

FY 2024 Legal Assistance for Victims Grant Program

Pre-Application Information Session

Slide 1: WELCOME Hanna Katz

And then dig into our material for the day. Excellent. So again, welcome. Welcome to the Pre-Application Information Session for the Fiscal Year 2024 Legal Assistance for Victims Grant Program (also referred to as the “LAV Program”). The Office on Violence Against Women (also referred to as “OVW”) is convening this pre-application session to go over the FY 2024 solicitation for the LAV Program.

The purpose of this session is to provide information regarding the LAV solicitation. We will highlight a few key points in this presentation, however it is not the intent, nor is there sufficient time, to go over every aspect of the solicitation. All applicants are responsible for reading the FY 2024 LAV Solicitation and the OVW Solicitation Companion Guide and ensuring that a complete application is submitted. LAV Program staff cannot provide any feedback to applicants about the quality of an applicant’s proposal or provide any information outside of what is presented in the solicitation. However, we will be available throughout the period that the solicitation is open to respond to any questions about application requirements. Please feel free to send questions about the LAV Solicitation to the LAV Program email mailbox at ovw.lav@usdoj.gov or call the main line at 202.307.6026. We will also pause periodically throughout this presentation to answer your questions live. So please do feel free to keep those coming in the Q&A box.

It will be helpful to have the LAV Solicitation in front of you for a point of reference during this information session. You may take a moment now to open it if you have not done so already. Also, we will send these slides to you all after the webinar, so please do not feel that you must remember everything we tell you here. You may use the presentation alongside the solicitation and the companion guide as you prepare your application.

Finally, please note that there was a separate presentation discussing the LAV Grant Program Expanding Legal Services Initiative yesterday. The Expanding Legal Services Initiative I will say (ELSI, for short) is intended to assist organizations that do not currently offer in-house legal services by providing them with resources and funds to establish a legal program. The recording from that webinar should be up on the OVW website shortly.

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Slide 2: DEADLINES Hanna Katz

On the cover of the solicitation please note that final applications are due by 8:59 pm Eastern Time on Thursday, February 15th.

Please refer to pages 30-32 of the solicitation for more information on submission and intermediate deadlines.

Please note that OVW will not accept late applications, so applicants are strongly encouraged to begin submitting their applications 48 hours prior to the application deadline and to carefully review the OVW Policy on Late Submissions, which can be found on pages 31-32 of the solicitation.

OVW anticipates notifying all applicants of funding decisions by October 1, 2024.

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Slide 3: ELIGIBILITY Hanna Katz

Eligibility is mentioned briefly on the cover of the solicitation, as well as in more detail on pages 12-13. Eligible applicants include private nonprofit entities, publicly funded organizations not acting in a governmental capacity (such as law schools); territorial organizations; Indian tribal governments, including Indian tribal consortia; and tribal organizations.

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Slide 4: PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

On Page 6 of the solicitation provides background on the history and goals of the LAV Program.

The LAV Grant Program is intended to increase the availability of civil and criminal legal assistance needed to effectively aid victims (ages 11 and older) of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The LAV Program provides funds for comprehensive direct legal services to victims in legal matters relating to or arising out of that abuse or violence. Comprehensive legal services should address the broad spectrum of legal issues that victims encounter. In addition to representation in emergency and non-emergency protection order hearings, this includes representation in family matters (divorce, child custody, or child support), consumer or housing matters, and credit restoration.

Services must include legal representation by a licensed attorney. In addition to an attorney, legal assistance may be also provided by some other qualified professionals, including: BIA accredited representatives in immigration proceedings, VA authorized representatives in VA claims, or anyone who functions as an attorney or lay advocate in tribal court. Finally, applicants who plan to provide services only in Tribal Courts may propose projects that only include lay advocates who are authorized to provide representation in those courts. These applications should include the allowable scope of representation lay advocates will be allowed to provide in the Tribal Court where victims will be represented.

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Slide 5: PROGRAM DESCRIPTION (continued) Hanna Katz

Any services unrelated to the provision of legal assistance or legal advocacy are unallowable under the LAV Grant Program. However, examples of activities beyond direct legal services that may be supported with LAV funds include:

- Advocacy, as long as the advocate is providing services related to the legal assistance, for example, safety planning, court accompaniment, and preparation for court appearances.;
- Translation services, if related to the legal services;

- Child care directly related to legal assistance, for example child care to enable the victim to meet with his/her attorney or go to court; and
- Transportation related to the legal assistance, for example, travel to meet with the lawyer or to go to court.

Please note that LAV Grant Program funds may not be used to provide criminal defense services. However, funds can be used to provide post-conviction relief to survivors if the matter is relating to or arising from domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking.

If you or a project partner provide services that are unrelated to legal services in connection with your project, you should make it clear in your proposal that LAV funds will only be used to support allowable activities.

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Slide 6: Purpose Areas Hanna Katz

Alright, funds under this program must be used for one or more of the statutory purpose areas listed on this slide. The FY 2024 LAV Grant Program has 3 Purpose Areas. You will find this information on page 7 of the solicitation. Please review this section carefully, as project activities funded through the LAV Grant Program must fall under one or more of these purpose areas.

You will note that Purpose Area 3 states, “not more than 10 percent of the funds awarded may be used for” pro bono legal assistance. This requirement applies to the entire amount of LAV funding appropriated for the year. This is something that OVW monitors internally. Applicants are not required to limit their proposals to 10% pro bono legal assistance.

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Slide 7: OVW Priority Areas Hanna Katz

This is a question that comes up a lot, so we just want to address it from the get-go. In FY 2024, OVW is interested in supporting the priority areas identified on this slide, and also on pages 7-8 of the solicitation. Applications proposing activities under these priority areas will be given special consideration.

Please note that to be considered under the first priority area listed, the lead applicant must be a culturally specific organization, meaning that the organization’s primary mission is to provide services to racial and ethnic minority groups. To be considered under the third priority area listed, the lead applicant must have a demonstrated and distinctive history of using culturally appropriate and linguistically specific strategies to serve communities that have been historically marginalized and face barriers to accessing mainstream systems and service providers. More information on this is included on page 8 of the solicitation.

Next slide, please.

Slide 8: LAV Statutory Priorities – Sexual Assault Hanna Katz

OVW recognizes the need to address the lack of available direct legal services for survivors of sexual assault and the unique aspects of sexual assault trauma from which survivors must heal.

