative Office of the Courts.
Contact: Mr. James D. Gingerich, Director, Supreme Court of Arkansas, Administrative Office of the Courts, Justice Building, 625 Marshall, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201–1078, (501) 376–6655.

State: California.
Location: Administrative Office of the Courts.
Contact: Mr. William C. Vickrey, State Court Administrator, Administrative Office of the Courts, 303 Second Street, South Tower, San Francisco, California 94107, (415) 396–9100.

State: Colorado.
Location: Supreme Court Library.
Contact: Mr. Francis Campbell, Supreme Court Law Librarian, Colorado State Judicial Building, 2 East 14th Avenue, Denver, Colorado 80203, (303) 837–3720.

State: Connecticut.
Location: State Law Library.
Contact: Mr. Richard Akeroyd, State Librarian, 331 Capital Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106, (203) 566–4301.

State: Delaware.
Location: Administrative Office of the Courts.
Contact: Mr. Michael E. McLaughlin, Deputy Director, Administrative Office of the Courts, Carvel State Office Building, 820 North French Street, 11th Floor, P.O. Box 8911, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, (302) 571–2480.

State: District of Columbia.
Location: Executive Office, District of Columbia Courts.
Contact: Mr. Ulysses Hammond, Executive Officer, Courts of the District of Columbia, 500 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001, (202) 879–1700.

State: Florida.
Location: Administrative Office of the Courts.
Contact: Mr. Kenneth Palmer, State Court Administrator, Florida State Courts System, Supreme Court Building, Tallahassee, Florida 32399–1900, (904) 488–8621.

State: Georgia.
Location: Administrative Office of the Courts.
Contact: Mr. Robert Doss, Jr., Administrative Director, Administrative Office of the Courts, The Judicial Council of Georgia, 244 Washington St., S.W., Suite 550, Atlanta, GA 30334–5900, (404) 656–5171.

State: Hawaii.
Location: Supreme Court Law Library.
Contact: Mr. Michael S. Miller, Director, Maryland State Law Library, 1501 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007, (602) 542–4033.

State: Idaho.
Location: AOC Judicial Education Library/State Law Library in Boise.
Contact: Ms. Laura Pershing, State Law Librarian, Idaho State Law Library, Supreme Court Building, 451 West State St., Boise, ID 83720, (208) 334–3316.

State: Illinois.
Location: Supreme Court Library.
Contact: Ms. Clara Wells, Asst. for Information/Library Services, American Judicature Society, Suite 1600, Chicago, IL 60602, (312) 558–6900.

State: Indiana.
Location: Supreme Court Library.
Contact: Ms. Constance Matts, Supreme Court Librarian, Supreme Court Library, State House, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204, (317) 232–2557.

State: Iowa.
Location: Administrative Office of the Court.
Contact: Mr. Jerry K. Beatty, Executive Director, Judicial Education & Planning, Administrative Office of the Courts, State Capitol Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319, (515) 281–8279.

State: Kansas.
Location: Supreme Court Library.
Contact: Mr. Fred Knecht, Law Librarian, Kansas Supreme Court Library, 301 West 10th Street, Topeka, Kansas 66614, (913) 296–3257.

State: Kentucky.
Location: State Law Library.
Contact: Ms. Sallie Howard, State Law Librarian, State Law Library, Capital, Room 200-A, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, (502) 564–4848.

State: Louisiana.
Location: State Law Library.
Contact: Ms. Carol Billings, Director, Louisiana Law Library, 301 Loyola Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana 70112, (504) 568–5705.

State: Maine.
Location: State Law and Legislative Reference Library.
Contact: Ms. Lynn E. Randall, State Law Librarian, State House Station 43, Augusta, Maine 04333, (207) 289–1600.

State: Maryland.
Location: State Law Library.
Contact: Mr. Michael S. Miller, Director, Maryland State Law Library,


Contact: Mr. Kendall Svengalis, Law Librarian, Licht Judicial Complex, 250 Benefit Street, Providence, Rhode Island, (401) 254-4546.

State: Rhode Island. Location: Roger Williams Law School Library.

