



U.S. Department of Justice
Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)

OVW Fiscal Year 2024 Research and Evaluation Initiative Solicitation

Assistance Listing Number: 16.026

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-OVW-2024-171921

Solicitation Release Date: February 8, 2024

Deadline to submit SF-424 and SF-LLL in Grants.gov: 11:59 PM Eastern Time (ET) on April 9, 2024

Deadline to submit full application in JustGrants: 8:59 PM ET on April 11, 2024

Eligibility:

Eligible applicants are limited to: States and units of local government, Tribal governments, Tribal organizations, Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, Public and private institutions of higher education. For more information, see the [Eligibility Information](#) section of this solicitation.

Letter of Intent

Applicants are encouraged to submit a non-binding letter of intent to OVW.Research@usdoj.gov by March 1, 2024. Applicants who do not submit a letter of intent can still apply. For more information, see the [Application and Submission Information](#) section of this solicitation.

Pre-Application Information Session

OVW will conduct an optional, web-based pre-application information session on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. Eastern time. During the session, OVW staff will review this program's requirements, review the solicitation, and allow for a brief question and answer period. For more information, see the [Application and Submission Information](#) section of this solicitation.

Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, email OVW at OVW.Research@usdoj.gov. Applicants also may call OVW at 202-307-6026.

Registration Information: OVW encourages first time applicants to apply for funding.

Organizations applying for the first time must complete registrations with multiple systems:

- i. System for Award Management (SAM) (<https://sam.gov/content/entity-registration>)
- ii. Grants.gov (<https://www.grants.gov/applicants/applicant-registration>)

iii. JustGrants registration needs to be completed **ONLY** after successful submission of Step 1 of the application as described below.

For more information, see the [Prior to Application Submission](#) section of this solicitation.

Organizations that have applied for funding previously **must ensure their accounts with SAM, Grants.gov, and JustGrants are active and up to date.**

Applicants are strongly encouraged to begin the registration process or ensure that all accounts are active and up to date by March 19, 2024.

Submission Information: Applications must be submitted to OVW through a two-step process that begins in Grants.gov and is completed in JustGrants:

Step 1: The applicant must **submit** by the Grants.gov deadline (11:59 PM ET on April 9, 2024) the required Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF-424) and the Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form (SF-LLL) in Grants.gov. To view the forms prior to completing them in Grants.gov, applicants can go to the Package tab under the funding opportunity that they're applying for and select Preview. The Preview then provides links to the forms.

Step 2: The applicant must then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/> by the JustGrants application deadline (8:59 PM ET on April 11, 2024). OVW encourages applicants to review the [JustGrants](#) website for more information, resources, and training.

Note that the Grants.gov and JustGrants deadlines are typically only a few days apart. For more information about application submission, see the [How to Apply](#) section of this solicitation.

Notification

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

Contents

Program Description	6
Overview of OVW	6
About this OVW Program	6
What’s New About this OVW Program.....	6
Program Scope	6
Topics for Research and Evaluation	6
OVW Priority Areas	8
Activities that Compromise Victim Safety.....	9
Out-of-Scope Activities	9
Areas of Study.....	9
Federal Award Information	10
Availability of Funds.....	10
Type of Award	10
Award Period and Amounts	10
Program Requirements	11
Methodological Principles	11
Expected Products.....	11
Confidentiality and Human Subjects Protection.....	12
Eligibility Information	12
Eligible Applicants	12
Faith-Based and Community Organizations	12
Ineligible Entities and Disqualifying Factors	13
Cost Sharing or Matching	13
Other Program Eligibility Requirements	13
Number of Applications	13
Application and Submission Information.....	13
Address to Request Application Package	13
Pre-Application Information Session.....	13
Content and Form of Application Submission	14
Letter of Intent	14
Formatting and Technical Requirements	14
Application Contents.....	14
Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424).....	15
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)	15
Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information).....	15
Proposal Abstract.....	15
Data Requested with Application	16
Proposal Narrative.....	16
Budget and Associated Documentation	17

Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (attachment).....	17
Award Period and Amounts	17
Funding Restrictions.....	19
Unallowable Costs	19
Food and Beverage/Costs for Refreshments and Meals	19
Conference Planning and Expenditure Limitations	19
Pre-Award Costs	20
Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable).....	20
Applicant Financial Capability Questionnaire (if applicable)	20
Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation (if applicable).....	20
Required Appendices	21
Appendices 1-7	21
Appendices 8-9: Human Subjects Paperwork and Privacy Certificate	24
Appendix 10: Project Staff, Affiliation, and Roles Form.....	24
Additional Application Components	24
Letter of Nonsupplanting	24
Confidentiality Notice Form.....	24
Summary of Other Federal Funding	24
Disclosures and Assurances	25
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	25
DOJ Certified Standard Assurances	25
DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements.....	25
Prior to Application Submission.....	25
Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and System for Award Management (SAM)	25
How to Apply.....	26
Submission Dates and Times	26
Submission Information and Other Submission Requirements	26
OVW Policy for Applicants Experiencing Technical Difficulties During the Registration and Submission Processes	27
OVW Policy on Late Submission Request Due to Severe Inclement Weather or Natural or Man-Made Disaster	28
Application Review Information	28
Review Criteria	28
Budget and Budget Narrative	29
Review and Selection Process	30
Peer Review	30
Programmatic Review	30
Past Performance Review.....	30
High-Risk Grantees.....	31
Federal Award Administration Information.....	31

Federal Award Notices	31
Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements	31
Information for All Federal Award Recipients	31
Violence Against Women Act Non-Discrimination Provision.....	32
Accessibility	32
General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements.....	32
Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s).....	32
Other Information	33
Public Reporting Burden - Paperwork Reduction Act Notice.....	33
Application Checklist	34
Appendix A: Budget Information and Sample Budget Narrative	35
Appendix B: Pre-Award Risk Assessment.....	49
Appendix C: Applicant Entity Questionnaire	52
Appendix D: Summary Data Sheet.....	55

Program Description

Overview of OVW

OVW is a component of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ). Created in 1995, OVW administers grant programs authorized by the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and subsequent legislation and provides national leadership on issues of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. OVW grants support coordinated community responses that provide services to victims and hold offenders accountable.

About this OVW Program

This program is authorized by 34 U.S.C. 12291(b)(7).

The purpose of the Research and Evaluation (R&E) Initiative is to research and evaluate approaches to preventing and addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. By generating more knowledge about strategies for serving victims and holding offenders accountable, communities that benefit from Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funding will be better equipped to align their work with practices that are known to be effective as well as build their own capacity to evaluate new and promising ways of doing things. The initiative is designed to support researcher-practitioner partnerships and a broad range of research and evaluation methods, including qualitative, mixed-method, quasi-experimental, and experimental designs. Because OVW has limited funds to support research and evaluation, this initiative prioritizes topics for which a stronger evidence base would help OVW grantees use federal funds most effectively.

What's New About this OVW Program

- The budget cap is increased. Applicants may now submit proposed budgets for up to \$500,000 for the 12- to 36-month award period.
- Topics under which OVW is inviting proposals are updated since last year's solicitation.
- The Expected Products section is updated since last year's solicitation.

Program Scope

Activities supported by this program are determined by statute, federal regulations, and OVW policies. If an applicant receives an award, the funded project is bound by this solicitation, the [DOJ Financial Guide](#), including updates to the financial guide after an award is made, the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#), and the conditions of the award.

Topics for Research and Evaluation

This year, OVW invites applications addressing one or more of the topics listed below.

1. **Evaluations of VAWA-funded interventions.** "VAWA-funded intervention" refers to any activity that is funded, or could potentially be funded, through OVW grant programs to address sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. OVW is especially interested in studying the effectiveness of interventions that cut across multiple grant programs and align with one or more of OVW's office-wide goals and priorities.

2. **Evaluations of trainings, strategies, policies, practices, tools, and other means of fostering trauma-informed law enforcement and prosecutorial responses to sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, and stalking.** Applications for research under this topic must address how the Department of Justice's 2022 guidance, [Improving Law Enforcement Response to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence by Identifying and Preventing Gender Bias](#), ties to the proposed research.
3. **Restorative practices.** Applicants may propose to study restorative practices related to domestic violence, dating violence, and/or sexual assault. Note that OVW will issue a separate funding announcement to invite applications to evaluate the Restorative Practices Pilot Program, whose parameters are outlined in the 2022 reauthorization of VAWA (i.e., 34 U.S.C. 12514).
4. **Research and evaluation on LGBT-specific services, outreach, training, education, and prevention.** Applicants may propose to study services and programs designed by and for members of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and/or transgender (LGBT) communities, for the purposes of understanding if, how, and why an intervention: a) meets the needs of LGBT victims; b) is effective at educating people about and preventing gender-based violence¹ against LGBT people; and/or c) better equips professionals to respond to LGBT victims of gender-based violence.
5. **Research and evaluation on ways of ensuring language access in responses to gender-based violence.** Applicants may propose to examine policies, practices, strategies, tools, technologies, etc. used to ensure that victims of gender-based violence have meaningful language access to services and supports and can fully participate in justice proceedings. Applications for research under this topic may propose to evaluate the development and implementation of strategies of enhancing language access, and the impact of those strategies on meaningful access to services, supports, and justice.
6. **Evaluation of training curricula, tools, and other technical assistance (TA) resources developed and implemented with OVW grant funds.** Note: TA providers can be practitioner partners on R&E applications under this topic but should not apply to lead an evaluation of their own TA/training. For example, a TA provider may be a project partner of another organization that applies to evaluate a model the TA provider created.
7. **Evaluations of emerging innovations for serving victims of gender-based violence and holding offenders accountable**, such as:
 - a. Flexible financial assistance or other ways of mitigating survivors' financial insecurity resulting from victimization and/or offsetting costs related to their safety, stability, and healing.
 - b. Strategies for serving justice-involved, incarcerated, and/or formerly incarcerated survivors.