Applicants proposing to focus 50 percent or more of their grant-funded activities on intimate and non-intimate partner sexual assault legal services will be given special consideration. Note that at least some grant activities must be focused on non-intimate partner sexual assault, and that the lead applicant or a project partner must have the mission or purpose to serve victims of sexual assault. In addition, applications that are submitted by nonprofit, nongovernmental or tribal organizations (including sexual assault coalitions) whose mission or purpose is to serve victims of sexual assault and which propose to focus **all** of their grant-funded activities on sexual assault, including at least 80 percent on non-intimate partner sexual assault legal services, can apply for larger awards and may be eligible for an additional 24 months of non-competitive funding. Recognized that that was a long sentence and a lot of detail so please feel free to ask follow-up questions in that Q&A box.

In both cases, So, if you're applying under this sexual assault priority area applicants should articulate the specific legal needs of sexual assault survivors within their communities and how project activities would meet those needs. Applications should also reflect the applicant's specialized training and experience in legal matters specific to sexual assault. Those applying to focus on sexual assault you should demonstrate a commitment to addressing sexual assault and should clearly show that the applicant has the capacity to address the priority effectively.

On that note, in order to be considered for the sexual assault priority area, applicants must respond to all of the sexual assault priority questions in the Project Narrative and MOU or MOE. These additional questions are required whether you're applying to use 50 percent or all of your funds to serve victims of sexual assault.

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Slide 9: LAV Statutory Priorities – Tribal Programs Hanna Katz

Pursuant to the LAV statute, at least three percent of funds made available for the LAV Program must be used for projects that assist adult and youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault on lands within the jurisdiction of an Indian tribe.

Applications proposing to assist such victims will receive special consideration in order to meet this requirement, but they must include the percentage of proposed activities that will support services to victims on tribal lands.

This information should be included in your summary data sheet, which you'll hear about more later in the presentation.

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Slide 10: Activities that Compromise Victim Safety and Recovery Hanna Katz

OVW does not fund activities that jeopardize victim safety, deter or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims, or allow offenders to escape responsibility for their actions. Please refer to the OVW Solicitation Companion Guide for additional details.

Please note, applications that propose any activities that compromise victim safety and recovery or undermine offender accountability may receive a deduction in points during the review process or may be eliminated from consideration entirely.

And with that, I'm going to turn things over to my colleague, Maria Flores, to take us through the next slide of slides. Maria?

Slide 11: LAV Specific Out-Of-Scope Activities Maria Flores

Good afternoon everyone. Thank you for being here. We are happy to be with you today. My name is Maria and I am a program specialist at OVW. And I will be. Taking you through the next couple of slides here. Let me just get my screen up. Hmm. And let's see here. I'm trying to navigate 3 screens here so. Alright, okay, so we are going to begin with the LAV specific out of scope activities. And. I'm sorry, give me 1 second.

Okay, so the LAV Program has specific out-of-scope activities that will not be supported by this program. We have highlighted some of these activities in this slide, but a couple of examples include providing representation in tort cases and developing or hosting training at the community or state level. A complete list of out-of-scope and unallowable activities can be found on page 9 of the solicitation, and a complete list of unallowable costs can be found on pages 23-24. It is important to review these lists thoroughly as applications that propose activities deemed to be substantially out-of-scope may receive a deduction in points during the review process or may be eliminated from consideration.

Slide 12: FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION Maria Flores

Okay. The federal award information, the solicitation provides details on the federal award information beginning on page 10. All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law. There is no guarantee that funds will be available in the future. However, OVW may elect to make awards in a future fiscal year for applications submitted under this solicitation but not selected for FY 2024 funding, depending on the merits of the applications and the availability of funding.

The grant award period is for 36 months, generally beginning on October 1, 2024.

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Slide 13: Award Amounts Maria Flores

Okay. So on the solicitation page number 11 you will find the award amounts and we are making the award amounts and we'll find the award amounts. The LAV program is making awards for \$750,000, or \$900,000, but amounts may vary. All awards will be made as grants.

Applications submitted by organizations whose mission or purpose is to serve victims of non-intimate partner sexual assault and that are proposing to focus all of the project's activities on legal services for victims of non-intimate partner sexual assault may request up to \$900,000 for the entire 36-month period. Note: if funded, at the end of the 36-month award period, these grantees may be eligible to receive 24 months of additional non-competitive funding to continue their projects.

All other applications may request up to \$750,000 for the entire 36-month period.

Again, OVW has the discretion to award grants for greater or lesser amounts than requested and to negotiate the scope of work and budget with applicants prior to award of a grant. Be sure to request the full amount of the award.

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Slide 14: Applicant Types Maria Flores

Applicant types, if you're following along in the solicitation, it's pages 11 through 12. The LAV Program accepts applications from three types of applicants.

New applicants are organizations that have never received direct funding under the LAV Program, or whose previous LAV Program funding expired on or before February 15, 2023.

Continuation applicants are those who have an existing award under the LAV Program, or an award that closed after February 15, 2023.

Recipients of an FY 2023 LAV award or of an FY 2022 LAV award that was for 36 months are generally not eligible to apply as the lead applicant on an FY 2024 proposal. However, recipients of an FY 2022 or FY 2023 award may apply as the lead applicant if the FY 2024 LAV application is for a distinct office that does not serve the same geographic area as the office that received funding in FY 2022 or FY 2023.

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Slide 15: Continuation Application Note Maria Flores

Okay, continuing continuation application note. Current grantees with a substantial amount of unobligated funds remaining as of March 31, 2024 without adequate justification may be removed from consideration for funding or may receive a reduced award amount if selected for funding in FY 2024.

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Slide 16: Application Types (continued) Maria Flores

Okay. Applicant types continued. We have the third type of applicant is a non competitive applicant. So, we have new applicants, continuation applicants. And, the third type of applicant is non-competitive. These organizations have an existing award that addresses the LAV Grant Program sexual assault priority by focusing 80 percent or more of their grant-funded activities on legal services for victims of non-intimate partner sexual assault.

Organizations that are eligible for non-competitive funding have already by contacted by the LAV unit by email. If this describes your organization, please note that you should very carefully review the solicitation after this webinar as some of the application requirements we reference today are different from those that non-competitive applicants should follow.

Next slide

And now we are going to take questions. We will now pause to answer your questions live. And we, will pause and we have a lot of questions. I don't know if we will get through all of them this break, but we have subsequent breaks to answer.

Slide 17: Questions Break #1 Hanna Katz

All right, thanks Maria. So I'll be sharing some of the questions. Out loud that were added to the QA box.

Thank you so much for all of your thoughtful questions that were, added to the Q&A box please keep them coming. And we'll call on my colleague, Sandi Van Orden to help us answer some of them.

Q: All right, so first off. Can we apply for both this grant and the ELSI grant at the same time? We have 2 offices and we would like to use the ELSI grant for one of them and the LAV grant for the other office or possibly both.