Contact: Mr. Kendall Svengalis, Law Librarian, Licht Judicial Complex, 250 Benefit Street, Providence, Rhode Island, (401) 254-4546.

State: South Carolina. Location: Coleman Karesh Law Library (University of South Carolina School of Law).

Contact: Ms. Donna C. Wair, Librarian, Tennessee State Law Library, Supreme Court Building, 401 Seventh Avenue N, Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0609, (615) 741-2016.


Contact: Ms. Kay Schleuter, Director, State Law Library, P.O. Box 12367, Austin, Texas 78711, (512) 463-1722.

State: Texas. Location: Texas State Library.

Contact: Ms. Kingsley Click, State Court Administrator, Supreme Court of Nebraska, 901 State Capitol, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509, (402) 471-3730.


Contact: Ms. Deborah Norwood, State Law Librarian, Washington State Law Library, Temple of Justice, P.O. Box 40751, Olympia, Washington 98504-0751, (206) 357-2146.
State: West Virginia.
Location: Administrative Office of the Courts.
Contact: Mr. Richard H. Ross, Deputy, West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, State Capitol, 1900 Kanawha, Charleston, West Virginia 25305, (304) 348-0145.

State: Wisconsin.
Location: State Law Library.
Contact: Ms. Marcia Koslov, State Law Librarian, State Law Library, 310E State Capitol, P.O. Box 7881, Madison, Wisconsin 53707, (608) 266-1424.

State: Wyoming.
Location: Wyoming State Law Library.


National: National Center for State Courts.
Contact: Ms. Peggy Rogers, Acquisitions/Serials Librarian, 300 Newport Avenue, Williamsburg, Virginia 23187-8798, (804) 253-2000.

National: Michigan State University.
Contact: Dr. John K. Hudzik, Project Director, Judicial Education, Reference, Information and Technical Transfer Project (JERITT), Michigan State University, 560 Baker Hall, East Lansing, Michigan 48824, (517) 353-8603.

Appendix III—Illustrative List of Model Curricula
The following list includes examples of curriculum that have been developed with support from SJI, and that might be—or in some cases have been—successfully adapted for State-based education programs for judges and other court personnel. Please see Section II.B.2.ii for information on submitting a letter application for a Curriculum Adaptation Grant. A list of all SJI-supported education projects is available from the Institute. Please also check with the JERITT project (517/353-8603) and with your State SJI-designated library (see Appendix II) for information on other curricula that may be appropriate for your State’s needs.

Alternative Dispute Resolution


“Improving the Quality of Dispute Resolution” (Ohio State University College of Law: SJI–93–277).


Court Management


“Managerial Budgeting in the Courts”;
“Performance Appraisal in the Courts”;
“Managing Change in the Courts”;
all three from “Broadening Educational Opportunities for Judges and Other Key Court Personnel” (Institute for Court Management/National Center for State Courts: SJI–91–043).


“Managing the Complex Case” (National Judicial College: SJI–94–142).


Courts and Communities


“Judicial Response to Stranger and Nonstranger Rape and Sexual Assault” (National Judicial Education Program to Promote Equality for Women and Men: SJI–92–003).

Family Violence

“A adjudication of Farm Credit Issues” (Rural Justice Center: SJI–87–059).


Strategic and Futures Planning


Health and Science


Judicial Education For Appellate Court Judges


Judicial Orientation, Mentoring, and Continuing Education


“Faculty Development Instructional Program” from “Curriculum Review” (National Judicial College: SJI–91–039).


“Magistrates Correspondence Course” (Alaska Court System: SJI–92–156).


Juveniles and Families in Court


Substance Abuse


“Good Times, Bad Times: Drugs, Youth, and the Judiciary” (Professional Development and Training Center, Inc.: SJI–91–095).


Diversity, Values, and Attitudes


“Cultural Diversity Awareness in Nebraska Courts” from “Native American Alternatives to Incarceration Project” (Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition: SJI–93–028).


“Race Fairness and Cultural Awareness Faculty Development Workshop” (National Judicial College: 93–063).

