

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS,
BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE
AND THE
CENTER FOR SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT (CSOM)**

***TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT INITIATIVES PROMOTING INFORMED
SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT POLICY***

APPLICATION KIT

Overview

The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) is pleased to announce additional support for the activities of the Center for Sex Offender Management (CSOM), a national project that provides assistance to state and local jurisdictions on the effective management of adult and juvenile sex offenders. CSOM is offering a limited amount of short-term technical assistance to jurisdictions to support the development of informed sex offender management policy. This is a time-limited initiative and, as such, assistance must be delivered by June, 2010. Participating jurisdictions will be selected through a competitive application process.

The Focus of This Technical Assistance Program

Successful applications must be directly related to CSOM's primary goal: to enhance public safety by preventing further victimization through improving the management of adult and/or juvenile sex offenders. In addition, requests must focus specifically on promoting well-informed sex offender management policy, including those best aligned with the following criteria:

- *Assistance to state level policymakers who are interested in learning about research-supported and other promising sex offender management practices and implementing policies derived from that information* – CSOM encourages applications from jurisdictions interested in technical assistance that would facilitate a dialogue about current research in this specialized field (e.g., what is known about sex offenders, various risk management and risk reduction strategies, differences between adult and juvenile sex offenders, legislative trends) and the implications for shaping sex offender management policy.
- *Support to policymakers interested in learning more about multi-disciplinary, collaborative approaches to guide sex offender management policy* – A number of states have established both formal and informal policy boards to advance evidence-based policies for the management of adult and juvenile sex offenders. These multi-disciplinary boards are generally composed of representatives from key stakeholder agencies and organizations. Applications will be accepted from jurisdictions

interested in exploring or advancing a multi-disciplinary, collaborative approach to sex offender management policy.

- *Provision of specialized information to legislative entities at the state level –* Recognizing the high level of commitment among legislators and other policymakers to reducing sexual victimization in their communities, CSOM is developing materials for legislators and their staff that will provide contemporary, concise, and user-friendly information about key sex offender management policy issues. CSOM welcomes the opportunity to work with jurisdictions on utilizing these materials to enhance current efforts to facilitate awareness and promote informed sex offender management policy.

In order to maximize the funds that are available, CSOM will work closely with successful applicants to determine the most appropriate, cost-effective method(s) for delivering the technical assistance. Such strategies may include, but are not limited to, the delivery of a briefing or workshop for legislators or other policymakers that is designed to address their specific needs and questions regarding sex offenders and their management, and/or targeted off- and on-site short-term work with a designated agency or collaborative policy team that has been established to explore and implement informed sex offender-specific policies.

Applicant Eligibility Requirements

Applications will be accepted from both public sector agencies and non-governmental organizations in collaboration with public sector partners.

Criteria Used to Evaluate Applications

Because technical assistance resources are very limited, it is unlikely that CSOM will be able to accommodate all requests. The following criteria will be used to consider applications:

The extent to which the request for assistance has the potential to advance the development and/or implementation of research-supported and promising sex offender management policies and practices (25 points).

- 25 points = Maximum points will be awarded to applicants who can demonstrate that the assistance provided will result in (1) a demonstrable enhancement to existing policy and practice and (2) that this enhancement(s) is firmly rooted in research and/or promising practices.
- 15 points = Applicants express a commitment to implementing evidence-based/promising sex offender management policies and practices, but their history of implementing evidence-based approaches or their ability to fully execute implementation is unclear (e.g., questionable funding, limited commitment from leadership).

- 0 points = The jurisdiction is interested in receiving assistance but has not articulated clearly how the assistance would result in advancement in terms of the development or implementation of research-supported/promising policies and practices.

The anticipated short- and long-term impact of receiving technical assistance to the requesting jurisdiction, agency, or agencies (25 points).

- 25 points = Maximum points will be awarded to applicants who foresee not only immediate benefit, but real and long-lasting positive change for their agencies as a result of the assistance provided. Applicants who will be awarded the maximum points in this category will describe persuasively how the assistance requested will create productive and sustainable change within their respective jurisdictions.
- 15 points = The assistance provided would encourage short-term change in practice, but may not result in policy or infrastructure changes necessary to sustain long-term change; or the proposed assistance has the potential for long-term change, but such change likely would not occur in the near future.
- 0 points = The assistance provided would only provide an immediate, one-time benefit to the recipients (e.g., a one-time training with no specific or identifiable plans to expand these efforts subsequently for other stakeholders or use the information provided to modify policy and practice).

The demonstrated commitment of key leadership (and staff, where applicable) at the policymaking level to participate in the technical assistance process (20 points).