A: As long as you meet the eligibility requirements for ELSI. And LAV, you can apply to both programs. However, you'll note in that we do say that an organization would not receive funding under both programs.

Q: Excellent. Another great question. Can you define the difference between legal assistance, legal services, and legal advocacy.

A: So legal assistance and legal services are generally going to be kind of interchangeable terms that are going to include the broad spectrum of legal services, including representation by an attorney representation by a tribal lay advocate representation. By a Board of Immigration appeals credited representative and legal advocacy by a non attorney. And legal advocacy generally when we're talking about it in this context is going to be advocacy that is conducted. Or an attorney may provide legal advocacy where they're not. Representing a victim. specifically in court like in a civil proceeding maybe they're the advocate for the victim help them through the criminal prosecution against the offender.

Q: Next up, can a partnership with a district attorney's office sexual assault unit qualify a legal services applicant for prioritization as a sexual assault focused project even if the DA's office does not request funding for its participation?

So, I kind of marked this because I think I would like the individual who put this question in to provide a little bit more detail.

A: Generally, you're, going to want to as a legal services organization. I'm assuming that you need a partner to have an organization. With the mission or purpose. And that requirement is that it would be a nonprofit. Organization with the mission or purpose to provide victims to a services to victims of sexual assault and district attorney's office is not going to be a non a nonprofit for those purposes. So, if I'm missing something in your question, please make sure to include a follow-up.

Q: Great. Next, we have, can it program only provide pro bono domestic violence services? I'm reading this question one of two ways. One is, can our program focus solely on providing services to survivors of domestic violence?

A: Yes. The other way this question could be read is Can we only provide services? A pro bono services. For domestic violence and that would be, you could provide services for domestic violence and sexual assault and we're talking formed. A follow up, I think, on a question that we addressed, just moments ago.

Q: How would you define the difference between legal services and pro bono legal assistance?

A: So, when we talk about pro bono assistance within the legal assistance for victim solicitation, we're talking about services that are provided on a volunteer voluntary basis by an attorney who is not receiving compensation. So, if you have a pro bono component to your program, that is where you are working with attorneys who are and they are not being compensated for their work.

Excellent. And just as a reminder, I see a couple of messages coming through in the chat. Please ask all questions in the Q&A box that we can keep track of them. From our end.

So, if you would like an answer to your question, please type it into the QA box. Thank you.

Q: All right, that said, question, from a current LAV grantee. So, the question is if we have a current LAV grant which ends in fall, 2024 for a distinct geographic area and we have a new LAV grant approved with 2023 funding that just started in a different distinct geographic area. Can we apply as the lead or a continuation grant of the LAV grant which ends in 2024? Or should we have our partner on that grant apply as the lead?

A: Yes, since the project is in a distinct geographic service area, you can apply for continuation funding.

Q: OK, switching gears a bit for this grant is a project partner required.

A: So generally, yes, however, there is an exception. So, an organization an application must include a nonprofit organization with the mission or purpose to serve or provide services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. You should also include an organization. With experience providing legal representation, legal services. And. It's possible. That one organization could meet both of those requirements and in that instance, you would not have to have a partner but if you only If you only meet one of them, you would need to include a partner on your application.

Q:Excellent. So, question, I'm still a bit confused as to if this grant only funds attorneys or other similarly qualified individuals. Would this grant fund only a legal advocate? For example, safety planning, court accompaniment, and preparation for court appearances and doing preparation for card appearances. We have a temporary protection order units that helps clients through the entire TPO process but are not attorneys.

A: So. LAV funds can be used to support staff. Like the staff you're talking about advocates who work with survivors during the court process. However, you will also notice that there is a requirement that an attorney be included in all LAV projects with the limited exception of projects that will only provide services in tribal courts where those tribal courts allow lay legal advocates to provide representation.

Q: Moving on, in the priority area indicates that 3% of the funds need to be for tribal communities. Does this apply to all applicants? And then as a second question, are traditionally underserved populations required to be specified.

A: Just to give Sandy a little bit of a break, I'm happy to take the first question quickly. And thank you again for all of your great questions. They're, definitely, keeping us on our toes. So, much like that 10% for pro bono legal assistance, the 3% of funds, dedicated to serving victims on tribal lands is something that we monitor internally. You, as an individual applicant can apply to use anywhere from 0 to 100%.

Q: To Sandi for that second question, are traditionally underserved populations required to be specified.

A: So, you'll notice in the purpose of the proposal section that item number one includes describing the communities in the service area, including but not limited to those traditionally underserved populations within the service area of your project.

Q: Excellent. All right, we are getting on through these slowly, but surely. What is the definition of non-intimate partner sexual assault for this grant.

A: So non intimate partner sexual assault would be any sexual assault where the offender is not an intimate partner of the victim.

Q: Sorry for the slight delay on that. And well, great Sandi. This individual joined late and they apologize if we answered this already. If we're applying under the 50%, I assume that you mean, under the 50% sexual assault priority that is dedicating 50% rather than all of your funds. To a sexual assault legal services are we required to fill out the additional questions specific to the priority area?

A: Yes. Any, any competitive applicant. Who is applying under the 50 or 100% sexual assault priority area it needs to include all of those questions. Non competitive applicants. Aren't going to answer the same questions in the purpose of the proposal section. But, all applicants addressing sexual assault should generally include the answers to all of the sexual assault priority questions.

Q: I think we're just going to do a few more and then carry on with our prepared remarks to make sure that. We cover all of the material that we need to. So can we use this grant to hire and pay for an attorney to provide services to DV survivors in family court issues.

A: Yes, LAV funds can be used, to pay for an attorney who will provide services to DV survivors in family court.

Q: And conversely, these questions work well together. Instead of hiring a lawyer into our staff, would we be able to go into contract with a lawyer instead?

A: Yes, it is allowable to use a contract attorney instead of a staff attorney for LAV.

Q: All right, and one final question for this round. Do we do we have to have established on staff legal representation in order to be successful with this grant? We're planning to hire an on staff attorney for the first time. Does it make more sense to apply for LAV and include attorney salary in the application or should we apply for ELSI?

A: So. You could apply for either. If you are hiring an attorney for the first time to set up legal representation. What, ELSI would do is you would have a planning period where you would receive training and technical assistance to help you set up that legal representation program. If you apply under LAV, you will not have that planning period. and it, doesn't include the same level of, mandatory training and technical assistance in order to set up the legal representation.

Q: Excellent. Thanks so much again for all these questions. And thanks, Sandy, for providing all those wonderful answers.

As one additional reminder, please do not use the chat box to submit your questions if you would like them answered. Please instead type them into the Q&A box. Even if you had already submitted them into the chat box.

And with that, I'm going to turn things back over to Maria.