“Multi-Cultural Training for Judges and Court Personnel” (St. Petersburg Junior College: 95–006).


Appendix IV—Illustrative List of Replicable Projects

The following list includes examples of projects undertaken with support from SJI that might be—or in some cases have been—successfully adapted and replicated in other jurisdictions. Please see Section II.C.1. for information on submitting a concept paper requesting a grant to replicate one of these or another SJI-supported project. A list of all SJI-supported projects is available from the Institute.

AARP Volunteers: A Resource for Strengthening Guardianship Services; Grantee: American Association of Retired Persons

Contact: Wayne Moore, 601 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20049, (202) 434–2165


Alabama Alcohol and Drug Abuse Court Referral Officer Program

Grantee: Alabama Administrative Office of the Courts

Contact: Angelo Trimble, 817 South Court Street, Montgomery, AL 36130–0101, (334) 834–7990


Substance Abuse Assessment and Intervention to Reduce Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol Recidivism (El Cajon Municipal Court)

Grantee: California Administrative Office of the Courts c/o El Cajon Municipal Court

Contact: Fred Lear, 250 E. Main Street, El Cajon, CA 92020, (619) 441–4336

Grant No: SJI–88–029/SJI–90–008

Decision-Making in Authorizing and Withholding Life-Sustaining Medical Treatment: Guidelines for State Courts

Grantee: National Center for State Courts

Contact: Victor E. Flango, 300 Newport Avenue, Williamsburg, VA 23187–8798, (804) 253–2000

Grant Nos: SJI–88–051/SJI–91–048

Establishing a Consumer Research and Service Development Process Within the Judicial System

Grantee: Supreme Court of Virginia

Contact: Beatrice Monahan, Administrative Offices, Third Floor, 100 North Ninth Street, Richmond, VA 23219, (804) 786–6435

Grant No: SJI–89–068

Housing Court Video Project

Grantee: Association of the Bar of the City of New York

Contact: Marilyn Kneeland, 42 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036–6690, (212) 382–6620

Grant No: SJI–90–041

Télé-Court: A Michigan Judicial System Public Information Program

Grantee: Michigan Supreme Court

Contact: Judy Bartel, State Court Administrative Office, 611 West Ottawa Street, P.O. Box 30048, Lansing, MI 48909, (517) 373–0130