¹ In this solicitation, "gender-based violence" refers to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and other forms of interconnected violence.

- c. Means of supporting survivors' recovery that cover a wide range of healing interventions, including but not limited to: somatic interventions, art therapy, writing workshops, yoga, massage, animal-assisted interventions, self-defense/martial arts classes, community engagement, and ways of healing that are rooted in cultural traditions.
 - d. Connecting community violence intervention (CVI) strategies that address gang and gun violence with efforts to prevent and respond to gender-based violence. Research may also focus on the impact of gender-based violence on violence interrupters and credible messengers.
 - e. Approaches to addressing the safety, healing, and justice/legal needs of survivors from historically marginalized and underserved communities whose lives intersect with the child welfare system (including protective parents whose children are removed from them, youth in foster care, youth aging out of foster care, and pregnant and parenting youth).
 - f. Engaging culturally specific organizations, community-based organizations, youth-serving and youth-led organizations in prevention and response programming.
8. **Secondary data analyses related to domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking.** Applicants proposing studies under this topic may include multiple, distinct projects in one application.
9. **Research, evaluation, and data analysis related to domestic violence homicide prevention.** Applicants proposing projects under this area—which may fall under additional topics listed above—may address interventions designed to help prevent domestic violence homicides, as well as analyses of data related to domestic violence homicides and efforts to prevent them. OVW especially welcomes applications proposing qualitative data analysis that may shed light on homicide prevention efforts.

OVW Priority Areas

In FY 2024, OVW is interested in supporting the following four priority areas:

1. Advance equity and tribal sovereignty as essential components of ending sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking by improving outreach, services, civil and criminal justice responses, prevention, and support for survivors from historically marginalized and underserved communities, particularly those facing disproportionate rates or impacts of violence and multiple barriers to services, justice, and safety.
2. Increase access to justice for all survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, including through exploration of survivor-centered criminal justice system reform.

3. Strengthen efforts to prevent and end sexual assault, including victim services and civil and criminal justice responses.
4. Expand economic justice and financial advocacy for survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, including as a tool for violence prevention.

Activities that Compromise Victim Safety and Recovery or Undermine Offender Accountability

OVW does not fund activities that jeopardize victim safety, deter, or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims, or allow offenders to avoid responsibility for their actions. Applications that propose any such activities may receive a deduction in points during the review process or may be eliminated from consideration. OVW may support survivor-centered alternative pathways to justice and non-criminal approaches to accountability that fall within the statutory scope of this program and do not compromise victim safety. Information on activities that compromise victim safety and recovery or undermine offender accountability may be found in the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#).

Out-of-Scope Activities

The activities listed below are out of the program scope and will not be funded under this program. See also the list of unallowable costs in the [Funding Restrictions](#) section of this solicitation.

- Proposals to conduct needs assessment activities exclusively for the purpose of program improvement. (Refer to the OVW research decision tree in the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#).)
- Proposals primarily to purchase equipment, materials, or supplies. (A budget may include these items if they are necessary to conduct the proposed study.)
- Proposals that are not responsive to this specific solicitation.
- Implementation of an intervention unrelated to the scope of the proposed research project.
- Training in support of programs or direct services unrelated to or, unassociated with, the proposed research project.

Applications that propose activities deemed to be substantially out-of-scope may be eliminated from consideration.

Areas of Study

OVW is interested in funding research and evaluation on the topics above that will contribute to knowledge in the six areas of study listed below.

1. **Justice:** Ways the justice system can effectively pursue and achieve justice in cases involving gender-based violence, with justice broadly understood to include autonomy and safety for victims, accountability for offenders, procedural fairness for all, and restorative ways of healing.

2. **Victims' needs:** How victimization and its aftermath affect people's lives, and what victims need to cope, heal, and achieve safety, well-being, and justice.
3. **Cultures, disparities, and access:** Ways that cultural differences and social inequalities matter in terms of where and to whom people go for help, and whether survivors are able to access justice and get services that are useful to them.
4. **Impact:** Short- and long-term impact of the criminal and civil justice systems' responses, victim services, and other VAWA-funded interventions on victim safety and offender accountability.
5. **Indicators of success:** What success looks like and how to measure it—for victims pursuing safety, well-being, and justice; for offenders being held accountable for their violence; and for people who work with victims/survivors and offenders.
6. **Promoting desistance and reducing recidivism:** How to prevent people from continuing to use violence.

Federal Award Information

Availability of Funds

All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds as well as any modifications or additional requirements imposed by law. There is no guarantee that funds will be available in the future. Depending on availability of funding and an applicant's merit, OVW may elect to make awards for a future fiscal year if an application is not selected under this solicitation.

Type of Award

Awards will be made as grants.

Award Period and Amounts

Applicants can request award periods ranging from 12 months to 36 months, and maximum total project funding of \$500,000. The budget cap of \$500,000 includes direct and indirect costs.

Budgets, including the total estimated funding requested on the SF-424, must reflect the requested project duration (no more than 36 months). Generally, the award period will begin on November 1, 2024, but applicants may request a later start date. R&E awards typically are in the range of \$300,000 to \$500,000. OVW estimates that it will make approximately eight awards for an estimated total of \$3,880,000.

OVW has the discretion to make awards for greater or lesser amounts than requested and to negotiate the scope of work and budget with applicants before making an award or after an award is made but prior to access to funds.

Program Requirements

The sections below describe the requirements of the R&E Initiative, including the methodological principles to which grantees must adhere, expected products and deliverables, regulations regarding confidentiality and human subjects protection.

Methodological Principles

Any project funded under this solicitation must adhere to the methodological principles listed below. OVW will only support research methods that:

- Are well-matched to the purpose of the research and build on existing evidence;
- Uphold victim safety as the paramount objective, with the understanding that scientific progress is always subordinate to that objective;
- Are likely to yield findings that have practical utility for victim services providers and justice system professionals;
- Are developed collaboratively between researchers and practitioners;
- Place as minimal a burden as possible on crime victims, offenders, and systems;
- Operate from a cogent theoretical framework; and
- Have been approved by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) if they involve human subjects research.

OVW will not support research that:

- Prioritizes scientific rigor over practical value or ethics. Ethics being broadly defined and not limited to published standards;
- Is minimally useful to practitioners;
- Offers minimal cost benefit;
- Lacks a clear theoretical foundation; and/or
- Is designed to generate descriptive findings that emphasize vulnerabilities and neglect strengths of specific populations. (For example, a study that examines risk-taking behavior among members of a certain population, without testing any strategies for serving the target population and identifying protective factors, is not of value to OVW.)

Expected Products

OVW expects products to result from each award under this solicitation, taking the form of all of the following:

- One or more presentations made via webinar or conferences.
- One or more scholarly product(s) that are published or submitted for publication, meaning peer-reviewed, scientific journal articles, and/or (if appropriate) law review journal articles, conference papers, book chapter(s) or book(s) in the academic press.
- One or more, 1 to 2-page research brief(s) written in plain language and intended for practitioners and/or the general public. The brief should include a summary of the study, goals and objectives, research questions, methods, results, key findings, and limitations.

- Final Research Report. Recipients of an award under this solicitation will be expected to submit a final research report. The final report should be written in a way that makes the content accessible to a broad audience which includes practitioners, policymakers, and other researchers. Award recipients should expect that all or part of the final report will be made available to the public.

Confidentiality and Human Subjects Protection

Any recipient of an award under this solicitation will be required to comply with DOJ regulations on confidentiality and human subjects' protection. See Human Subjects and Privacy Protection, at: <https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/human-subjects-and-privacy-protection>. **Note:** Final IRB approval is not required at the time an application is submitted.

Eligibility Information

Eligible Applicants

The following entities are eligible to apply for R&E Initiative funding:

- Nonprofits, including culturally specific and population specific organizations, with 501 (c)(3) status with the IRS
- Nonprofits, including culturally specific and population specific organizations, without 501(c)(3) status with the IRS
- Private institutions of higher education
- Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education
- City or township governments
- County governments
- State governments
- Tribal governments (federally recognized)
- Tribal organizations (other than federally recognized tribal governments)

Foreign governments, foreign organizations, and foreign institutions of higher education are not eligible to apply.

OVC welcomes applications that involve two or more entities; however, one eligible entity must be the applicant and the other(s) must be proposed as the subrecipient(s). The applicant must be the entity with primary responsibility for conducting and leading the research. If funded, the applicant will be responsible for monitoring and appropriately managing any subrecipients or, as applicable, for administering any procurement subcontracts that would receive federal program funds from the applicant under the award.

Faith-Based and Community Organizations

Faith-Based and community organizations, including culturally specific organizations, tribal organizations, and population-specific organizations, that meet the eligibility requirements are eligible to receive awards under this solicitation (see [Civil Rights Office | Partnerships with Faith-Based and Other Neighborhood Organizations | Office of Justice Programs](#) (ojp.gov) for more information).

Ineligible Entities and Disqualifying Factors

Applications submitted by ineligible entities or that do not meet all program eligibility requirements will not be considered for funding. In addition, an application deemed deficient in one or more of the following categories may not be considered for funding: 1. activities that compromise victim safety, 2. out-of-scope activities, 3. unallowable costs, 4. pre-award risk assessment, 5. completeness of application contents, and 6. timeliness. Failure to comply fully with all applicable unique entity identifier and SAM requirements (see Application and Submission section for more information on these requirements) will result in removal from consideration.