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Slide 18: Required Partnership Maria Flores

Alright, thanks Hannah. Okay, we're going to move things right along and from the next slide, we're talking about the. Partnership following along in the solicitation were on pages 14 through 15. The Solicitation details other program eligibility requirements beginning on page 14.

Please note that each application must include a nonprofit, nongovernmental or tribal organization (or designated division/program) with the mission or purpose of providing direct services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking – either as lead applicant or partner. The organization serving as the required expert on these crimes may be a larger, multi-service organization that does not solely address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking but has a distinct or designated division or program that focuses on serving victims of these crimes. An example of this could be a YWCA that has a distinct domestic violence shelter.

Each application must also include a nonprofit, nongovernmental, tribal organization, or tribal government (or designated division/program) with experience and expertise in providing legal representation by an attorney to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Applications where neither the lead applicant nor a partner has the required expertise will be removed from consideration.

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Slide 19: Delivery of Legal Assistance Maria Flores

The Delivery of Legal Assistance Certification is a letter that must be included with every application. Details may be found on page 14 of the solicitation.

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Slide 20: APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION Maria Flores

Application and submission information is included in the Solicitation beginning on page 15.

The complete application package is available on Grants.gov or at the OVW website at www.justice.gov/ovw. Applicants wishing to request a paper copy of the application materials should contact ovw.lav@usdoj.gov or 202-307-6026.

Applicants should anticipate that failure to submit an application that contains all of the specified elements will negatively affect the review of the application and may result in the application not being considered for funding. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that a complete application is submitted by the deadline. OVW will not contact applicants for missing items. Applicants should refer to the chart on page 37 of the solicitation to ensure that all required steps and deadlines are met.

Applicants should submit only documents that are specifically asked for in the solicitation. Providing information that was not requested (such as letters of support from other organizations in your community or service area) will not increase the likelihood that an application will be selected for funding. So, when in doubt, leave it out.

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Slide 21: Formatting and Technical Requirements Maria Flores

Formatting and technical requirements. Please carefully review the formatting and technical requirements on page 16. Points may be deducted for applications that do not adhere to the formatting and technical requirements. Please read the entire list of requirements. The LAV solicitation is very competitive and attention to detail is imperative.

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Slide 22: Application Requirements Maria Flores

We're continuing with application requirements. Solicitation page number 17. Applications must include the following documents. Applications must include all of the required documents:

- 1) Proposal Narrative: This section must include the purpose of the application, what will be done, and who will implement the project sections. Please refer to pages 18-22 of the solicitation for complete details.
- 2) I am sorry, Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative: This section must include a budget and budget narrative that links clearly to the project activities specified in the Proposal Narrative. The budget should NOT contain items that are unsupported by the Proposal Narrative. You

should include your budget as an attachment to your application. A sample budget is included as an appendix to the solicitation and a webinar on "Creating a Budget" is available on the OVW website.

3) Memorandum of Understanding or Memorandum of Exemption: Please carefully review the distinction between the two and identify which is required for your organization.

Applications that do not include all of the required components will be considered substantially incomplete and will not be considered for funding. We will not contact applicants for missing documents.

Please note there are additional questions in the Project Narrative and MOU/MOE if an application is addressing sexual assault.

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Slide 23: Data Requested with Application Maria Flores

Data Requested with Application there are three sets of questions: the Pre-Award Risk Assessment, Applicant Questionnaire, and the Summary Data Sheet. You will complete each as a survey directly in JustGrants. These are not scored but are a required element of your application. A list of the questions for each item is included on pages 52-60 of the solicitation, in the appendices.

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Slide 24: Proposal Abstract Maria Flores

The proposal abstract. Although this section will not be scored, your application should include an abstract that does not exceed two pages, double-spaced. This section should not be a summary of past accomplishments. The abstract will be entered into a text box in JustGrants. Applicants are strongly encouraged to use the template for the abstract on page 18 of the solicitation.

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Slide 25: Project Narrative Maria Flores

We are down to the Proposal narrative. The Project Narrative section should not exceed 20 pages double spaced and must include the required three sections (purpose of application, what will be done, and who will implement the project). Reviewers will not read more than 20 pages double spaced. If your application is not double spaced, reviewers will only read the equivalent of 20 pages double spaced. The remainder of the project narrative will not be scored.

Make sure that you respond to every question within each of the sections. Again, pages 18-22 of the solicitation address these points.

Now I'm going to turn it over to Hannah.

Next slide.

Slide 26: The Budget Hanna Katz

Thank you so much, Maria. Give me one moment. So, a budget and budget narrative are required. Applicants should include their budget as an attachment to their application. OVW strongly encourages using a spreadsheet program such as Excel or Numbers to complete your budget attachment. There is a sample budget included in Appendix A of the solicitation.

Your budget must reflect 36 months of project activity. It must include funds to attend OVW-sponsored training and technical assistance in the amount of \$12,000 for proposals from organizations located within the 48 contiguous states and \$18,000 for organizations located within the territories, Hawaii, or Alaska. Please note this amount is for the entire 36 months and NOT per year. Applicants may budget expenses in excess of the required training and technical assistance amount if you would like to attend relevant non-OVW sponsored conferences or training.

The budget and the budget narrative will be reviewed separately from the proposed project narrative. The budget narrative must describe each line item requested in the budget and explain all costs included in the budget, including how the costs of goods and services are determined and how they will fulfill the objectives of the project.

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Slide 27: Grants Financial Management Division Hanna Katz

In the next couple of slides, we are going to focus on aspects of your application that relate to the documents that our financial team, the Grants Financial Management Division (GFMD), reviews. More specifically, we'll discuss some items that GFMD has identified from prior years' applications that could help with expediting our review process.

So for today, we're going to highlight certain aspects of the pre-award risk assessment and provide you with a link to a detailed webinar on how to develop the budget that will be included in your application.

First, we'll highlight the items identified in the Summary Data Sheet, which is completed by all applicants in a survey directly in JustGrants. A list of questions included in the survey appears at the end of the solicitation under the heading, Survey Questions.

Specifically, two items that we would like to discuss are the Single Audit response and the IRS three step safe harbor procedure.

OVW requests that all applicants provide a statement as to whether they have expended \$750,000 or more in federal funds during their last fiscal year. If they have, then they indicate that and also specify the end date of their last fiscal year. However, GFMD is finding that applicants do not always include all of this information. Please ensure that this question is answered in its entirety on the Summary Data Sheet (Question #3).

Another item that we'd like to highlight from the solicitation is specifically for nonprofit organizations. If you use the IRS three step safe harbor procedure to determine your executives' compensation, you are required to provide a disclosure letter. Page 25 of the

solicitation provides further details. Note that there are 4 required parts of this disclosure letter. Please be sure to provide a response to each of the four pieces.