Grant No: SJI–91–015

Measurement of Trial Court Performance

Grantee: Washington Administrative Office for the Courts

Contact: Yvonne Pettus, 1206 S. Quince Street, Olympia, WA 98504, (360) 796–2165

Grant No: SJI–91–017; SJI–91–017–P92–1

Measurement of Trial Court Performance


Grant No: SJI–91–023; SJI–91–023–P93–1
Measurement of Trial Court Performance
Grantee: Ohio Supreme Court
Contact: Stephen W. Stover, State Office Tower, 30 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43266–0419,
Grant No: SJI–91–024; SJI–91–024–P93–1
Measurement of Trial Court Performance
Grantee: Supreme Court of Virginia
Contact: Beatrice Monahan, 100 North Ninth Street, Third Floor, Richmond, VA 23219, (804) 786–6455,
Grant No: SJI–91–042; SJI–91–042–P93–1
Court Probation Enhancement Through Community Involvement
Grantee: Volunteers in Prevention, Probation and Prisons, Inc.
Contact: Gerald Dash, 163 Madison, Suite 120, Detroit, MI 48226, (313) 964–1110
Grant No: SJI–91–073
Day in Court: A Child’s Perspective
Grantee: Massachusetts Trial Court
Contact: Hon. John Fenton, 2 Center Plaza, Boston, MA 02108, (617) 742–8575
Grant No: SJI–91–079
Arizona Pro Per Information System
Grantee: Arizona Supreme Court
Contact: Lynn Wiletsky, Administrative Office of the Court, 1501 West Washington Street, Suite 411,
Phoenix, AZ 85007–3330, (602) 542–9309
Grant No: SJI–91–084
File Transfer Technology Application in Use of Court Information
Grantee: South Carolina Bar
Contact: Yvonne Visser, 950 Taylor Street, P.O. Box 608, Columbia, SC 29202–0608, (803) 799–6653
Grant Nos: SJI–91–088; SJI–91–088P93–1; SJI–91–088–P94–1
Automated Public Information System
Grantee: California Administrative Office of the Courts
Contact: Mark Greenia, 303 Second Street, South Tower, San Francisco, CA 94107, (415) 440–7590
Grant No: SJI–91–093
The Development of a Prototype Computerized Benchbook Using Hypertext Technology
Grantee: Michigan Supreme Court
Contact: Dennis Cullin, Michigan Judicial Institute, P.O. Box 30205, Lansing, MI 48909, (517) 334–7805
Probate Caseflow Management Project
Grantee: Ohio Supreme Court/Trumbull County Probate Court
Contact: Susan Lightbody, 160 High Street, N.W., Warren, OH 44481, (216) 675–2566,
Grant No: SJI–92–081; SJI–92–081–P94–1; SJI–92–081–P95–1
Managing Documents with Imaging Technology
Grantee: Alaska Judicial Council
Contact: William T. Cotton, 1029 W. Third Avenue, Suite 201, Anchorage, AK 99501–1917, (907) 279–2526
Grant No: SJI–92–083
Automated Teller Machines for Juror Payment
Grantee: District of Columbia Courts
Contact: Philip Walton, 500 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20001, (202) 879–1700
Grant No: SJI–92–139
Court Referral Officer Program
Grantee: New Hampshire Supreme Court
Contact: Jim Kelley, Supreme Court Building, Concord, NH 03301, (603) 271–2521
Grant No: SJI–92–142
Using Judges and Court Personnel to Facilitate Access to Courts by Limited English Speakers
Grantee: Washington Office of the Administrator for the Courts
Contact: Joanne Moore, 1206 South Quince Street, P.O. Box 41170, Olympia, WA 98504–1170, (206) 753–3365
Grant No: SJI–92–147
Becoming Receptive to Challenge and Change: Applying TQM Concepts to Systemwide Problems of the Maine Judicial Branch
Grantee: Maine Supreme Judicial Court
Contact: Mary Kamin-Crate, 95 State Street, Augusta, ME 04330, (207) 822–4285
Grant No: SJI–93–072
Family Court Networking and Imaging Project
Grantee: Colorado Judicial Department
Contact: Mary McNell, 1301 Pennsylvania Street, Suite 300, Denver, CO 80203–2416, (719) 630–2846
Grant No: SJI–93–124
Arizona/Sonorita Judicial Relations Project
Grantee: Arizona Supreme Court
Contact: Dennis Metrick, 1501 West Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007–3327, (602) 542–4532
Grant Nos: SJI–93–202; SJI–93–202P95–1
Enhancing Citizen Understanding of and Access to the Probate Process at D.C. Superior Court
Grantee: District of Columbia Courts
Contact: Constance G. Evans, 500 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20001, (202) 879–4800
Grant No: SJI–93–258
The Family Violence Needs Assessment and Planning Project
Grantee: Nevada Network Against Domestic Violence
Contact: Susan Meuschke, 2100 Capurro Way, Suite E, Sparks, NV 89431, (702) 358–1171
Grant No: SJI–94–154
Domestic Relations Organizational Development Implementation Project
Grantee: Maricopa County, (Phoenix), Arizona, Superior Court
Contact: Noreen Sharp, 201 W. Jefferson, 4th floor CCB, Phoenix, AZ 85003, (602) 506–2913
Grant No: SJI–94–325

Appendix V—State Justice Institute Scholarship Application

This application does not serve as a registration for the course. Please contact the education provider.

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

1. Applicant Name:

   (Last) (First) (M)

2. Position:

3. Name of Court:

4. Address:

   Street/P.O. Box

5. City

   State

   Zip Code

6. Congressional District:

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

7. Course Name:

8. Course Dates:

9. Course Provider:

10. Location Offered:

ESTIMATED EXPENSES: (Please note, scholarships are limited to tuition and transportation expenses to and from the site of the course up to a maximum of $1,500.)

