

Detailed Memo: Funding Opportunities from the DOJ - NIJ and COPS Office & UVA Biocomplexity Institute Engagement

National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Funding Opportunities:

1. **Research Fellowships:** NIJ offers various fellowship programs to strengthen the research community. These fellowships can be specific to certain areas of criminal justice research. For instance, a fellowship might focus on studying the impact of community policing strategies in urban environments.
 2. **Travel Scholarships:** These programs fund researchers to attend select conferences and events. An example could be a scholarship for researchers to present their findings at an international conference on crime prevention.
 3. **Unsolicited Proposals:** While NIJ accepts unsolicited proposals, they recommend discussing with NIJ staff before submission. If a proposal aligns with an existing solicitation category, it might be redirected to that category.
 4. **Current Funding Opportunities:** NIJ releases solicitations based on research priorities and available funding. These solicitations can range from studying the use of technology in crime detection to understanding the socio-economic factors influencing crime rates.
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COPS Office Funding Opportunities:

1. **Anti-Heroin Task Force (AHTF) Program:** This program might fund initiatives targeting heroin distribution networks.
 2. **Blue Alert Program:** Supports systems to rapidly disseminate information about violent offenders who harm law enforcement officers.
 3. **Collaborative Reform Initiative (CRI) Program:** A program that might focus on collaborative strategies between law enforcement agencies and communities to address specific challenges.
 4. **Community Policing Development (CPD):** This program could fund projects that aim to build trust between communities and law enforcement, focusing on community engagement, training, and other related initiatives.
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Engaging UVA Biocomplexity Institute with DOJ's NIJ and COPS Office:

The UVA Biocomplexity Institute can engage with the NIJ and COPS Office in the following ways:

1. **Research Alignment:** Ensure that the institute's research projects align with the current priorities and solicitations of the NIJ and COPS Office. Tailor research proposals to address the specific needs and challenges highlighted by these organizations.
2. **Networking and Collaboration:** Attend conferences, workshops, and events sponsored by the NIJ and COPS Office. This provides an opportunity to network with key personnel, understand their priorities, and explore potential collaborations.
3. **Regular Communication:** Maintain regular communication with the respective departments and staff of the NIJ and COPS Office. This will keep the institute updated on upcoming funding opportunities and any changes in priorities.
4. **Grant Writing Workshops:** Consider organizing grant writing workshops focused on the NIJ and COPS Office funding opportunities. This will equip the institute's researchers with the skills to write compelling and successful grant proposals.
5. **Showcase Past Successes:** Highlight and showcase any past successes or impactful research projects that align with the missions of the NIJ and COPS Office. This can position the institute as a valuable partner for future collaborations.
6. **Stay Updated:** Regularly visit the official websites of the NIJ and COPS Office to stay updated on new funding opportunities, research priorities, and other relevant announcements.

Sources:

- [NIJ Funding & Awards](#)
- [COPS Office Grants](#)