The next item that we'd like to discuss is the pre-award risk assessment survey, which assists GFMD during their pre award risk assessment review for all applications. Each applicant must prepare a response to all 11 questions, and each question has multiple parts.

We've noticed from prior years that applicants do not always fully answer all parts of the questions, which in turn, requires GFMD to reach out to the applicant and which may delay funding decisions. Some of the most common issues that we've encountered have been, for example, question #2, where the applicant indicates that they do indeed have internal policies, but they don't provide a brief list of topics covered in the policies and procedures. On question #3, some applicants fail to provide a brief summary of the organization's process for tracking expenditures, and more specifically whether or not it tracks budgeted versus actual expenditures.

These are just a few examples, but in general, please make sure that you read each piece of each question and provide a full and comprehensive response.

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Slide 28: Resources Hanna Katz

This next slide will quickly highlight some resources that are available as you're creating the budget to be submitted with your application.

Over the last couple of years, GFMD has developed a detailed webinar presentation on how to develop a budget to be submitted with OVW applications. This presentation addresses some of the challenges that you may face with your budgets and provides some insight on OVW's budget review process. This webinar can be found at the link on this slide.

Additionally, the OVW website has published guidance to help you prepare your budget attachment. Next up is the uniform guidance, which can be found at 2 CFR 200 (use your favorite search engine for this one). Other resources include the DOJ Financial Guide and the LAV solicitation itself.

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Slide 29: Contact Information Hanna Katz

We know this can be a lot of information to process, so if you have any questions about the GFMD information discussed, please feel free to contact the GFMD helpdesk at 888-514-8556 or by email at OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov.

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Slide 30: Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) vs Memorandum of Exemption (MOE) Hanna Katz

All right, next up the memorandum of understanding or MOU. The MOU section can be found on pages 26 and 27 of the solicitation.

For the purposes of this solicitation, the MOU is a document containing the terms of the partnership and the roles and responsibilities between two or more parties. The MOU must be a single document and must be signed and dated by the Authorized Representative of each proposed partner organization.

An applicant must include a nonprofit, nongovernmental or tribal organization with demonstrated expertise on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking either as a lead applicant or a partner.

Please note that there are additional requirements for applications addressing the sexual assault priority area.

Next slide

Slide 31: MOE Hanna Katz

The MOE section can be found on pages 27-28 of the solicitation.

This applies to applications from lead applicants that, as their mission (or designated subdivision's mission), provide services to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking victims. Applicants may submit an MOE in lieu of an MOU if they demonstrate that they have the required expertise in providing services and/or legal representation for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking.

Please note that ALL applications with project partners who will receive subawards should submit an MOU, even if the lead applicant serves as the required expert

If an MOE is submitted in lieu of an MOU, and the applicant does not meet the criteria to submit an MOE, the application may be removed from consideration.

Please note that there are additional requirements for applications addressing the sexual assault priority area.

The applicant should carefully review the requirements for both the MOU and MOE and decide how best to proceed. The applicant should not submit both documents in their application. Only one will be scored.

As a final note, if your application includes a tribal government as lead applicant or partner and you are unable to obtain one or more signature on your MOU or MOE because the tribal council meeting schedule precludes this, you may submit an MOU or MOE that is unsigned or partially signed. The MOU or MOE text must state the previous and upcoming dates of the tribal council meetings, to demonstrate that the tribal council did not meet while the solicitation was open. If selected for funding, Indian tribal governments will be required to submit a signed MOU or MOE as a deliverable.

Next Slide

Slide 32: Additional Application Components Hanna Katz

Pages 28-29 provide information about additional documents that will not be scored during the review process but which should be included with your application. Failure to include any of these may result in your application being removed from consideration.

Next slide

Slide 33: Civil rights Hanna Katz

Recipients of OVW funds must comply with applicable federal civil rights laws, which among other things prohibit recipients from discriminating on the basis of national origin and disability. This includes taking reasonable steps to ensure meaningful access to grantees' programs and activities for individuals with disabilities, individuals who are Deaf and hard of hearing, and individuals with limited English proficiency. Applicants must include funds or other resources in their budget that support activities to ensure access for these individuals.

Please see page 35 of the solicitation for more information on these requirements.

Next slide

Slide 34: Questions Break #2 Hanna Katz

All right, and with that we will now take a second pause to answer your questions live.

Q: All right, our first question, that Sandi wishes to answer live is. If a program is receiving funding from state funding for domestic violence to state funding source. Can, can the program still apply for this funding?

A: Yes. You are absolutely eligible to apply for this spending if you also receive funding from other sources.

Q: Great. Next, if you're a general legal services organization with a project that's focused on legal services to end sexual violence and assault. Does that meet the mission or purpose requirement, assuming the funds will only be used to support that project?

A: So, the way we describe it in the solicitation is that you need to have a unit, or subdivision of your organization. So, if your project is its own unit with the mission or purpose. To provide services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking and you demonstrate that in your application, you would meet that requirement.

Q: Alright, next, does priority number one, which is detailed on page 8 of the solicitation, apply only to tribal programs. Or is it for applicants who have a history of using culturally appropriate and linguistically specific strategies to serve any community that has been historically marginalized.

A: I can quickly take this question. I know it's a common one. Your second option is correct. So language of the priority is advanced equity and tribal sovereignty. This language applies across OVW. It does not mean that you as the individual applicant need to necessarily serve tribal

victims. It does mean that you need to have that history that you've described and is described in detail on page 8 of the solicitation.

Juliana, I believe that you had the same question as well. So hopefully this answers, answers your question. Maribel as well. It's a very common question that comes through.

Q: Alright, next to clarify legal representation by DOJ partially accredited representatives are not eligible for funding.

A: So you're partially accredited rep. Who is providing the services that they are allowed to provide who would be funded under this under LAV? And as I've stated before. LAB also requires that your project include a licensed attorney.

Q: Okay, our next questions from Nicole, what is the difference between this RFP and the other?

A: Nicole, I'm assuming you're referring to the ELSI or expanding Legal Services Initiative solicitation and this LAV solicitation. Sandi addressed that earlier. Sandi, I don't know if you wanted to add anything, to that prior answer.

No, if there are further questions later, we can. Try and clarify if we need to.

Q: Perfect. So, Courtney asks, it has been quite a few years since we received LAV funding. Would we be a new applicant?

A: And the answer is yes. If it's been several years since you've received LAV funding, you would be considered a new applicant. Continue a continuation applicants include only those who are currently receiving LAB funding or those who's current LAV funding ended after February 2023.

Q: Alright, next would serving low income individuals fulfill the requirement of serving, quote, traditionally underserved populations or does it need to be a population that is listed in the solicitation?