Tuition: $

Transportation: $

(Airfare, trainfare, or if you plan to drive, an amount equal to the approximate distance and mileage rate.)

Amount Requested: $

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Please attach a current resume or professional summary, and answer the following questions. (You may attach additional pages if necessary.)

1. How will taking this course benefit you, your court, and the State’s courts generally?

2. Is there any education or training currently available through your State on this topic?

3. How will you apply what you have learned? Please include any plans you may
have to develop/teach a course on this topic in your jurisdiction/State, provide in-service training, or otherwise disseminate what you have learned to colleagues.

4. Are State or local funds available to support your attendance at the proposed course? If so, what amount(s) will be provided?

5. How long have you served as a judge or court manager?

6. How long do you anticipate serving as a judge or court manager, assuming reelection or reappointment?

7. What continuing professional education programs have you attended in the past year? Please indicate which were mandatory (M) and which were nonmandatory (V).

STATEMENT OF APPLICANT’S COMMITMENT

If a scholarship is awarded, I will submit an evaluation of the educational program to the State Justice Institute and to the Chief Justice of my State.

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PROJECT TOTAL

Financial assistance has been or will be sought for this project from the following other sources:

*Curriculum Adaptation grant requests, and Technical Assistance grant requests should be accompanied by a budget narrative explaining the basis for each line-item listed in the proposed budget.

Appendix VII—State Justice Institute

Certificate of State Approval

The Name of State Supreme Court or Designated Agency or Council has reviewed the application entitled prepared by Name of Applicant and concur in its submission to the State Justice Institute. The applicant’s participation in the program would benefit the State; the applicant’s absence to attend the program would not present an undue hardship to the court; and receipt of a scholarship would not diminish the amount of funds made available by the State for judicial education.

Signature

Date

Please return this form and Form S-2 to:
State Justice Institute, 1650 King Street, Suite 600, Alexandria Virginia 22314.

Appendix VII—State Justice Institute Scholarship Application

Concurrence

I,  , a duly elected or appointed judge of the State, the applicant's absence to attend the program entitled , have reviewed the application for a scholarship to attend the program entitled , prepared by ,

Name of Chief Justice (or Chief Justice's Designee)

Name of Applicant

Appendix VI—Curriculum Adaptation Grant & Technical Assistance Grant Budget Form

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3. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION

NO

4. ENTITY TO RECEIVE FUNDS (if different from applicant)

a. Name of Responsible Entity

b. Street/P.O. Box

c. City

d. State

e. Zip Code

g. Name and Telephone Number of Contact Person

5. TYPE OF PROJECT

(Circle appropriate letter)

a. Education/Training
b. Research/Evaluation
c. Demonstration
d. Technical Assistance
e. Other

6. APPLICATION TYPE
State Justice Institute Project Budget—(Tabular Format)

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<th>SJI funds</th>
<th>State funds</th>
<th>Federal funds</th>
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Remarks:

State Justice Institute Project Budget—(Tabular Format)

(See instruction regarding column headings)

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11. IF THIS APPLICATION HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO OTHER FUNDING SOURCES, PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

Source ____________________________
Date Submitted ______________________
Amount Sought _______________________
Disposition (if any) or Current Status

12. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF:

Applicant: Name of Representative; District Number

Project (if different than applicant): Name of Representative; District Number

13. CERTIFICATION

On behalf of the applicant, I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge the information in this application is true and complete. I have read the attached assurances (Form D) and understand that if this application is approved for funding, the award will be subject to those assurances. I certify that the applicant will comply with the assurances if the application is approved and that I am lawfully authorized to make these representations on behalf of the applicant.

Signature of Responsible Official of Applicant
Title ____________________________
Date ____________________________

(For application from State and local courts, Form B, Certificate of State Approval, must be attached.)
State Justice Institute

Assurances

The applicant hereby assures and certifies that it possesses legal authority to apply for the award, and that if funds are awarded by the State Justice Institute pursuant to this application, it will comply with all applicable provisions of law and the regulations, policies, guidelines and requirements of the Institute as they relate to the acceptance and use of Institute funds pursuant to this application. The applicant further assures and certifies with respect to this application, that:

1. No person will, on the basis of race, sex, national origin, disability, color, or creed be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity supported by Institute funds, and that the applicant will immediately take any measures necessary to effectuate this assurance.