An applicant with past performance issues, long-standing open audits, or an open criminal investigation also may not be considered for funding.

Note: Any nonprofit organization that holds money in offshore accounts for the purpose of avoiding paying the tax described in section 511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code is not eligible for a grant from this program. See 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(15)(B)(ii).

Cost Sharing or Matching

The R&E Initiative has no matching or cost-sharing requirement.

Other Program Eligibility Requirements

The R&E Initiative has no additional eligibility requirements.

Number of Applications

An applicant may submit more than one application, as long as each application proposes a different project in response to the solicitation. (If an applicant submits multiple versions of the same application, OVW will review only the most recent system- validated version submitted.) Subrecipients may be part of multiple proposals.

Application and Submission Information

Address to Request Application Package

The complete application package (this solicitation, including links to required forms) is available on Grants.gov and on the [OVW website](#). Applicants wishing to request a paper copy of these materials should contact OVW at (202) 802-7306 or email OVW.Research@usdoj.gov.

Pre-Application Information Session

OVW will conduct an optional, web-based pre-application information session. During the live session, OVW staff will review this program's requirements, review the solicitation, and allow for a brief question and answer period. Please do not wait until the pre-application information session to ask questions if you have them, and please send questions as they arise after the sessions. Any questions you have outside of the pre-application information session can be directed to OVW.Research@usdoj.gov or (202) 802-7306.

The live session is tentatively scheduled for:

- February 21, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. ET.

[Register here](#) for the live session. Registration must be received at least one day prior to the start of the session. Participants are not registered until they receive a confirmation email. The webinar will be captioned in English and Spanish. Applicants needing additional language assistance should contact this program at OVW.Research@usdoj.gov as soon as possible.

Participation in a pre-application information session is optional and not a requirement to be eligible to apply and the recording will be available on the [OVW website](#).

Content and Form of Application Submission

The information below (**Letter of Intent** through **How to Apply**) describes the full content and form of application submission.

Letter of Intent

Potential applicants are encouraged to submit a letter of intent by March 1, 2024. The letter should state that the applicant is registered and current with SAM and with Grants.gov. The letter should be sent to OVW.Research@usdoj.gov. This letter does not obligate the applicant to submit an application. See the OVW website for a sample [Letter of Intent](#).

Formatting and Technical Requirements

Applications must follow the requirements below for all documents attached to the application, unless otherwise noted. Points may be deducted for applications that do not adhere to the following requirements:

1. Double-spaced (charts may be single-spaced)
2. 8½ x 11-inch pages
3. One-inch margins
4. Arial font, type no smaller than 11-point, except for footnotes, which may be 9-point.
5. Page numbers
6. No more than 30 pages for the Proposal Narrative
7. Documents in the following formats: Microsoft Word (.doc), PDF files (.pdf), or Text Documents (.txt)
8. Headings and sub-headings that correspond to the sections identified in this section of the solicitation.

Application Contents

Applications must be responsive to the scope and criteria of this solicitation and must include the documents listed below. For a checklist, see the [Application Checklist](#) in the Other Information section of this solicitation.

Applications that do not include items 1 through 4 can be considered substantially incomplete and may not be considered for funding:

1. Proposal Abstract
2. Proposal Narrative
3. Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative
4. Appendices (While an application missing any of the required appendices will not automatically be removed from consideration, OVW has the discretion to deem an application unresponsive if it is missing significant required items.)

Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

Applicants must complete the SF-424 in Grants.gov as part of **Step 1 of the application submission process**. The SF-424 is generated when the applicant begins the submission process in Grants.gov. For Type of Applicant (box 9), do not select “Other”. The amount of federal funding requested in the “Estimated Funding” section of this form (box 18a) should match the amount of federal funding requested in the budget of the application. This program does not require a match; therefore, the value for the Applicant line (box 18b) should be zero. The individual who is listed as “**Authorized Representative**” (box 21) must have the authority to apply for and accept grant awards on behalf of the organization or jurisdiction.

Intergovernmental Review (SF-424 Question 19): This solicitation (“funding opportunity”) **is not** subject to Intergovernmental Review under Executive Order (E.O.) 12372. In completing the SF-424, an applicant is to answer question 19 by selecting the following response: “Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.”

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)

All applicants must complete and submit the *Disclosure of Lobbying Activities* (SF-LLL) form in Grants.gov as part of **Step 1 of the application submission process**. Applicants that expend any funds for lobbying activities must provide the information requested on the SF-LLL.

Applicants that do not expend any funds for lobbying activities should enter “N/A” in the required highlighted fields.

Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)

This section in the JustGrants application is pre-populated with the SF-424 data submitted in Grants.gov. Applicants begin **Step 2 of the application submission process** by reviewing the Standard Applicant Information in JustGrants, making edits as needed, confirming the Authorized Representative, verifying the legal name and address, and entering the ZIP code(s) for the areas affected by the project.

Proposal Abstract

The Proposal Abstract (no more than 400 words) should summarize the proposed project in plain language, including the project title, purpose of the project, goals and intended outcomes, primary activities, intended beneficiaries, and subrecipient involvement (if known). The abstract is an important part of the application and serves as an introduction to the proposed project. OVW uses the abstract for a number of purposes, including assignment of the application to an appropriate review panel. If the application is funded, the abstract typically will become public information and may be used to describe the project. The abstract, which is to be entered into a

text box in JustGrants, will not be scored but is used throughout the review process. The abstract does not count against the page limit for the Proposal Narrative.

Data Requested with Application

Applicants must complete three questionnaires in JustGrants: the Pre-Award Risk Assessment, the Applicant Entity Questionnaire, and the Research and Evaluation Summary Data Sheet. These questionnaires are not scored. Applicants should click on the questionnaire name in JustGrants to access and complete each questionnaire. Although the questionnaires must be completed in JustGrants, the questions can be viewed in Appendices B, C, and D of this solicitation.

Proposal Narrative

The Proposal Narrative must not exceed 30 double-spaced pages in 11-point, Arial font with one-inch margins. It should have a title page (listing the project title, submission date, name and contact information for the applicant's Authorized Representative and Principal Investigator, and any co-Principal Investigators), as well as a table of contents and figures.

If included in the main body of the Proposal Narrative rather than in the appendices, the tables, charts, figures, and other illustrations will count toward the 30-page limit for the narrative section. The title page, abstract, appendices (including appended tables, charts, and figures), and government forms do not count toward the 30-page limit. Applicants must upload the Proposal Narrative as an attachment in JustGrants.

Following the title page and table of contents and figures, the Proposal Narrative must include the five sections listed below:

1. Statement of the problem, weighted at 10%, must include:
 - The topic the proposed project will address.
 - The need for research in this area.
 - Purpose, goals, and objectives of the proposed project.
 - A review of relevant literature.
 - A statement as to how the study is expected to contribute to one or more of the six [Areas of Study](#).

2. Project design and implementation, weighted at 50%, must include:
 - An explanation of the theoretical foundation on which the proposed study is based. A description of a sound research design and appropriate analytic methods, including research questions, hypotheses, description of sample,² and analysis plan, all of which must align with the [Methodological Principles](#) in the Program Requirements section of this solicitation.
 - A discussion of potential pitfalls of the proposed project design and how the applicant will minimize and/or mitigate them.
 - An explanation of how people with direct experience with the issues being studied, and connection to the communities being studied, are involved in project design and implementation (other than as study participants).

² If the applicant is proposing an experimental or quasi-experimental design, a power analysis must be included.

3. Potential impact, weighted at 15%, must include:
 - Implications for practice and policy in victim services and the justice system's response to gender-based violence.
4. Capabilities and competencies, weighted at 20%, must include:
 - Description of the applicant's qualifications and the qualifications of key staff and partners.
 - An approach and a management plan that reflect a strong researcher-practitioner partnership.
5. Dissemination plan, weighted at 5%, must include:
 - A brief description of a plan to produce expected products and make findings available to broader audiences, including practitioners, through written materials and interactive formats, such as conferences or webinars.

Budget and Associated Documentation

Applicants must submit a detailed budget and budget narrative and must upload the applicable associated documentation as described below, under each heading. OVW strongly encourages using a spreadsheet (e.g., Excel, Numbers, etc.) for the budget attachments. The budget worksheet and budget narrative are not scored but are required for an application to be sent to peer review. A failure to submit associated documentation may result in removal from consideration or a delay in access to funding.

Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (attachment)

Applicants must upload in JustGrants a detailed budget and budget narrative for all applicable cost categories. 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. See the Budget Information and Sample Budget Narrative in [Appendix A](#) and the [Creating a Budget](#) webinar on the OVW website. Keep in mind that budgetary requirements vary among programs. Budgets should be reasonable and based on the resources needed to implement their projects in their specific geographic location.

Award Period and Amounts

Applicants can request award periods ranging from 12 months to 36 months, and maximum total project funding of \$500,000. The budget cap of \$500,000 includes direct and indirect costs.

The budget must:

1. Present a clear link between the specific project activities and the proposed budget items. The budget should not contain items that are not supported by the proposal narrative.