A: So, if you look at her the priority area. Language and I'm getting back to that. We say that in order to receive special consideration, the applicant must have a demonstrated and distinctive history of using culturally appropriate and linguistically specific strategies to serve communities that have been historically marginalized and face barriers to accessing mainstream systems and service providers.

Oh, I'm sorry. I was. I was looking at the information, the solicitation. Sorry, Angela. So I would use the information from the priority area to determine. Whether or not your project is addressing an underserved, population according to for the purposes of that priority area.

Q: Great. Next question and out of scope activity is quote, cases involving the child protection system unless the child dependency hearing involves allegations relating to or arising out of abuse of the client rather than abuse of the children.

The question is, if we want to fund a divorce and custody attorney to represent victims of domestic violence, but there's also a child protection case against the DV victim for neglect, for example. Would it be allowable to represent that victim who has a cabinet case against them?

A: If the case around neglect is related to or arising from the domestic violence victimization of the adult victim, then yes, but if it is not, then you would not be able to do that. Not. Or with these phones.

Q: Alright, next. From Mave, we are an Umbrella Agency that is a certified rape crisis center. Does this count as having the mission or purpose to serve victims of sexual assault for purposes of the priority area?

A: I assume that your rape crisis center has the mission or purpose to serve victims of sexual assault. And if that center or some other division of your organization that also has the mission or purpose to serve those victims is the part of your organization that is applying. Then you would meet the definition for the mission or purpose.

Q: Alright, next, what is the test for quote, 50% of activities that to sexual assault? In order to receive prioritization.

A: Is it spending 50% or more of the funding on essay services or is there another way to define the percentage of activities focused on essay services? So it is that 50% of your grant funds must support direct legal services to victims of sexual assault.

Right, we are a nonprofit focused solely on providing support services to survivors of domestic abuse.

Q: Do we need a project partner to apply for this grant?

A: You need a project partner if you do not you cannot demonstrate that you have experience providing legal representation to survivors. However, if you do have Both the services to victims and legal representation from victims experience that you can demonstrate in your application, you would not be required to have a partner.

Great. And with that, we will move on, carry on with our, prepared remarks.

We will answer more of your questions at the end of our presentation in our final Q&A session. Again, thank you so much for all of these. In our final Q&A session. Again, thank you so much for all of these wonderful, thoughtful questions.

Next slide

Slide 35: How to Apply Hanna Katz

All right, so how to apply a big question. Here we go. You may find this funding opportunity on Grants.gov by using the CFDA number, Grants.gov opportunity number, or the title of this solicitation, all of which can be found on the cover page. The FY 2024 application submission process is a two-step process with significant differences from the process prior to three years ago. Application materials will be submitted in Grants.gov and JustGrants. We recommend

starting the application process, even just the Grants.gov and JustGrants registration process, as soon as possible to allow time to learn the system.

You may find this funding opportunity on grants.

Next slide

Slide 36: How to Apply

Read the solicitation carefully to understand all steps required to submit an application and the time required to complete those steps. Some steps, such as obtaining a Unique Entity Identifier (or UEI) number or registering with the System for Award Management (SAM) or Grants.gov may take several days to complete. We recommend that applicants begin these processes as soon as possible but no later than the dates suggested in the solicitation.

And with that, I'm going to hand things back to Maria to take us home. Maria?

Next Slide

Slide 37: Grants.gov Maria Flores

All right, thank you Hannah. Okay, so we are going to just work ahead. And we're gonna be talking about grants.gov. Applicants must complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) in Grants.gov. The specific information required for this step is included on page 17 of the solicitation. Applicants must also complete and submit the Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) in Grants.gov. After submitting these two forms, the applicant will receive an email notification to complete the rest of the application in JustGrants. If the applicant is a new user in JustGrants, the email will include instructions on registering with JustGrants.

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Slide 38: JustGrants Maria Flores

Okay, continuing with JustGrants. Applicants will submit the full application, including attachments, in JustGrants. If you have applied for OVW funding prior to two years ago, which would include most continuation grantees on this call, you will notice some significant changes in the application process. In the JustGrants system, applicants will enter some application information directly into text boxes and surveys, and upload some documents as attachments.

We have included the following major elements of the application as examples of what applicants will submit in JustGrants.

- The Proposal Abstract will be entered in a text box
- The Pre-Award Risk Assessment, Applicant Questionnaire, and Summary Data will be completed as surveys directly in JustGrants
- The Proposal Narrative, as well as the Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative, will be uploaded as attachments.
- The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or Memorandum of Exemption (MOE) will be uploaded as an attachment.

In addition to these major elements, other documentation will be required for all applications or when applicable. Read the solicitation carefully for a full description of all items required. And like we mentioned earlier, the LAV solicitation is very competitive. Attention to detail is imperative.

Next slide

Slide 39: JustGrants cont. Maria Flores

So, continuing again with JustGrants. Each applying entity will have an assigned Entity Administrator who is responsible for managing entity-level information and assigning roles in the system. The Entity Administrator is also the E-Biz POC designated in SAM.gov. For more information on registering with JustGrants, please refer to the website justicegrants.usdoj.gov.

Within 24 hours of JustGrants receiving your application from Grants.gov, the user submitting the application in Grants.gov and the SAM E-Biz POC will receive an email to register for a JustGrants account. The email is from DOJ's secure user management system (DIAMD) and will include instructions on how to create an account.

To ensure that you receive these emails and that they are not flagged as spam which happens quite a bit, we recommend adding "DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov" to the trusted sender list in your email settings.

Next Slide

Slide 40: JustGrants cont. Maria Flores

Continuing with justgrants. The E-Biz POC at the applicant organization serves as the Entity Administrator and must log-in to JustGrants to confirm the entity's profile and add users. The user submitting the application in JustGrants serves as the Application Submitter. Within minutes of completing their JustGrants account registration, the Application Submitter and the Entity Administrator will receive an email from JustGrants with a link to the application that was started in Grants.gov.

Alternatively, the Application Submitter can log in to JustGrants and locate the pending application in their Worklist on the home/landing page. The application number listed on JustGrants will be identical to the 9-digit number that begins with "GRANT" on Grants.gov.

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Slide 41: JustGrants cont. Maria Flores

So, each lead applicant must have at least one Authorized Representative designated on JustGrants. An Authorized Representative is an individual with documented authority to sign

an agreement with the federal government.

Before the application is submitted, the Entity Administrator must log in to JustGrants to review the Authorized Representatives associated with the organization. If an Authorized Representative does not have a JustGrants account, the Entity Administrator will need to invite them to register.