2. In accordance with 42 U.S.C. 10706 (a), funds awarded to the applicant by the Institute will not be used, directly or indirectly, to influence the issuance, amendment, or revocation of any Executive order or similar promulgation by Federal, State or local agencies, or to influence the passage or defeat of any legislation or constitutional amendment by Federal, State or local legislative body.

3. In accordance with 42 U.S.C. 10706 (a) and 10707 (c):
   a. It will not contribute or make available Institute funds, project personnel, or equipment to any political party or association, to the campaign of any candidate for public or party office, or to influence the passage of defeat of any ballot measure, initiative, or referendum;
   b. No officer or employee of the applicant will intentionally identify the Institute or the applicant with any partisan or nonpartisan political activity or the campaign of any candidate for public or party office; and,
   c. No officer or employee of the applicant will engage in partisan political activity while engaged in work supported in whole or in part by the Institute.

4. In accordance with 42 U.S.C. 10706 (b), no funds awarded by the Institute will be used to support or conduct training programs for the purpose of advocating particular nonjudicial public policies or encouraging nonjudicial political activities.

5. In accordance with 42 U.S.C. 10706 (d), no funds awarded by the Institute will be used to supplant State or local funds supporting a program or activity; to construct court facilities or structures, except to remodel existing facilities or to demonstrate new architectural or technological techniques, or to provide temporary facilities for new personnel or for personnel involved in a demonstration or experimental program; or to solely purchase equipment for a court system.

6. It will provide for an annual fiscal audit of the project.

7. It will give the Institute, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award.

8. In accordance with 42 U.S.C. 10708 (b) (as amended), research or statistical information that is furnished during the course of the project and that is identifiable to any specific individual, shall not be used or revealed for any purpose other than the purpose for which it was obtained. Such information and copies thereof shall be immune from legal process, and shall not be offered as evidence or used for any purpose in any action suit, or other judicial, legislative, or administrative proceeding without the consent of the person who furnished the information.

9. All research involving human subjects will be conducted with the informed consent of those subjects and in a manner that will ensure their privacy and freedom from risk or harm and the protection of persons who are not subjects of the research but would be affected by it, unless such procedures and safeguards would make the research impractical. In such instances, the Institute must approve procedures designed by the grantee to provide human subjects with relevant information about the research after their involvement and to minimize or eliminate risk of harm to those subjects due to their participation.

10. All products prepared as the result of the project will be original or developed material unless otherwise specifically provided for in the award documents, and that material not originally developed that is included in such projects must be properly identified, whether the material is in a verbatim or extensive paraphrase format.

11. No funds will be obligated for publication or reproduction of a final product developed with Institute funds without the written approval of the Institute. The recipient will submit a final draft of each such product to the Institute for review and approval prior to submitting that product for publication or reproduction.

12. The following statement will be prominently displayed on all products produced as a result of the project: This [document, film, videotape, etc.] was developed under a [grant, cooperative agreement, contract] from the State Justice Institute. Points of view expressed herein are those of the [author(s), filmmaker(s), etc.] and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the State Justice Institute.

13. The “SJI” logo will appear on the front cover of a written product or in the opening frames of a video production produced with SJI funds, unless another placement is approved in writing by the Institute.

14. Except as otherwise provided in the terms and conditions of an Institute award, the recipient is free to copyright any books, publications, or other copyrightable materials developed in the course of an Institute-supported project, but the Institute shall reserve a royalty-free, non-exclusive and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use, and to authorize others to use, the materials for purposes consistent with the State Justice Institute Act.