2. Compensate all project partners (including study participants, consultants, and members of advisory groups that inform and guide the project) for their full level of effort, unless otherwise stated in a memorandum of understanding or letter of support. For more information on compensating project partners, see the Budget Information and Sample Budget Narrative in [Appendix A](#).
 - Applicants are strongly encouraged to include stipends for research participants in their budgets unless there is a compelling reason provided for not compensating participants. Refer to information on Participant Support Costs in the [DOJ Financial Guide](#) for information on providing research participant stipends to cover the cost of participants' time, transportation, gas, and other incidentals (excluding food and beverages). A stipend, which can be in the form of cash, is not a salary, honorarium, incentive, or fee.
3. Include sufficient funds to provide language access or describe other resources available to the applicant to ensure meaningful access for persons with limited English proficiency. See Accessibility under the [Federal Award Administration Information](#) section of this solicitation for more information.
4. Include sufficient funds to provide access for people with disabilities or who are Deaf/hard of hearing or describe other resources available to the applicant to ensure meaningful access for such people. See Accessibility under the [Federal Award Administration Information](#) section of this solicitation for more information.
5. Distinguish clearly between subawards and contracts in allocating any grant funds to other entities. Pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.331, a subaward is for the purpose of carrying out a portion of the federal award, such as compensating an MOU partner; a contract is for the purpose of obtaining goods and services for the grantee's own use. The substance of the relationship is more important than the form of the agreement in determining whether the recipient of the pass-through funds is a subrecipient or a contractor. The awarding and monitoring of contracts must follow the recipient's documented procurement procedures, including full and open competition, pursuant to the procurement standards and monitoring requirements in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317-200.327 & 200.329. The issuance and monitoring of subawards must meet the requirements of 2 C.F.R. § 200.332, which includes oversight of subrecipient/partner spending and monitoring performance measures and outcomes attributable to grant funds. For more information, see the Budget Information and Sample Budget Narrative in [Appendix A](#) and the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#) on the OVW website.

OVW awards are governed by the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200 and the [DOJ Financial Guide](#), which include information on allowable costs, methods of payment, audit requirements, accounting systems, and financial records. For additional information on allowable and unallowable costs, see the Funding Restrictions section below and the Budget Information and Sample Budget Narrative in [Appendix A](#).

Funding Restrictions

The following information is provided to help applicants develop an application and budget consistent with program requirements for the R&E Initiative.

Unallowable Costs

The costs associated with the activities listed below are unallowable and must not be included in applicants' budgets:

1. Lobbying
2. Fundraising
3. Purchase of real property
4. Physical modifications to buildings, including minor renovations (such as painting or carpeting)
5. Construction

Food and Beverage/Costs for Refreshments and Meals

Recipients **must** receive prior approval before using grant funds to provide a working meal and/or refreshments at a meeting, conference, training, or other event. Food and beverages are generally considered personal expenses for which government funds should not be used. Exceptions may be made for working meals that are necessary to accomplish official business and enhance the cost effectiveness of the meeting or conference. Examples include, but are not limited to:

1. The location of the event is not in close proximity to food establishments, despite efforts to secure a location near reasonably priced and accessible commercial food establishments.
2. Failure to serve food will significantly lengthen the day or necessitate extending the meeting to achieve meeting outcomes.
3. A special presentation at a conference requires a plenary address where there is no other time for food to be obtained.
4. Other extenuating circumstances necessitate the provision of food.

Justification for an exception listed above must be included in the applicant's budget narrative, including relevant details about the applicant's community, such as a rural or remote location. For additional information on restrictions on food and beverage expenditures, see [OVW conference cost planning](#).

Conference Planning and Expenditure Limitations

Applicants' budgets must be consistent with all requirements (including specific cost limits and prior approval and reporting requirements, where applicable) governing the use of federal funds for expenses related to conferences (which is defined to include meetings, retreats, seminars, symposiums, training, and other similar events), and costs of attendance at such events. Information on conference planning, minimization of costs, and conference reporting is available at [OVW conference cost planning](#).

Pre-Award Costs

OVW generally does not allow pre-award costs. Costs incurred prior to the start date of the award may not be charged to the project unless the recipient receives prior approval from OVW. See the [DOJ Financial Guide](#) for more information on pre-award costs.

Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

Applicants that intend to charge indirect costs through the use of a negotiated indirect cost rate must have a current, signed, federally approved indirect cost rate agreement, and must upload and attach a copy of the agreement to their application in JustGrants. Applicants that do not have a current negotiated (including provisional) indirect cost rate, except for those non-federal entities described in [Appendix VII to Part 200 paragraph \(d\)\(1\)\(B\)](#), may elect to charge a de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct costs (MTDC).

Organizations that wish to negotiate an indirect cost rate should contact OVW's Grants Financial Management Division at OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov or 1-888-514-8556 for more information.

Applicant Financial Capability Questionnaire (if applicable)

All nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations that apply for funding from OVW and have not previously (or within the last three years) received funding from OVW must complete an [Applicant Financial Capability Questionnaire](#) and attach it to their application in JustGrants. In addition, applicants may be required to submit their current year's audit report at a later time.

Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation (if applicable)

An applicant that is a nonprofit organization may be required to make certain disclosures relating to the processes it uses to determine the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees, and key employees. If so, the applicant must upload and attach a document with these disclosures to its application in JustGrants.

Under certain circumstances, a nonprofit organization that provides unreasonably high compensation to certain persons may subject both the organization's managers and those who receive the compensation to additional federal taxes. A rebuttable presumption of the reasonableness of a nonprofit organization's compensation arrangements, however, may be available if the nonprofit organization satisfies certain rules set out in Internal Revenue Service regulations with regard to its compensation decisions.

Each applicant must state at the time of its application (in the Data Requested with Application section) whether the applicant is a nonprofit organization that uses the Internal Revenue Service's three-step safe-harbor procedure to establish a rebuttable presumption that its executives' compensation is reasonable. If the applicant states that it uses the safe-harbor procedure, then it must disclose, in an attachment to its application (to be titled "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation"), the process it uses to determine the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees, and key employees (together, "covered persons"). See 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(15)(B)(iii).

At a minimum, the disclosure must describe in pertinent detail: (1) the composition of the body that reviews and approves compensation arrangements for covered persons; (2) the

methods and practices used by the applicant nonprofit organization to ensure that no individual with a conflict of interest participates as a member of the body that reviews and approves a compensation arrangement for a covered person; (3) the appropriate data as to comparability of compensation that is obtained in advance and relied upon by the body that reviews and approves compensation arrangements for covered persons; and (4) the written or electronic records that the applicant maintains as concurrent documentation of the decisions with respect to compensation of covered persons made by the body that reviews and approves such compensation arrangements, including records of deliberations and of the basis for decisions. For a sample [Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation](#) letter, see the OVW website.

For purposes of the required disclosure, the following terms and phrases have the meanings set out by the Internal Revenue Service for use in connection with 26 C.F.R. § 53.4958-6: officers, directors, trustees, key employees, compensation, conflict of interest, appropriate data as to comparability, adequate documentation, and concurrent documentation.

Following receipt of an appropriate request, OVW may be authorized or required by law to make information submitted to satisfy this requirement available for public inspection. Also, a recipient may be required to make a prompt supplemental disclosure after the award in certain circumstances (e.g., if the recipient changes in the way it determines compensation).

Required Appendices

Listed below are appendices that applicants are required to submit with their applications. If an applicant determines that a particular appendix is not relevant to their application, they can attach a file with a statement to that effect. Appendices do not count against the page limit for the Proposal Narrative. Appendices can be submitted as separate attachments or in consolidated files in Just Grants.

Appendices 1-7

1. **Bibliography/references.**
2. **Tools/instruments, questionnaires, tables/charts/graphs, or maps** pertaining to the proposed project that are supplemental to such items included in the main body of the narrative.
3. **Curriculum vitae or resumes** of the Principal Investigator(s) and key project partners.
4. **Letters of commitment** from organizations or agencies serving as partner entities and/or collaborating on the project, such as victim services organizations, law enforcement agencies, prosecutors' offices, etc. Letters of commitment must be dated and signed by the partnering entity's Authorized Representative. Budget note regarding partner entities: In general, partners that will be receiving funds to carry out a portion of the award should be treated as subrecipients in the proposed budget, not contractors. For more information see 2 C.F.R. § 200.331 and the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#).
5. **Documentation of Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity.** In order to receive funds, the applicant must demonstrate research/evaluation independence, including

appropriate safeguards to ensure research/evaluation objectivity and integrity, both in this proposal and as it may relate to the applicant's other current or prior related projects. This documentation may be included as an attachment to the application that addresses both i. and ii. below.

i. For purposes of this solicitation, applicants must document research and evaluation independence and integrity by including, at a minimum, one of the following two items:
a) A specific assurance that the applicant has reviewed its proposal to identify any research integrity issues (including all principal investigators and subrecipients) and it has concluded that the design, conduct, or reporting of research and evaluation funded by OVW grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts will not be biased by any personal or financial conflict of interest on the part of part of its staff, consultants, and/or subrecipients responsible for the research and evaluation or on the part of the applicant organization.

OR

b) A specific listing of actual or apparent conflicts of interest that the applicant has identified in relation to this proposal. These conflicts could be either personal (related to specific staff, consultants, and/or subrecipients) or organizational (related to the applicant or any subgrantee organization). Examples of potential investigator (or other personal) conflict situations may include, but are not limited to, those in which an investigator would be in a position to evaluate a spouse's work product (actual conflict), or an investigator would be in a position to evaluate the work of a former or current colleague (potential apparent conflict). With regard to potential organizational conflicts of interest, as one example, generally an organization could not be given a grant to evaluate a project if that organization provided substantial prior technical assistance to that specific project or an entity implementing the project (whether funded by OVW or other sources), as the organization in such an instance would appear to be evaluating the effectiveness of its own prior work. The key is whether a reasonable person understanding all of the facts would be able to have confidence that the results of any research or evaluation project are objective and reliable. Any outside personal or financial interest that casts doubt on the objectivity and reliability of an evaluation or research product is a problem and must be disclosed.

ii. In addition applicants must address mitigation of possible research integrity concerns by including, at a minimum, one of the following two items:

a) if an applicant reasonably believes that no potential personal or organizational conflicts of interest exist, then the applicant must provide a brief narrative explanation of how and why it reached that conclusion. Applicants must also include an explanation of the specific procedures that the applicant will put in place to identify and eliminate (or, at the very least, mitigate) potential personal or financial conflicts of interest on the part of its staff, consultants, and/or subrecipients for this particular project, should that be necessary during the grant period. Documentation that may be helpful in this regard includes organizational codes of ethics/conduct or policies regarding organizational, personal, and financial conflicts of interest.