Within minutes of being invited to be an Authorized Representative, the individual will receive an email from DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov with instructions on how to create an account in DOJ's secure user management system.

Once the Authorized Representative receives the email and completes the steps to create an account, the Authorized Representative will be available in JustGrants.

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Slide 42: JustGrants cont. Maria Flores

The Application Submitter will complete the application by entering data into web-based forms and text boxes, uploading attachments, and accepting assurances and certifications. The Application Submitter will also need to select the Authorized Representative(s).

Once all sections are completed, the application submitter will submit the application. The Application Submitter, Entity Administrator, and Authorized Representative will then receive an email from JustGrants confirming successful submission of the application.

Next slide

Slide 43: JustGrants cont. Maria Flores

The Department of Justice has made a collection of self-guided training resources as you can see here in the URL, including training and a Virtual Q&A session on Application Submission, available at the website displayed on this slide. (<https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/training-resources/justgrants-training/grants-management-lifecycle>)

And again, that will include training and virtual QA session on application submission. So that you can further process everything that we've been saying about the submission process.

Next slide

Slide 44: Application Deadline Maria Flores

And so we've mentioned this before, but the application deadline Final applications in JustGrants are due by 8:59 pm Eastern time on Thursday, February 15th, 2024.

Carefully review the “How to Apply” and “Submission Dates and Times” sections on pages 30-32 of the solicitation for applicant actions with required deadlines and for OVW's policy on late submissions. Submitting the application components at least 48 hours before each deadline (Grants.gov or JustGrants, as applicable) will enable applicants to receive notice of a failed submission and provide an opportunity to correct the error before the applicable deadline.

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Slide 45: OVW Policy on Duplicate Applications Maria Flores

When it comes to duplicate applications. Applicants should only submit one application per program. If an applicant submits multiple versions of an application, OVW will review the most recent version submitted.

Next slide

Slide 46: OVW Policy on Late Submissions Maria Flores

Our policy on late submissions. OVW offers several options for an applicant to provide advance notice of a delayed application. Applicants should thoroughly familiarize themselves with OVW's policy on late submissions, found on pages 31-32 of the solicitation. Extensions are rarely granted. Failure to begin the registration or application submission processes in sufficient time is not an acceptable reason for a late application submission.

Next slide

Slide 47: Helpful Tips Checklist Maria Flores

For the next couple of slides, we're going to go over some helpful tips for applicants. This may improve your chances on becoming an LAV grant recipient. Please note that the following list is not a guarantee that you will be funded but rather a guide to navigate you through the OVW application process.

- Please read the solicitation in its entirety. It is important to make sure you do not miss out on any important information by just skimming through the solicitation and focusing on the “How to Apply” section. Read the solicitation and contact LAV staff or submit your inquiry to the LAV email box if you have any questions.
- Keep in mind that the people reviewing your application are not familiar with your organization or your work. Please write your application accordingly.
- It is not enough to simply state that your organization will meet the program requirements. When writing your application, you should *show* us how you plan to implement the requirements.
- Survivors are not one-dimensional, and neither are their needs; your application should reflect that. Please describe how you will address the complex needs of *all* survivors in

your community, including those who may be part of specific cultural or historically underserved groups.

- Rather than using national data in your application, please take care to find recently collected local data if you can. If that information is not available to you and you choose to use other data, please note that recent local data is not available.

Next slide

Slide 48: Helpful Tips Checklist continued Maria Flores

- Please be sure that your budget can support the goals and objectives in your narrative. Being overly ambitious is not to your benefit.
- To ensure that your application is feasible and accurately conveys your organization's capacity, involve multiple members of your organization when reviewing your application; in particular, be sure that the staff writing the narrative, drafting the budget, and implementing the project collaborate.
- We recommend that when you upload application documents, filenames should be descriptive and match the language in the solicitation (for example, include "Proposal Narrative in the filenames).
- Take note of all deadlines. Recall that the Grants.gov deadline is before the JustGrants deadline.

Next Slide

Slide 49: Helpful Tips Checklist continued Maria Flores

Ok, so more tips.

- Do not include or reference materials—including attachments—that the solicitation does not ask for. Reviewers will not look at any extra materials, meaning that doing "too much" may negatively impact your score.
- Please demonstrate your expertise by *showing* us what you do—not copying and pasting language from the solicitation. We want to read about the great work you do in your own words!
- Do not go over the budget cap.
- Be very careful to follow all formatting and technical requirements. These are not just guidelines—they have an impact on your score!
- Print out the final document and carefully proofread and review your application to ensure accuracy and completeness.

And so with that, I'm going to turn it over to, our team so that we can answer some more questions for you. Be successful in writing the application. And so with that, I'm going to turn it over to, our team so that we can answer some more questions for you.

Next slide

Slide 50: Questions and Answers Hanna Katz

We will pause one final time to answer any questions you may have.

Hey, thanks so much, Maria. So, I first wanted to know on the questions that of course we are answering a lot of them live. But we are also providing written typed out answers to other questions that were not answering out loud. So, if you believe that you were skipped over it is very possible that you've received a written answer to your question. So, please do check the answer tab. I think you may have also received a notification if we answered your question, but I'm not certain on that.

Alright, so I am actually going to start. With some questions that received thumbs up. From other participants indicating that they are of special interest.

Q: So Lana Martin, asked nearly an hour ago. Could you please explain what is required for number 8 in the budget guidance? She quote, there are a lot of quotes here in a separately attached document provide the standard salary range for staff positions, included in the budget for the geographic service area, the expected salary for positions in the budget. And information on how salaries in the budget were determined. So what is required here?

A: So those 3 things identified are what is required. Do I want to identify what a standard salary range for the type of position you've identified is. So, an attorney providing services in our geographic area generally has a salary range of X. This is the position that we have. This is the salary that we are including in our budget. This is how we determined that this is the appropriate salary for this position.

Great. And, Next question and as a note, I see people are doing that already. If you do see a question here that you would especially like answered, please do give it a thumbs up at this point so we can prioritize it. We, as you can see are done with our formal presentation, but are happy to try to answer as many questions as we can. We will probably not get to all of them live, but we are trying our very best.

Q: So, can an applicant be awarded a new LAV and ELSI grant in the same year? As a project lead of the LAV grant and a project partner of an ELSI grant for different service areas.

A: While the answer to this question, is different than you may have anticipated. ELSI has no project partners. So, ELSI, applicants are applying without project partners. Sandi, I don't know if you wanted to address other aspects of that question or if that's what you were thinking as well. That is also, what I was thinking. As I said earlier, ELSI indicates that an applicant can apply to both LAV and ELSI but can only receive. Funding under one of the programs. However, it would be possible for an applicant to apply for ELSI. And be funded and be a project partner on an LAV of a potentially fundable, funded LAV project.

