



**2017-2018 Academic Year  
Office of the Director  
Placement ID: PPO**

**Topic Area:** Practitioner Partnerships and Outreach

**Program Overview:** NIJ is committed to ensuring that the research we support addresses the high-priority needs of criminal justice practitioners and stakeholders. From regularly engaging practitioners on the front end of research development to ensuring that research results are disseminated in a way that allows them to be easily infused into policy and practice, NIJ aims to ensure research is relevant, responsive, and readily available. Additionally, NIJ seeks to broaden its reach both among potential applicants and practitioner partners. Accordingly, this position will work directly with the Senior Policy Advisor in the Office of the Director (OD) to advance these efforts. This position will also directly support NIJ's Sentinel Events Initiative, an effort to implement mechanisms for learning from error in criminal justice. Specific duties will focus on the application of learning from error models to build community trust and foster reconciliation, as well as the development of promising practices for learning from error in criminal justice.

**Research assistant project task responsibilities will include but are not limited to:**

- Work with senior leadership to develop innovative approaches to encourage infusion of research into policy and practice across all criminal justice disciplines.
- Assist in the development of a strategic engagement plan to reach and encourage diverse applicants and consumers of NIJ research as well as integrate robust feedback from criminal justice practitioners.
- Assist OD staff with identify potential partners for increased engagement and assist with marketing NIJ solicitations to a broader audience
- Present on NIJ's development opportunities at multiple stakeholder conferences
- For Sentinel Events, conduct literature reviews to support the development of standing Sentinel Event Review models at a jurisdictional level, and assist with efforts to socialize the concept across all criminal justice stakeholders. Work with OD staff to develop promising practices for implementation.
- Co-author articles on learning from error and inspiring culture change in criminal justice, as well as critical analyses of sentinel event reviews as possible mechanisms for building community trust and fostering reconciliation.

**Candidate Eligibility Criteria**

- Demonstrated knowledge of the U.S. criminal justice system ***required.***
- Demonstrated experience partnering with criminal justice stakeholders to advance research ***required.***
- Demonstrated knowledge of intermediate to advanced research and evaluation methods and analysis ***preferred.***
- Demonstrated knowledge of criminal justice reform and community engagement ***preferred.***

**General Required Qualifications**

- **Education and/or Experience:** Doctoral students working toward a terminal degree (e.g., Ph.D., D.P.A., Dr.PH., D.H.Sc., D.Sc., D.S.W., Psy.D., Ed.D.).
- **Computer Skills:** Working knowledge of computers and standard software such as Adobe Professional, Excel, Internet Explorer, Outlook, Windows operating systems, Word, and PowerPoint required. Knowledge of , SPSS, SAS, or Stata and other statistical or geospatial software a plus.
- **Reasoning Ability:** Ability to work independently, accurately, and in a timely manner.



- **Communication Skills**: Ability to communicate orally and in writing to prepare comprehensive research reports, proposals, and presentations and make recommendations to accomplish and enhance project objectives.
- **Certifications, Licenses, Registrations**: Human Subjects (HS) Protection training is required. NIJ research assistants must take annual HS training onsite at the Office of Justice Programs. RAs also must successfully complete CITI training.
- **Background Check**: Candidates must complete all required U.S. Department of Justice profile and pre-screening paperwork with all security reviews and background investigations (such as credit and criminal investigations) resulting in a favorable adjudication.
- **Citizenship**: Candidates must be U.S. citizens.

**Work Location:** Primary work location will be at [NIJ's offices in Washington, D.C.](#) Minimal local travel in the [National Capital Region](#) may be needed to attend meetings and visit offsite research facilities. For this assistantship, extensive travel is anticipated to conduct research site visits.