OR

b) If the applicant has identified specific personal or organizational conflicts of interest in its proposal during this review, the applicant must propose a specific and robust mitigation plan to address conflicts noted above. At a minimum, the plan must include specific processes and procedures that the applicant will put in place to eliminate (or mitigate) potential personal or financial conflicts of interest on the part of its staff, consultants, and/or subrecipients for this particular project, should that be necessary during the grant period. Documentation that may be helpful in this regard could include organizational codes of ethics/conduct or policies regarding organizational, personal, and financial conflicts of interest. There is no guarantee that the plan will be accepted as proposed.

Considerations in assessing research and evaluation independence and integrity include but are not limited to: the adequacy of the applicant's efforts to identify factors that could affect the objectivity or integrity of the proposed staff and/or the organization in carrying out the research; and the adequacy of the applicant's existing or proposed remedies to control any such factors.

6. Applicant disclosure of pending applications. Applicants must disclose whether they have pending applications for federally funded grants or subgrants that include requests for funding to support the same project being proposed under this solicitation and will cover identical cost items outlined in the budget narrative and worksheet in the application submitted under this solicitation. The disclosure must include both direct applications for federal funding (i.e., applications to federal agencies) and indirect applications for such funding (e.g., applications to state agencies that will subaward federal funds).

OVW seeks this information to help avoid any inappropriate duplication of funding. Leveraging multiple funding sources in a complementary manner to implement comprehensive programs or projects is encouraged and is not seen as inappropriate duplication. Applicants that have pending applications as described above are to provide the following information about pending applications submitted within the last 12 months: the federal or state funding agency, the solicitation name/project name, and the point of contact information at the applicable funding agency.

Applicants must include this information as a separate attachment, in a table format, with the file name "Disclosure of Pending Applications," to their application. Applicants that do not have pending applications as described above are to include a statement to this effect in the separate attachment page (e.g., "[Applicant Name on SF-424] does not have pending applications submitted within the last 12 months for federally funded grants or subgrants that include requests for funding to support the same project being proposed under this solicitation and will cover the identical cost items outlined in the budget narrative and worksheet in the application submitted under this solicitation.").

7. Data archiving plan. OVW will require through special award conditions that data sets, resulting in whole or in part from projects funded under this solicitation, be prepared for archiving. Applications must include as an appendix a brief plan – labeled "Data Archiving Plan" – consistent with the instructions found here: <https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/data-archiving#data-archiving-plan>. Data sets are to be submitted 90 days before the end of the project period unless the recipient receives different instructions from OVW. Please note that OVW will consider requests for exemptions from data archiving requirements post-award.

Appendices 8-9: Human Subjects Paperwork and Privacy Certificate

8. **Human Subjects Protection paperwork.** Documentation and forms related to Institutional Review Board (IRB) review. See <https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/human-subjects-and-privacy-protection>, and note that final IRB approval is not required at the time an application is submitted.

9. **Privacy Certificate.** For further information and a model privacy certificate, see <https://nij.ojp.gov/funding/confidentiality-and-privacy-protections> and https://nij.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh171/files/media/document/NIJ_pccr_fillable.pdf.

Appendix 10: Project Staff, Affiliation, and Roles Form

10. **Proposed Project Staff, Affiliation, and Roles Form**, for the purposes of avoiding any conflicts of interest during the peer review process. Provide a list (to the extent known) of all proposed project staff members, including those affiliated with the applicant organization or any proposed subrecipient organization(s), any proposed consultant(s), and contractors (whether individuals or organizations), and any proposed members of an advisory board for the project (if applicable). The list must include, for each individual and organization: name, title (if applicable), employer or other organizational affiliation, and roles and responsibilities proposed for the project. Applicants should use the Proposed Project Staff, Affiliation, and Roles form available at <https://nij.ojp.gov/media/document/16911> to provide this listing.

Additional Application Components

The following components will not be scored but must be included with the application. Failure to do so will result in the application being removed from consideration. Some components will be generated during the application submission process while others will be uploaded and attached to the application in JustGrants.

Letter of Nonsupplanting

Applicants must attach a letter to OVW's Director, signed by the Authorized Representative, certifying that federal funds will not be used to supplant non-federal funds should a grant award be made. A sample [Letter of Nonsupplanting](#) is available on the OVW website.

Confidentiality Notice Form

All applicants are required to acknowledge that they have received notice that grantees and subgrantees must comply with the confidentiality and privacy requirements of VAWA, as amended. Applicants must upload and attach, under Additional Attachments in JustGrants, the completed acknowledgement form available on the [OVW website](#). This form must be signed by the Authorized Representative.

Summary of Other Federal Funding

Applicants must disclose whether they have any of the following: 1) an OVW grant or cooperative agreement that is open or that closed within 12 months of the date this solicitation closes; 2) a subaward under an OVW grant or cooperative agreement that is open or that closed within 12 months of the date this solicitation closes; 3) a pending OVW application as

either the lead applicant/potential recipient or as a partner/potential subrecipient; 4) a federal award to do the same or similar work; or 5) a pending federal application to do the same or similar work.

Applicants will provide this information by completing the Summary of Other Federal Funding form in the Disclosures and Assurances section of JustGrants during the application submission process.

Disclosures and Assurances

All applicants must review, complete, and submit all disclosures, assurances, and certifications as described below.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Applicants must complete and submit the *Disclosure of Lobbying Activities* (SF-LLL) form in Grants.gov before beginning the application process in JustGrants.

DOJ Certified Standard Assurances

Applicants must read and acknowledge the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants.

DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Applicants must read and acknowledge these DOJ certifications in JustGrants.

Prior to Application Submission

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and System for Award Management (SAM)

Entities applying for the first time must register with the following systems:

- SAM.gov: Registration with [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) includes receiving a UEI and takes an average of **2 to 3 weeks**.
- Grants.gov: Registration with [Grants.gov](https://grants.gov) takes an average of **1 week**.
- JustGrants: Registration with JustGrants needs to be completed **ONLY** after successful submission of Step 1 of the application as described below under [How to Apply](#).

Note: Registration time frames are estimates. Applicants experiencing registration challenges should refer to the *OVW Policy for Applicants Experiencing Technical Difficulties During the Registration and Submission Processes* section below for guidance on how to proceed.

Entities that have previously applied for funding from DOJ must ensure their accounts with SAM, Grants.gov, and JustGrants are active and up to date.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that they are registered with SAM, Grants.gov, and JustGrants. OVW strongly encourages all applicants to begin the registration process or ensure that all accounts are active and up to date, by **March 19, 2024. Failure to do so may result in missing the application deadline and therefore not being considered for funding.**

Applicants experiencing technical difficulties with SAM should go to

https://www.fsd.gov/qsafsd_sp.

Applicants experiencing technical difficulties with Grants.gov should contact

support@grants.gov.

Applicants experiencing technical difficulties with JustGrants should contact

OVW.JustGrantsSupport@usdoj.gov.

How to Apply

Submission Dates and Times

All applications must be submitted electronically first in Grants.gov (SF-424 and SF-LLL) and then in JustGrants. **Applicants must make every effort to submit their application in Grants.gov and JustGrants. Note: The Grants.gov deadline is 11:59 pm ET on April 9, 2024, and the JustGrants application deadline is 8:59 pm ET on April 11, 2024.** Applicants experiencing technical difficulties during the application submission process should refer to the *OVW Policy for Applicants Experiencing Technical Difficulties During the Registration and Submission Processes* below for guidance on how to proceed.

OVW strongly encourages all applicants to begin the application submission process at least 48 hours prior to the Grants.gov application deadline. Failure to do so may result in missing the application deadline and therefore not being considered for funding.

OVW will not accept applications after the JustGrants deadline, except for severe inclement weather or natural or man-made disaster. See the *OVW Policy on Late Submission Request Due to Severe Inclement Weather or Natural or Man-Made Disaster* below.

Submission Information and Other Submission Requirements

Applications must be submitted to OVW through a two-step process that begins in Grants.gov and is completed in JustGrants:

Step 1: The applicant must submit by the Grants.gov deadline (provided above) the required Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF-424) and the Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form (SF-LLL) in Grants.gov. To view the forms prior to completing them in Grants.gov, applicants can go to the Package tab under the funding opportunity that they're applying for and select Preview. The Preview then provides links to the forms.

Step 2: The applicant must then submit the full application, including attachments, in JustGrants at <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/> by the JustGrants application deadline (provided above). OVW encourages applicants to review the [JustGrants](#) website for more information, resources, and training.

Tip: JustGrants functions better using a PC with Chrome or Edge web browser.

OVW Policy for Applicants Experiencing Technical Difficulties During the Registration and Submission Processes

Technical difficulties are issues that are beyond the applicant's control. OVW can confirm when each registration and/or submission action began.