15. It will submit quarterly progress and financial reports within 30 days of the close of each calendar quarter during the funding period (that is, no later than January 30, April 30, July 30, and October 30); that progress reports will include a narrative description of project activities during the calendar quarter, the relationship between those activities and the task schedule and objectives set forth in the approved application or an approved adjustment thereto, any significant problem areas that have developed and how they will be resolved, and the activities scheduled during the next reporting period; and that financial reports will contain the information requested on the financial report form included in the award documents.
16. At the conclusion of the project, title to all expendable and nonexpendable personal property purchased with Institute funds shall vest in the court, organization or individual that purchased the property if certification is made to the Institute that the property will continue to be used for the authorized purposes of Institute-funded project or other purposes consistent with the State Justice Institute Act, as approved by the Institute. If such certification is not made or the Institute disapproves such certification, title to all such property with an aggregate or individual value of $1,000 or more shall vest in the Institute, which will direct the disposition of the property.

17. The person signing the application is authorized to do so on behalf of the applicant and to obligate the applicant to comply with the assurances enumerated above.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

The State Justice Institute Act prohibits grantees from using funds awarded by the Institute to directly or indirectly influence the passage or defeat of any legislation by Federal, State or local legislative bodies. 42 U.S.C. 10706(a). It also is the policy of the Institute to award funds only to support applications submitted by organizations that would carry out the objectives of their applications in an unbiased manner.

Consistent with this policy and the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 10706(a), the Institute will not knowingly award a grant to an applicant that has, directly or through an entity that is part of the same organization as the applicant, advocated a position before Congress on the specific subject matter of the application. As a means of implementing that prohibition, SJI requires organizations submitting applications to the Institute to disclose whether they, or another entity that is part of the same organization as the applicant, have advocated a position before Congress on any issue, and to identify the specific subjects of their lobbying efforts. This form must be submitted with your application.

Name of Applicant: __________________________________________
Title of Application: _________________________________________

Yes No Has the applicant (or an entity that is part of the same organization as the applicant) directly or indirectly advocated a position before Congress on any issue within the past five years?

SPECIFIC SUBJECTS OF LOBBYING EFFORTS

If you answered YES above, please list the specific subjects on which your organization (or another entity that is part of your organization) has directly or indirectly advocated a position before Congress within the past five years. If necessary, you may continue on the back of this form or on an attached sheet.

Subject Year

_________________________ ____________
_________________________ ____________
_________________________ ____________
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Statement of Verification

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information contained in this disclosure statement is correct and that I am authorized to make this verification on behalf of the applicant.

Signature ____________________________
Title ________________________________
Name (Typed) ________________________
Date ________________________________

Instructions—Form A

1. (a)–(g) Legal Name of Applicant court, entity or individual; Name of The Organizational Unit, if any, that will conduct the project; Complete Address of applicant; Name and telephone number of a Contact Person who can provide further information about this application.

2. (a) State or Local Court includes all appellate, general jurisdiction, limited jurisdiction, and special jurisdiction courts. Agencies of State and local courts include all governmental offices that are supervised by or report for administrative purposes to the chief or presiding justice or judge, or his or her designee.

(b) National State Court Support Organization include national non-profit organizations controlled by, operating in conjuction with, and serving the State courts.

(c) National State Court Education/Training Organizations include national non-profit organizations for the education and training of judges and support personnel of the judicial branch of State government.

(d) College or University includes all institutions of higher education.

(e) Other Non-profit Organization or Agency includes those non-profit organizations and private agencies with expertise in judicial administration not included in subparagraphs (b)–(d).

(f) Individual means a person not applying in conjunction with or on behalf of an entity identified in one of the other categories.

(g) Corporation or Partnership includes for-profit and not-for-profit entities not falling within one of the other categories.

(h) Other Unit of Government includes any governmental agency, office, or organization that is not a State or local court.

3. Employer Identification Number as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service.

4. (a)–(f) Entity to Receive Funds is the court or organization that will receive, administer, and account for any moneys awarded. For example, if the applicant is a State or local court, the entity to receive funds would be the State's Supreme Court or its designated agency or council in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 10705(b)(4). If the applicant is a special university program, the responsible entity may be the university's structure. Applicants should complete this block only if the entity that will receive the funds is different from the applicant.

5. (a)–(e) Circle the letter of the Type of activities that best characterizes the project. If project funds will be substantially divided among two or more activities, circle the letters for each of those activities.