Q: So, another question came in with a thumbs up with limited scope representation through over the phone consultations with our staff attorney be considered legal services limited scope representation is a legal service. Some of our victims located in rural areas that can be geographically isolated considered in underserved population or underserved community.

A: So again, I'm going to refer everyone back for this question. Like I did earlier to the specific language in the solicitation on the priority area. If that is a priority area you would like to apply under.

Q: For a non-profit organization with a specialized legal team that only does services for

victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Is that enough of a specialization? To not require a partner DVS a profit. Non-profit, excuse me is describing the DV and SA experience and training requirements for staff enough.

A: So the, requirement is that the organization or division or subdivision identified division or subdivision must have the mission or purpose. To provide services to victims of these crimes. If you can demonstrate that you have a team whose mission or purpose is to provide services to victims of these crimes and the services that they provide are legal representation. Then you would qualify to submit an MOE.

Q: Next, would you expand on the requirements of attorney oversight for legal advocacy services?

A: So generally, we would require supervising attorney on all of our projects. And I mean, like any time that. You have advocates or other people engaged in legal advocacy, you likely want to make sure that you have. Someone to supervise them to make sure they're not and get. Inadvertently engaging in the unauthorized practice of law and making sure that they are following all the appropriate rules within your jurisdiction.

Q: So under required partnership. On pages 14 to 15. If the nonprofit lead agency has a mission or purpose of providing direct services to victims, and has experience and expertise in providing legal representation by an attorney to victims is bringing on another partner required.

A: The answer to that question is easy. No, you've demonstrated at least from what you've said here that you've fulfilled both of the required partnerships for this grant. And so you are not required to bring on another partner to be eligible. For all. But you may, if you would, you are not required.

Q: Alright, next. Would an organization that just provides legal representation for temporary restraining orders and protective orders qualify. Or do you have to provide legal services for other family law issues? Such as divorce, for other family law issues such as divorce, custody, and housing.

A: So, you'll notice that like we don't specifically say that you're in eligible if all you're doing is, protection orders. However, you will notice that under the purpose of the LAB program that the program is really designed to provide comprehensive legal services beyond only temporary restraining orders.

Q: Does a partner have to receive a sub award. The determination of a sub award or a contract or how you set that up. Is, is covered within some of the financial, information that we have available online.

A: If the question is do they have to receive funds at all? The answer is No, but you should notice that the budget section requires that you fairly compensate all of your partners for the level of work unless it is specifically stated otherwise within the MOU.

Alright, we have just a few more questions that we're going to answer. Live that have received sums up. If you, ask a question that has not. Received an answer by the time we're done today. Please know that we will be, taping up answers to all of the questions included in the Q&A today. I'm editing that down and posting the Q&A as a kind of FAQ document together with the recording and the slides on the OVW website as well. You may also email your

individual question to OVW, LAV and a member of our team will respond to you.

Q: Alright, does having no partner reduce our chances of receiving an award? We provide a large range of services and always had a partner in the past. Just wondering for this cycle.

A: As long as you meet the requirements to apply within MOE instead of an MOU. Choosing to cut to apply with or without a partner would not impact that your the likelihood of you receiving an award.

Q: An important question from Rhonda, is there one contact person who can assist with all of the registrations that must be completed? So grants.gov. Sam etc, or are there separate tech contacts?

A: The answer is yes, there are separate tech contacts, tech contacts. And all of these are included in the solicitation. However, please feel free to reach out to us. I'm at LAV if you have general questions on any of these or are not able to locate this contact information.

Q: Alright, a very popular question. Can you please define what is considered demonstrated experience providing legal representation.

A: Is it based on links of time provided? Number served, etc.

I'm sorry, I'm trying to read the questions as you say them and I did not see that question.

Of course. And thank you all for bearing with us as we process all of your great questions.

Q: Can you please define what is considered demonstrated experience, providing legal representation.

A: Is it based on length of time provided, number served? Etc. I would include all of that information. I would include the information on how long you've provided legal representation to survivors and I would include the amount like you know like how many survivors do you like did you serve in the last year if that's if you provide legal representation. As an example, it doesn't have to exactly be that. Like, but you know, like explain the services that you provide. In your application to show that you have experience providing those.

Q: All right, it has been mentioned several times that this is a highly competitive grant. Does it count against an applicant that another office?

A: In a different geographic area already receives LAV funds. I guess another office of the same organization, presumably. Yeah. Not necessarily. If you can show that the like these are distinct projects and distinct service areas that are doing distinct work. That shouldn't be a hindrance if the issue is going to be if you're project proposal makes it look like you're providing the services that you could provide under a proposal that has already been funded.

Alright, I believe we have just two more questions with thumbs up attached to them. And again, apologies that we can't get to all of your questions. We are supposed to end it 3:30pm so we're already but over time and we want to respect your time as well.

Q: So, a question from Heather. From a while ago at 2:58pm. If we fill out an MOE as a direct

legal services provider, do we still need MOUs from any partner organizations that we will collaborate with but will not provide direct services under the grant.

A: So you would submit. Okay, that's either one MOU or one MOE, you would not submit both. So if you are going to have organizations that are partner organizations on your project that you want to include in an MO you would submit an MOU. If you want to apply without any specific partner organizations. And you qualify, you would only submit the MOE.

Q: All right, from 3:35 pm. Can you please expand on the requirements that individuals with lived experience be involved in shaping and implementing the project. Particularly, in the case of an established project applying for this funding. Can you speak to what would be sufficient?

A: To fulfill this, I think I want to ask Julie to step in. On this question. Okay.

Yeah, I think unfortunately Julie has had to step out. So, I think that, it sounds like this is a question that we maybe need to do a little bit of, it sounds like this is a question that we maybe need to do a little bit of, internal, you know, talking about, internal, you know, talking about.

So, our answer to the question that we maybe need to do a little bit of, internal, you know, talking about.

So our answer to the question will be posted as part of our Q&A document when we post the materials from this presentation on the OVW website.

Thank you. That may be, I'm just doing one final look through. I think that's our last question.

With, any thumbs up. Thank you again for all of your questions. We apologize that we did not get to 30 of them or so. But we are very grateful for the 130 questions that came in to us today as well as for your time and attention during this presentation. If you have additional questions, including if you have a question that you asked today that was not addressed, you can either wait for that document to come up on the Ov website or of course reach out to us by email at ovw.lav@usdoj.gov. I'll put out email address in the chat one more time. So that you have it readily available. Thank you so much. I'll put out email address in the chat one more time, us that you have it readily available. Thank you so much again for your time and attention and thanks as well to all the members of the OVW team who supported today.

Good Luck! If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.