Technical difficulties with SAM or Grants.gov

1. Contact SAM or Grants.gov support as soon as the applicant is aware of a problem.
2. Maintain documentation of when the issue began and all communication with technical support.
3. Before the Grants.gov deadline, notify OVW, via email at OVW.Research@usdoj.gov stating the applicant is experiencing technical difficulties with SAM or Grants.gov. The applicant should provide regular updates to this same email.
4. If the technical difficulty cannot be resolved before the Grants.gov deadline, the applicant must notify OVW via email at OVW.Research@usdoj.gov before the Grants.gov deadline.
5. Once the Grants.gov deadline passes an applicant will not be able to apply in JustGrants. Therefore, the applicant **must** email the complete application (SF-LLL, SF-424, Proposal Abstract, Proposal Narrative, Budget and Budget Narrative, all appendices) and all documentation confirming the technical difficulty to OVW at OVW.Research@usdoj.gov by **8:59 p.m. E.T. on April 11, 2024**.

Technical difficulties while applying in JustGrants

1. Contact OVW JustGrants Support at OVW.JustGrantsSupport@usdoj.gov or 866-655-4482 as soon as the applicant is aware of a problem. OVW JustGrants Support is a separate Help Desk from OJP and COPS and is dedicated to OVW applicants.
2. Maintain documentation of all communication with OVW JustGrants Support.
3. Actively work with OVW JustGrants Support to resolve the technical difficulty.
4. Contact OVW, via email at OVW.Research@usdoj.gov prior to the JustGrants deadline (**8:59 p.m. E.T. on April 11, 2024**). If an applicant must submit their application via email due to a technical difficulty, they must do so by the JustGrants application deadline, but **no earlier than 4 hours prior to the deadline**. The email must include the following:
 - A detailed description of the technical difficulty.
 - The contact information (name, telephone, and email) for the person making the request.
 - The applicant's UEI number.
 - JustGrants application numbers and User Support tracking numbers.
 - The complete application (SF-LLL, SF-424, Proposal Abstract, Proposal Narrative, Budget and Budget Narrative, and all appendices).

It is not guaranteed that applications submitted via email will be considered for funding, even if the email is received before the JustGrants application deadline. OVW will decide and notify applicants of the decision within 30 days of the JustGrants application deadline. Applicants may be asked to coordinate with OVW to submit their application in Grants.gov and JustGrants later.

OVW Policy on Late Submission Request Due to Severe Inclement Weather or Natural or Man-Made Disaster

Cases of severe inclement weather or natural or man-made disaster are the only circumstances under which OVW may accept applications after **8:59 pm ET on April 11, 2024**. The information below provides the process applicants must follow in such a circumstance.

1. Contact this program at OVW.Research@usdoj.gov as soon as the applicant is aware of severe weather or a natural or man-made disaster that may impede the submission of an application by the deadline. The email should include a detailed description of the weather event or natural or man-made disaster. A detailed description includes when the event occurred, or is likely to occur, the impacted area, and the specific impact on the applicant and/or partners' ability to submit the application by the deadline (e.g., without power for "x" days, office closed for "x" days). If the application is complete and ready for submission at the time the applicant notifies OVW, the application should be included with the email.
2. Applicants impacted by severe weather or a natural or man-made disaster occurring on or around the deadline must contact OVW within 48 hours after the deadline or as soon as communications are restored.

Note: OVW may not be able to accommodate all requests resulting from severe inclement weather or a natural or man-made disaster.

OVW will review the request for late submission and required documents and notify the applicant whether the request has been approved or denied within 30 days of the submitted request.

Application Review Information

Review Criteria

Applications will be scored based on the degree to which the application responds to each section and addresses each element in the section. Furthermore, applications will be scored based upon the quality of the response, capacity of the applicant and any partners, and the level of detail provided. Each element **must** be addressed in the section in which it is requested. Points may be deducted if the applicant does not include the information in the appropriate section regardless of if it is included elsewhere within the application. A technical merit score will be determined for each R&E application based on the scoring criteria below.

1. *Statement of the problem* – 10%
 - Statement of which topic the proposed project will address.
 - Compelling explanation for the need for the proposed research.
 - Demonstrated understanding of the problem(s).
 - Demonstrated awareness of the state of current research.
 - Explanation of the Area(s) of Study to which the proposed project is expected to contribute knowledge.

2. *Project design and implementation – 50%*
 - Soundness of methods and analytic and technical approach to addressing the stated aim(s) of the proposed project, including alignment with the Methodological Principles.
 - Feasibility of proposed project.
 - Awareness of potential pitfalls of proposed project design and feasibility of proposed actions to minimize and/or mitigate them.
 - Cogency of the theoretical basis for the proposed project.
 - Quality of the explanation of how people with direct experience with the issues being studied, and connection to the communities being studied, are involved in project design and implementation (other than as study participants).
3. *Potential impact – 15%*
 - Potential to yield valuable knowledge related to practice and policy in victim services and the justice system response to gender-based violence, such as: potential for significantly improved understanding of the stated problem.
 - Potential for an innovative solution to address the stated problem.
4. *Capabilities/competencies – 20%*
 - Qualifications and experience of proposed organizations (including partner organizations) and project staff, including any individual that will be significantly involved in the project.
 - Reflective of a strong researcher-practitioner partnership.
 - Demonstrated ability of the applicant organization to manage the effort.
 - Relationship between the capabilities/competencies of the proposed project staff (including the applicant organization) and the scope of the proposed project.
5. *Dissemination plan – 5%*
 - Described plans to produce at least one scholarly product as well as make research briefs and findings available to broader audiences, including practitioners and policymakers, through written material and/or interactive formats, such as conferences or webinars.

Budget and Budget Narrative

The budget and budget narrative will not be scored by peer reviewers but is referenced throughout the review process. Peer reviewers will consider and may comment on the following additional items in the context of technical merit:

- Total cost of the project relative to the perceived benefit (cost effectiveness).
- Appropriateness of the budget relative to the level of effort.
- Use of existing resources to conserve costs.
- Proposed budget alignment with proposed project activities.

Voluntary match or other cost sharing methods will not be considered in the evaluation of the application.

Review and Selection Process

Applications will be subject to a peer review and a programmatic review.

Peer Review

OVW will subject all eligible, complete, and timely applications to a [peer review process](#) that is based on the criteria outlined in this solicitation. OVW may use internal reviewers, external reviewers, or a combination of both. Following peer review and the assignment of a technical merit score to each application, a threshold is established and applications scoring at or above that threshold are discussed by a full peer review panel.

Programmatic Review

All applications that are considered for funding will be subject to a programmatic review. The programmatic review consists of assessing the application for alignment with the scope of the R&E Initiative, nexus to OVW priorities, activities that compromise victim safety, and, if applicable, past performance issues.

An application that is substantially out-of-scope, proposes a substantial number of activities that are unallowable, or proposes activities that pose a significant threat to victim safety, or a serious breach of confidentiality will not be considered for funding. **An applicant with considerable past performance issues may receive a deduction in points as listed above or be removed from consideration regardless of the application's peer review score.**

Past Performance Review

As a part of the programmatic review process described above, applicants with current or recently closed OVW awards under this program will be reviewed for past performance and risk based on the elements listed below.

1. Adherence to the grant program's statutory purposes and requirements.
2. Implementation of the project according to plan, without significant obstacles and/or challenges.
3. Implementation of the project within the original period of performance.
4. Drawdown of funds commensurate with the level of program activities completed.
5. Management of award such that applicant has had uninterrupted access to funds.
6. Attendance at/participation in all required OVW-sponsored training and technical assistance events.
7. Timely resolution of issues identified during programmatic monitoring.
8. Completion of close-out of prior awards within 120 days of the project end date.
9. Timely resolution of issues necessary to close out prior awards.
10. Timely resolution of issues identified during financial monitoring.
11. Timely response to OVW requests.
12. Development of deliverables that support the project goals and objectives and are of acceptable quality.
13. Implementation of the project as designed without unjustified modification.
14. Timely submission of federal financial reports (FFR).
15. Timely submission of performance reports.
16. Submission of complete and accurate performance reports.

17. Adherence to the terms and conditions of existing grant award(s) from OVW.

Prior to making an award, OVW is required to review and consider any information about applicants included in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM. Applicants may review and comment on information about themselves that another federal awarding agency has previously entered. OVW will consider the applicant's comments as well as other information available in SAM in making its judgment about the risk posed by making an award to the applicant as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.206.

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final award decisions will be made by the OVW Director, who also may consider factors including, but not limited to, reaching underserved populations, geographic diversity, OVW priorities, past performance, and available funding when making awards. All award decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

High-Risk Grantees

Based on DOJ's assessment of each grantee with regard to current or previous funding, unresolved audit issues, delinquent programmatic and fiscal reporting, and prior performance, a grantee may be designated "high-risk." Awards to high-risk grantees may carry special conditions such as increased monitoring and/or prohibitions on drawing down funds until certain requirements are met. High-risk grantees with substantial or persistent performance or compliance issues, long-standing open audits, or open criminal investigations may not be considered for funding.

Federal Award Administration Information

Federal Award Notices

Successful applicants will receive OVW award notifications electronically from JustGrants (not Grants.gov). Recipients will be required to log into JustGrants to review and accept the award. The Authorized Representative must acknowledge having read and understood all sections of the award instrument and submit the required declaration and certification to accept the award; these steps will be completed electronically in JustGrants.

Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements

Information for All Federal Award Recipients

Applicants selected for awards must agree to comply with additional legal, administrative, and national policy requirements. OVW strongly encourages applicants to review the information pertaining to these additional requirements prior to submitting an application. This information can be found in the section of the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#) entitled "Post-Award Requirements for All Federal Award Recipients."

[Terms and conditions](#) for OVW awards are available on the OVW website. These terms are subject to change prior to the issuance of the awards.