6. (a) New refers to the first award of State Justice Institute funds for a particular project, whether or not the applicant has received previous awards for different projects from the Institute.

(b) Supplement refers to the award of additional funds to permit an existing project to complete the task originally proposed or to augment the scope of the project within the current project period.

(c) Continuation refers to an extension for an additional funding period.

(d) Ongoing Support refers to an SJIFunded project for which there is a continuing important national need.

7. The Title of the Proposed Project should reflect the objectives of the activities to be conducted.

8. The Proposed Start Date of the project should be the earliest feasible date on which the applicant will be able to begin project activities following the date of award. An explanation should be provided in the Program Narrative if the proposed start date is more than 90 days after the estimated award date set forth in the Application Review Procedures section of the current Grant Guideline.

9. Project Duration refers to the number of months the applicant estimates
will be needed to complete all project tasks after the proposed start date.

10. (a) Insert the Amount Requested from the State Justice Institute to conduct the project.
(b) The Amount of Match is the amount, if any, to be contributed to the project by the applicant, by a unit of State or local government, by a Federal agency, or by private sources. See 42 U.S.C. 10705 (d). Cash Match refers to funds directly contributed by the applicant, a unit of State or local government, a Federal agency, or private sources to support the project. Non-cash Match refers to in-kind contributions by the applicant, a unit of State or local government, or private sources to support the project. The applicant should describe in detail, both the value it assigns to in-kind contributions and the basis for determining that value. Total Match refers to the sum of the cash and in-kind contributions to the project.

(c) Total Project Cost represents the sum of the amount requested from the Institute and all match contributions to the project.

11. If this application or an application requesting support for the same project or an essentially similar project has been Previously Submitted to another funding source (Federal or private), the name of the source, the date of the previous submission, the amount of funding sought, and the disposition (if any) should be entered.

12. Enter the number of the applicant’s Congressional district(s) in which most of the project activities will take place and the name(s) of the Representatives from those districts. If the project activities are not site-specific, for example a series of training workshops that will bring together participants from around the State, the country, or from a particular region, enter Statewide, National, or Regional, as appropriate, in the space provided.

Instructions—Form B

The State Justice Institute Act requires that:

Each application for funding by a State or local court shall be approved, consistent with State law, by the State’s Supreme Court, or its designated agency or council, which shall receive, administer, and be accountable for all funds awarded by the Institute to such courts. 42 U.S.C. 10705(b)(4).

FORM B should be signed by the Chief Judge or Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court, or by the director of the designated agency or council. If the designated agency or council differs from the designee listed in Appendix I to the State Justice Institute Grant Guideline, evidence of the new or additional designation should be attached.

The term “State Supreme Court” refers to the court of last resort of a State. “Designated agency or council” refers to the office or judicial body which is authorized under State law or by delegation from the State Supreme Court to approve applications for funds and to receive, administer and be accountable for those funds.

Instructions—Forms C and C1

Applicants may submit the proposed project budgets either in the tabular format of Form C or in a spreadsheet format similar to Form C1. Applicants requesting more than $100,000 are encouraged to use the spreadsheet format. If the proposed project period is for more than 12 months, separate totals should be submitted for each succeeding twelve-month period or portion thereof beyond 12.

In addition to Form C or C1, Applicants must provide a detailed budget narrative providing an explanation of the basis for the estimates in each budget category (See Guidelines section VII.D). If the applicant is requesting indirect costs and has an indirect cost rate that has been approved by a Federal agency, the basis for that rate together with a copy of the letter or other official document stating that it has been approved should be attached.

If funds from other sources have been requested either as match or to support other aspects of the project, the source, current status of the request, and anticipated decision date must be provided.

COLUMN HEADINGS: For Budget Form C1 columns should be labeled consecutively by tasks, e.g., TASK #1, TASK #2, etc. At the end of each twelve month period or portion thereof beyond month 12 the following four columns must be included: SJI FUNDS; MATCH; OTHER; TOTAL. Entries in these columns should include the line-item totals by source of funding per the column headings.