Date of circulation: May 26, 2021 Subject: An Update for JustGrants Users

## **NEWS AND UPDATES**



On October 15, 2020, the Department of Justice grant making components—the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office), the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), and the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)—transitioned to one grants management system (JustGrants) for all three grant components and a new payment management system (ASAP).

This e-newsletter provides updates and shares information to assist everyone with the transition to these new systems.



## An Update for Award Recipients and Applicants

The Department of Justice (DOJ) grant making components—the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office), the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), and the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)—extend their gratitude to the entire community of DOJ applicants and award recipients for the feedback provided on JustGrants to-date and for the patience shown in these initial phases of the system roll-out.

The comments and perspectives received from the grantee and applicant community have informed the development of the new grants management system. Based on the input received, the JustGrants team has implemented additional features that include functionalities such as providing grantees with the ability to reset their own passwords and manage their own users within JustGrants.

Concurrent with the transition to JustGrants, DOJ transitioned to the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) as the new payment management system. The transition is part of the department's continuing effort to implement modern approaches to data management, process management and self-support opportunities. The new systems require stakeholders to establish and maintain current data about their organizations in the authoritative systems (i.e., SAM, Grants.gov, DIAMD, ASAP) that interface with JustGrants.

It has been seven months since the launch of JustGrants, and we want to share some updates about the usage and functionality of JustGrants and ASAP. The information below represents current metrics as of May 20, 2021.

- 5,897 entities (organizations) out of 6,031 have registered in the system (98%).
- 33,442 individual award recipients and/or applicant users have enrolled in JustGrants and are able to access their accounts.
- More than 165 funding opportunities (solicitations) have been posted in Grants.gov and JustGrants since October 15, 2020.
- 3,628 applications have been fully submitted in JustGrants.
- 3,511 fiscal year 2020 awards have been accepted in JustGrants since go-live.
- 5,550 of 6,028 organizations have completed ASAP enrollment (92%).
- \$12.15 billion has been authorized for drawdown through ASAP.
- \$2.5 billion has been withdrawn from ASAP accounts by grantees.
- 39,336 of 43,548 Federal Financial Reports (FFRs) have been submitted for the reporting periods ending September 30, 2020, through March 31, 2021 (90%).
- 9,699 of 10,496 performance reports due on June 15, 2021, have been submitted (92%).

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With a transition as significant as this one, there will always be challenges. The JustGrants team recognizes that the move to JustGrants has been frustrating for some users, and we remain committed to navigating this transition by providing training, support and communications.

Shortly after launch, DOJ began using, and continues to use, an action team to reach out proactively to award recipients to resolve onboarding challenges. The JustGrants team continues to host webinars specifically to assist applicants with navigating the new process. In recent months, the COPS Office, OJP and OVW have all extended submission deadlines to mitigate any issues that would lead to the suspension of funds or that would prevent application submissions. Technical support staff continue to improve intake of support requests and to resolve system issues—particularly those that prevent award recipients from accessing funds. The JustGrants team remains dedicated to working with award recipients and applicants to address concerns as they are reported.

As we move forward with the continued development of JustGrants, partnership with and feedback from the grantee and applicant community remains essential to ensuring that JustGrants meets the shared needs to carry out grants management work. Please continue to notify <u>JustGrants Support</u> of any issues or challenges with the system so that DOJ can proactively seek to address them for all users. Together, we can make sure that JustGrants will continue to evolve and improve, bringing more benefits to applicants and grant recipients in the months and years to come.

Do you know someone else who could use this information? They can subscribe to email updates regarding JustGrants at

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDOJOJP/subscriber/new?topic\_id=USDOJOJP\_586.

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