- 20 points = Maximum points will be assigned based on the demonstrated commitment of the key leadership of the requesting agencies and relevant partners (e.g., signed MOUs) and to those jurisdictions who are able to effectively describe the role and commitment of key leadership (e.g., agency directors, chairs of legislative committees) to the effort.
- 10 points = The requesting agency has indicated that they have support from leaders in their own agency as well as relevant community partners (e.g., by providing letters of commitment) and has some history of and commitment to collaborative problem solving and partnership on sex offender management issues. The jurisdiction indicates a willingness to assign some portion of a dedicated staff person's time to provide staff support to the initiative.
- 0 points = Jurisdictions are unable to demonstrate a commitment to collaboration or have only limited support from agency leaders and/or community partners.

The potential lessons to be learned or generalizable benefits that could be

realized within the requestor's state or by other jurisdictions as a result of the proposed initiative (15 points).

- 15 points = The outcome of this technical assistance is relevant and applicable to many or most jurisdictions across the country. As such, this assistance will not only benefit the recipient jurisdiction, but also offers benefits in terms of products developed or lessons learned for a considerable number of communities across the country.
- 10 points = The assistance would have benefit to the recipient jurisdiction and to a select number of other jurisdictions. For instance, the assistance might be of benefit to states of similar size, or to all counties within the recipient's home state. To this end, the generalizability is broader than to a few similarly situated jurisdictions, but less than most or many jurisdictions across the country.
- 0 points = Although the technical assistance would have decided benefit to the recipient jurisdiction, the assistance is so unique or specific to this jurisdiction that either it is unlikely to benefit other jurisdictions or lessons derived from this assistance would be very limited.

The cost and time that would be necessary to deliver the assistance and the capacity of the requesting jurisdiction, agency, or agencies to cost-share with CSOM (15 points).

- 15 points = The request is likely to have a high impact but will require a limited investment of resources from CSOM (e.g., because the assistance does not require significant financial resources or because the jurisdiction has clearly articulated a plan/proposal for actual or in-kind cost sharing).
- 10 points = The proposed assistance will require a moderate investment of resources and likely will have a moderate impact on sex offender management policy and practice.
- 0 points = The jurisdiction has submitted a request that will require some level of cost investment but is likely to yield very little impact.

Please note that jurisdictions must avail themselves of the assistance before June 2010. Applications from jurisdictions that cannot meet this requirement will not be considered for funding.

The Technical Assistance Application Process

Interested applicants should complete and submit the attached technical assistance application form by Friday, February 19, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Applications may be submitted electronically via email or in hard copy. Applications should be sent to:

Leilah Gilligan, Senior Manager
Center for Sex Offender Management
8403 Colesville Road, Suite 720
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Email: lgilligan@cepp.com

The receipt of applications will be acknowledged via email no later than Wednesday, February 24, 2010. Selection decisions will be made shortly thereafter and all applicants will be contacted no later than Friday, March 5, 2010.

CSOM welcomes inquiries about this technical assistance program, and encourages individuals who are interested in submitting applications to be in touch with CSOM to discuss their technical assistance needs and how these needs might be translated into a formal application. Please contact Leilah Gilligan, Senior Manager with CSOM, with questions at lgilligan@cepp.com or via phone at 415-871-4006.

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Application Form

PART I

Date of Application:		
Contact Person:		
Title:		
Agency:		
County:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:	Fax:	
E-Mail:		
Please list the recipients (e.g., members of a legislative committee, a multi-disciplinary team) of the technical assistance.		

Please Note: All technical assistance recipients are required to participate in a follow-up assessment of the impact of the assistance. Recipients will be asked to complete and submit an evaluation form (provided by CSOM) describing the assistance that was received, and its effectiveness.

PART II

- 1) Describe the sex offender management policy-related issue, concern, or need that is the focus of your technical assistance application.
- 2) Explain how your jurisdiction, agency, or agencies will benefit from the technical assistance. What are the concrete outcomes that you anticipate as a result of the assistance (e.g., briefing a specified number of legislators on sex offender management issues, a detailed strategic plan to guide the establishment of a sex offender management policy team, revised policy regarding an aspect of sex offender supervision, a comprehensive strategy to educate the community about sexual victimization and sex offenders)?
- 3) Outline the resources that will be needed to respond to your request and the proposed timing of the delivery of assistance. *Please note that the assistance must be delivered before June, 2010.*
- 4) In the interest of cost sharing, list any expenses related to the assistance that is being requested that can be covered by your jurisdiction, agency, or agencies (e.g., duplication of materials, provision of space for an educational event, food and beverages during meetings, audio-visual equipment, participant travel expenses, consultant travel expenses).
- 5) Describe any other avenues of assistance that have been explored to address the policy-related issue, concern, or need that is described in question #1 above. Please include the outcomes of these efforts.
- 6) Describe the role of key leadership (e.g., agency directors, chairs of legislative committees) in the technical assistance effort. How will they support and participate in the technical assistance process?
- 7) As noted above, all technical assistance recipients are asked to participate in a follow-up assessment of the assistance received. Please indicate your willingness to take part in this assessment.
- 8) Please include any additional information (e.g., relevant policies, information about your sex offender population) that you believe will assist the application review team to make an informed decision about your application.