

Dated: June 24, 1997.

Robert B. Briggs,

Department Clearance Officer, United States Department of Justice.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[OJP(NIJ)-1125]

RIN 1121-ZA71

National Institute of Justice Solicitation "Evaluation of the National Institute of Corrections Criminal Justice System Project"

AGENCY: Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice, Justice.

ACTION: Notice of solicitation.

SUMMARY: Announcement of the availability of the National Institute of Justice solicitation "Evaluation of the National Institute of Corrections Criminal Justice System Project".

ADDRESSES: Proposals should be mailed to the National Institute of Justice, 633 Indiana Avenue, NW., Washington, D.C. 20531.

DATES: The deadline for receipt of proposals is close of business on August 19, 1997. Postmarked applications received after this date are not acceptable.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For a copy of the solicitation, please call the National Criminal Justice Reference Service at 1-800-851-3420. For general information about application procedures for solicitations, please call the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at 1-800-421-6771.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following supplementary information is provided:

Authority

This action is authorized under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, §§ 201-03, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 3721-23 (1988).

Background

In March 1997, the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) began funding the Criminal Justice System Project (CJSP), created to assist criminal justice policymakers in eight State and local jurisdictions in developing and implementing new capacities for solving a wide range of corrections problems. Success is defined by developing and implementing purposeful, informed policies on the design, use, capacity, and cost of selected components of their correctional system for pretrial and sentenced offenders. Policies should be

the product of ongoing sanctioning policy development, system monitoring, and collaboration among criminal justice policymakers and the community.

The purpose of this solicitation is to evaluate the implementation of CJSP, focusing on the steps taken to develop a new correctional policymaking structure. Grantees will be expected to provide regular feedback to NIJ, CJSP, and NIC to enable program development and informative evaluation.

Interested persons should call the National Criminal Justice Reference Service, at (800) 851-3420 to obtain a copy of "Evaluation of the National Institute of Corrections Criminal Justice System Project" (refer to SL #000218). For World Wide Web access, connect to the NCJRS Justice Information Center at <http://www.ncjrs.org>, and click on Justice Grants. Those without Internet access can dial the NCJRS Bulletin Board via modem: dial 301-738-8895. Set modem at 9600 baud, 8-N-1.

Jeremy Travis,

Director, National Institute of Justice.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of Justice Programs

[OJP(BJA)-1116]

RIN 1121-ZA62

State Criminal Alien Assistance Program

AGENCY: Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance, Justice.

ACTION: Notice of final guidance and application information.

SUMMARY: This notice is to announce funding availability and final guidance on the application process for States and political subdivisions to obtain reimbursement for the incarceration of undocumented criminal aliens under the *State Criminal Alien Assistance Program*.

DATES: Application forms and supporting information will be mailed directly to eligible applicants on or before June 30, 1997; applications must be postmarked no later than August 30, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Applications should be submitted to the Bureau of Justice Assistance Control Desk, Office of Justice Programs, 633 Indiana Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20531.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Linda James McKay, SCAAP Coordinator, State and Local Assistance

Division, Bureau of Justice Assistance, or the Department of Justice Response Center, 1-800-421-6770 or 202-307-1480.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following supplementary information is provided:

I. Background

A. Proposed Guidance

The State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) provides reimbursement to States and localities for costs incurred in incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens. The program is administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), a part of the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) in the Department of Justice, in conjunction with the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), which is responsible for verifying the undocumented criminal alien status of all individuals for whom records are submitted.

A notice of proposed guidance on the application process and eligibility criteria for States and political subdivisions to obtain reimbursement under SCAAP was published in the **Federal Register** on March 18, 1997 (62 FR 12848). In that notice, BJA solicited comments on the application procedures outlined therein. In this notice BJA responds to public comments and provides the final guidance on application procedures. However, actual application forms, including preprogrammed diskettes for filing information electronically, will be mailed directly to correctional agencies in eligible States and political subdivisions by June 30, 1997.

B. Statutory Authority and Agency Administration

SCAAP is authorized by section 241 of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1990, as amended, 8 U.S.C. 1251(i). The Fiscal Year (FY) 1997 Omnibus Appropriations Act, Pub. L. 104-208, 110 Stat. 3009 (September 30, 1996) amended the authorization for SCAAP in FY 1996, redesignating section 242 of the INA as section 241 (codified at 8 U.S.C. 1251(i); 8 U.S.C.A. 1231(i)) and making changes to the characterization of "undocumented criminal alien." These changes are discussed below and incorporated into this final guidance.

Section 241 gives the Attorney General the discretion, in the event of an appropriation, to either reimburse States and localities for costs incurred in incarcerating qualifying criminal aliens or to take such aliens into Federal custody. For FY 1997, the Attorney General has exercised her discretion to reimburse by delegating the authority