Violence Against Women Act Non-Discrimination Provision

The Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act prohibits OVW grantees from excluding, denying benefits to, or discriminating against any person on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability in any program or activity funded in whole or in part by OVW. Recipients may provide sex-segregated or sex-specific programming if doing so is necessary for the essential operation of a program, so long as the recipient provides comparable services to those who cannot be provided with the sex-segregated or sex-specific programming. Additional information on the civil rights obligations of OVW funding recipients can be found in the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#) under "Civil Rights Compliance."

Accessibility

Recipients of OVW funds must comply with applicable federal civil rights laws, which, among other things, prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability and national origin. Compliance with these laws includes taking reasonable steps to ensure that persons who are limited in their English proficiency have meaningful access to recipients' programs and activities. Recipients are also responsible for ensuring that their programs and activities are readily accessible to people with disabilities, including those with physical or cognitive disabilities, as well as people who are Deaf or hard of hearing. OVW encourages applicants to go beyond minimum compliance with these requirements and allot sufficient resources to ensure programs and activities are accessible. More information on these obligations is available in the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#) under "Civil Rights Compliance."

General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements

OVW grantees are required to submit semi-annual performance reports and quarterly Federal Financial Reports (SF-425). Recipients of R&E funding will be provided with guidance on using the Research Performance Progress Report for fulfilling the performance reporting requirement. Information can be found here: nij.ojp.gov/funding/research-performance-progress-report-guidelines-nij-awardees. Reports will be submitted electronically. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent. For more information on post award reporting requirements, including requirements for certain recipients to report information on civil, criminal, and administrative proceedings in SAM, see the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#) and the award condition on recipient integrity and performance matters available on the [OVW website](#).

Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, contact the following:

- Programmatic questions, contact this program at (202) 802-7306 or OVW.Research@usdoj.gov and reference this solicitation.
- Financial questions, contact 888-514-8556 or ovw.gfmd@usdoj.gov
- Technical questions:
 - Grants.gov Applicant Support at 800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov
 - OVW JustGrants Support at 1-866-655-4482 or OVW.JustGrantsSupport@usdoj.gov

Other Information

Public Reporting Burden - Paperwork Reduction Act Notice

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. OVW tries to create forms and instructions that are accurate, easily understood, and not unnecessarily burdensome. The estimated average time to complete and file this form is 30 hours. Comments regarding the accuracy of this estimate or suggestions for simplifying this form can be submitted to the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice, 145 N Street, NE, Washington, DC 20530.

Note: Any materials submitted as part of an application may be released pursuant to a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

Application Checklist

Applicants must submit a fully executed application to OVW, including all required supporting documentation. OVW will not contact applicants prior to peer review for missing items. If an applicant plans to submit an application under any other OVW grant program this fiscal year, it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that only documents pertinent to this solicitation are included with this application. OVW will not redirect documents that are inadvertently submitted with the wrong application (e.g., a Rural Program letter submitted with a Transitional Housing Program application will not be transferred to the Rural application).

Application Document	Date Completed
1. Application for Federal Assistance: SF-424	
2. Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)	
3. Data Requested with Application: a) Pre-Award Risk Assessment b) Applicant Entity Questionnaire c) Summary Data Sheet	
4. Proposal Abstract	
5. Proposal Narrative	
6. Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (attachment)	
7. Required Appendices a. Bibliography/references b. Any tools/instruments, questionnaires, tables/charts/ graphs, or maps c. Curriculum vitae or resumes d. Letters of commitment e. Documentation of Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity f. Applicant disclosure of pending applications g. Data archiving plan h. Human Subjects Protection paperwork i. Privacy Certificate j. Project Staff, Affiliation, and Roles Form	
8. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)	
9. Applicant Financial Capability Questionnaire (if applicable)	
10. Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation (if applicable)	
11. Letter of Nonsupplanting	
12. Confidentiality Notice Form	
13. Summary of Other Federal Funding	
14. Pre-award Risk Assessment	
15. Summary Data Sheet	

Appendix A: Budget Information and Sample Budget Narrative

Budget Information and Sample Budget Narrative

Budget Information

Cost information for selected items is provided below to assist applicants in preparing their budgets. Additional information is available in the [DOJ Financial Guide](#).

Consultants/Contracts

Compensation for services by an individual consultant must be reasonable and consistent with that paid for similar services in the marketplace. Applicants must consider the type of services provided and the individual's experience and expertise when deciding if a consultant's rate is reasonable. Applicants are strongly discouraged from requesting consultant rates over \$650 per day. Please note that the rate does not need to be as high as \$650 for all consultants. If a project is selected for funding with a budget allocating more than \$650 per day to a consultant, the applicant must provide additional information to OVW for review and approval before consultant costs are incurred. Applicants must also include all costs associated with consultants or contractors in the "Procurement Contracts" category, including travel-related costs. Applicants should not reflect these costs in the Personnel or Travel categories.

Applicants must follow the same established procurement policies with federal funds as with non-federal funds. All procurement transactions, including the awarding of consultant contracts, must be conducted in a manner that provides maximum open, free, and fair competition, and must follow 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317-200.327. All sole-source procurements (not awarded competitively) over \$250,000 require prior approval from OVW. This applies to procurements of goods and services, but not to selection of subrecipients.

MOU Partner/Subrecipient versus Contractor Determination

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) project partners are generally considered subrecipients for time spent working on program objectives. The following MOU project partner responsibilities are consistent with the characteristics in 2 C.F.R. § 200.331 that support their classification as subrecipients:

- they are using federal funds to carry out a program for a public purpose specified in the authorizing statute;
- they are responsible for adherence to program requirements;
- they are responsible for programmatic decision-making;
- their performance is measured by meeting program objectives; and
- in some cases, they may be responsible for determining who is eligible to receive assistance (services) under the grant award.

In contrast, a contractor:

- provides goods and services within normal business operations;
- provides similar good and services to many different purchasers;
- normally operates in a competitive environment;
- provides goods and services that are ancillary to the operation of the program; and
- provides goods or services to which programmatic requirements generally do not apply.

For additional information on determining subrecipient or contractor designation, please refer to [2 C.F.R. § 200.331](#), as well as the Solicitation Companion Guide, available at <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants>.

Compensation for Partners

In developing budgets, applicants should compensate all project partners for their participation in project-related activities, including but not limited to compensation for time and travel expenses to participate in project development, training, and implementation. The budget **must** include compensation for all services rendered by project partners, including nonprofit, nongovernmental domestic violence and/or sexual assault services programs, and state and tribal domestic violence and/or sexual assault coalitions. Partners are generally considered subrecipients and are reimbursed for their actual costs incurred for the project rather than on a fee for service basis. If a partner is a state or local governmental agency and the partnership duties are performed within the course of the agency's "regular" scope of work, applicants do not need to compensate the partner if the partner: a) offers this arrangement; and b) an explanation of this arrangement is included in the application (typically in the MOU).

Training and Technical Assistance/Travel

The program solicitation specifies the amount of grant funds that must be budgeted for training and technical assistance. These funds must **only** be used for OVW-designated technical assistance, unless otherwise approved by OVW. These funds are to be used to support travel by all project partners, including nonprofit, nongovernmental service providers, to technical assistance events. This may include travel by individuals whose positions are not grant-funded if their roles and responsibilities are linked to the purpose of the project. If the technical assistance funds will be shared between the applicant and any project partners, the applicant's employees' travel costs must be listed in the "Travel" category in the budget, and partners' travel must be in the "Subawards" category. Label both costs as "OVW Technical Assistance" and ensure they total to the full required amount. Do not include registration fees, as OVW technical assistance is free for grantees.

If applicants are aware of relevant non-OVW sponsored conferences or training for which they would like permission to use grant funds to attend, they can budget expenses over the required amount.

Rent

Rental costs are generally allowable under OVW programs. Applicants must list square footage and cost per square foot in the budget. The amount must be based on the space that will be allocated to implement the OVW project, not the costs of the entire rental facility. **Rental costs are not allowable for property owned by the applicant or if the applicant has a financial interest in the property.** In this case, only the costs of ownership, including maintenance costs, insurance, depreciation, utilities, etc., are allowable. The applicant must state in the budget narrative whether they own the space that will be rented. Refer to the following document for more information on how to appropriately allocate and break down the cost of rent in the budget: Cost Allocation Information, available at <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants>.

Audit Costs

Costs for audits not required or performed in accordance with 2 C.F.R. Part 200 Subpart F – Audit Requirements are unallowable. If the applicant agency did not meet the applicable expenditure threshold (see 2 C.F.R. § 200.501) during the organization’s fiscal year, they may not charge the cost of any audit performed to the grant.

Indirect Costs

Applicants that intend to charge indirect costs through the use of a negotiated indirect cost rate must have a current, signed, federally approved indirect cost rate agreement, and must upload and attach a copy of the agreement to their application in JustGrants. Applicants that do not have a current negotiated (including provisional) indirect cost rate, except for those non-Federal entities described in Appendix VII to Part 200 paragraph (d)(1)(B), may elect to charge a de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct costs (MTDC). Organizations that wish to negotiate an indirect cost rate should contact OVW’s Grants Financial Management Division at OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov or 1-888-514-8556 for more information. Applicants may also choose to waive indirect costs.

Purchase and/or Lease of Vehicles

The purchase and lease of vehicles are prohibited under most OVW grant programs. However, some programs allow for purchasing vehicles on a case-by-case basis. Refer to the program solicitation to determine whether vehicles can be purchased or leased. A lease/purchase analysis must be submitted with the application if requesting a vehicle.

