

May 28, 2009

Deadline for Direct Award ARRA Justice Assistance Grants extended to June 17

The federal Bureau of Justice Assistance recently announced that the deadline for localities to apply for a direct award under the ARRA Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program has been extended to June 17.

The JAG formula funds are allocated among the states based on a population & crime rate formula; and a portion of each state's allocation is distributed by the federal Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) directly to certain localities within the state, with the amounts determined by a crime rate formula. These are known as "direct awards." The rest of each state's allocation goes to a state administrative agency, like the Department of Criminal Justice Services in Virginia, and is used to make additional grants to state agencies and localities.

Because of the size of the ARRA appropriation for JAG, there are many more localities in each state that are eligible for "direct awards" than there are with the usual and much smaller federal FY JAG appropriations.

BJA originally established a deadline of May 18 for localities to submit their applications for the ARRA "direct award" funds. It seems, however, that a significant number of localities in many states, including some in Virginia, did not submit their applications to BJA by that deadline. BJA is concerned that some of these localities were simply not aware that they are on the "direct award" list, because they haven't been before.

BJA has, therefore, extended the deadline to June 17. The agency also sent a list to DCJS of those Virginia localities that are eligible for "direct awards" but have not applied. DCJS has posted the [list as a spreadsheet on its Web site](#) under "Quick Links" on the main page. The spreadsheet shows the Virginia localities eligible for "direct awards" under the ARRA JAG and the amounts.

[Here is a PDF file of BJA's solicitation](#) for the JAG that was posted back in March. As noted above, the May 18 deadline stated in the attachment has been extended to June 17.

If you have any questions about the ARRA JAG program either contact Joe Marshall of DCJS at the address below or use the BJA contact information noted in [the PDF file](#).

VACo Contact: [Dean Lynch](#).

Joe Marshall

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