Non-Federal contributions

Any non-federal contributions can be discussed in the Proposal Narrative or Memorandum of Understanding (if required). **Applicants should not include supplemental contributions in the budget, budget narrative, or SF-424.**

If the applicant voluntarily decides to provide matching funds through the use of in-kind contributions and includes this information in the budget or budget narrative, the voluntary contributions will become a mandatory requirement under the grant award. Grantees that fail to provide these mandatory matching funds through cash or in-kind contributions during the award period may be required to meet their obligation by making a cash payment to OVW to close out the grant award.

Cost Allocations

Costs for shared items, those not used solely for the award, should be equitably distributed to the funding sources that receive a benefit from the items. For example, when budgeting for general office supplies, it is important to note that the full cost cannot be allocated to the project. Instead, an allocation method should be used to share the cost among all staff who use the supplies. Refer to the following document for information on allocating shared costs in the budget: Cost Allocation Information, available at <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants>.

Accessibility

The program solicitation requires that the applicant include sufficient funds to provide language access or describe other resources available to the applicant to ensure meaningful access for

persons with limited English proficiency, including by offering translation and interpretation services, and to provide access for people with disabilities or who are Deaf/hard of hearing. Determining how much to budget for accessibility requires that recipients analyze the following:

- Available data about the local population to understand the language and accessibility needs in their service area;
- Historical data on screening and serving individuals who are LEP, Deaf or Hard of Hearing, or disabled; and
- Costs or documented estimates of language and other accessibility services and modifications in the service area. For resources and assistance in this process, visit <https://www.justice.gov/ati> and <https://www.lep.gov/>.

Recipients should make every effort to use these funds for their budgeted purpose of providing accessibility, and not reallocate them for other purposes later in the project.

Sample Budget Narrative

Purpose: The Sample Budget Narrative may be used to assist with preparing the budget and narrative. Applicants may use this form or the format of their choice (plain sheets, Excel document, the applicant's own form, or a variation of this form). However, all required information (including the budget narrative) must be provided. Any category of expense not applicable to the applicant's project may be deleted.

Note: The following budget is an example intended to assist applicants in preparing their budgets. The sample expenses may not fit the purposes or activities of this particular grant program.

A. Personnel – List each position by title and employee name, if available. Show the annual salary rate and the percentage of time devoted to the project. Compensation paid for employees engaged in grant activities must be consistent with that paid for similar work within the applicant organization.

<u>Name/Position</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Program Coordinator	\$65,000 x 50% x 3 years	\$97,500
Bilingual Shelter Manager	\$70,000 x 100% x 3 years	\$210,000
Administrative Assistant	\$45,000 x 10% x 3 years	\$13,500

Sample narrative: The Program Coordinator will dedicate 50% of their time to the project by coordinating and organizing regular council meetings between all partner organizations, ensuring compliance with program requirements, and serving as the central point of contact for all project activities.

The Bilingual Shelter Manager will dedicate 100% of their time to the project by providing direct client assistance, coordinating services and case management for clients, and managing the temporary shelter activities.

The Administrative Assistant for the project will spend 10% of their time on the project, providing administrative and clerical support for activities directly related to this project.

TOTAL PERSONNEL: \$ 321,000

B. Fringe Benefits – Fringe benefits must be based on actual known costs or an established formula. Fringe benefits are for the personnel listed in budget category (A) and only for the percentage of time devoted to the project. Fringe benefits on overtime hours are limited to FICA, Worker’s Compensation, and Unemployment Compensation.

<u>Name/Position</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Program Coordinator		
Employer’s FICA	\$97,500 x 7.65%	\$ 7,459
Health Insurance	\$4,800/year x 50% x 3 years	\$ 7,200
Worker’s Compensation	\$97,500 x 1.00%	\$ 975
Unemployment Compensation	\$97,500 x 0.50%	\$ 488
Bilingual Shelter Manager		
Employer’s FICA	\$210,000 x 7.65%	\$16,065
Health Insurance	\$4,800/year x 100% x 3 years	\$14,400
Worker’s Compensation	\$210,000 x 1.00%	\$ 2,100
Unemployment Compensation	\$210,000 x 0.50%	\$ 1,050
Administrative Assistant		
Employer’s FICA	\$ 13,500 x 7.65%	\$ 1,033
Health Insurance	\$4,800/year x 10% x 3 years	\$ 1,440
Worker’s Compensation	\$ 13,500 x 1.00%	\$ 135
Unemployment Compensation	\$ 13,500 x 0.50%	\$ 68

Sample Narrative: We request fringe benefits for the Program Coordinator, Bilingual Shelter Manager, and Administrative Assistant. Each employee’s share of Health Insurance cost is prorated based on their projected time on the project.

TOTAL FRINGE BENEFITS: \$ 52,413

C. Travel – Project staff travel expenses should be itemized by purpose (e.g., training, field interviews, advisory group meeting, etc.) and include the basis of computation (e.g., six people to 3-day training at \$X airfare, \$X lodging, \$X per diem). For training projects, travel and meals for trainees should be listed separately. Show the number of trainees and unit costs involved.

Identify the location of travel, if known. Indicate source of travel policies applied, either the applicant's policy or Federal Travel Regulations.

<u>Purpose of Travel</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Cost</u>
OVW Training at TA	TBD	TBD	TBD	\$12,000
Local Program mileage	XYZ County		150 mi/month x \$0.655/mile x 36 months	\$ 3,357

Sample narrative: According to the requirements in the solicitation for this program, \$12,000 out of the total \$20,000 in OVW mandated technical assistance and training funds has been allocated to cover the travel cost for staff. The remaining amount of \$8,000 has been allocated for partner travel and can be found in Section G of this form. The exact locations of the trainings are currently unknown. However, travel estimates have been made using our formal written travel policy.

It is expected that the Program Coordinator will use a privately owned vehicle for local program mileage when traveling between the program shelter, main office, and all partner organizations. The rate for mileage reimbursement is calculated based on the current GSA Mileage Reimbursement Rate of \$0.655/mile and is estimated to be around 150 miles per month for a period of 36 months.

TOTAL TRAVEL: \$ 15,537

D. Equipment – List tangible personal property with a useful life of more than one year that needs to be purchased to support the project. It is important to follow the applicant's own capitalization policy for equipment classification. For high-cost items and information technology systems, applicants should perform an analysis (and attach it to the application) that compares the cost of purchasing versus leasing equipment items, to determine the most economical approach. Rented or leased equipment items should be listed in the "Procurement Contracts" category. Describe in the narrative how the equipment is necessary for the success of the project.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Cost</u>
(2) Video Cameras	\$1,500/camera x 2 cameras	\$ 3,000

Sample narrative: The portable video cameras and tripod package will be used during the interviews of alleged offenders, as well as to record witness testimony in preparation for trial in cases of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Our capitalization threshold is \$1,000, so these items are classified as Equipment.

TOTAL EQUIPMENT: \$ 3,000

E. Supplies – List items by type (office supplies, postage, training materials, copying paper, and other expendable items such as books, thumb drives, and flash drives) and show the basis for

computation. Generally, supplies include any expendable or consumable materials that are used during the project period that are not equipment.

<u>Supply Items</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Office Supplies (paper, printer, toner, pens, etc.)	\$250/month x 53% x 36 months	\$4,770
Postage	\$ 100/month x 53% x 36 months	\$1,908
Program Supplies	\$ 50/month x 36 months	\$1,800
75 Client Assistance Kits	\$ 25/kit x 75 kits	\$1,875

Sample narrative: Office supplies and postage are needed for the general operation of the program and are shared amongst all office staff. The FTE allocation rate for shared costs incurred by all staff in this budget is 53% (based on total FTEs in the office is 3FTEs, and total FTEs in this budget is 1.6FTEs, so $1.6 / 3 = 0.53$, or 53%). Monthly costs for Office Supplies at \$250/month and Postage at \$100/month are estimated based on historical data. Charges to the grant will be based on the actual supplies purchased and actual percentage of staff time worked on the project (not budgeted amounts).

Program Supplies are estimated at a cost of \$50/month, based on historical data. The program supplies will be used for direct program activities such as art supplies and educational handouts/brochures for healing circles and group meetings for survivors.

The Client Assistance Kits will be provided to clients who receive services for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. These kits will contain toiletries and other personal hygiene products. We estimate the need for 75 kits, and the cost is based on similar kits provided by other programs.

TOTAL SUPPLIES: \$10,353

F. Construction – As a rule, construction costs are not allowable. In some cases, minor repairs or renovations may be allowable. Consult with OVW before budgeting funds in this category.

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Description of Work</u>	<u>Cost</u>
	TOTAL CONSTRUCTION:	<u>\$ 0</u>

G. Subawards (subgrants): Describe project activities for which subrecipients/MOU partners will receive compensation under the award, including services for clients. Include any compensation for partner/subrecipient travel in this section as well.

Subrecipient Name	Computation	Cost
XYZ Survivor Services Organization		
Advocate	\$40,000 per year x .25 FTE x 3 years	\$30,000
Advocate	Benefits x 28% of FTE salary	\$ 8,400
OVW Training and TA	Location and cost TBD	\$ 4,000
Subtotal XYZ Survivor Services Organization Subaward		\$42,400

Sample narrative: The MOU partner XYZ Survivor Services Organization will offer advocacy services, such as safety planning and court accompaniment services. To cover the cost of travel for their staff, \$4,000 of the required \$20,000 in OVW mandated technical assistance and training funds has been allocated, in line with the budget requirements set forth in the solicitation. However, the training session locations are currently unknown. Travel estimates are based on the subrecipient's formal written travel policy.

123 Housing Provider		
Permanent housing advocate	\$40,000 per year x .10 FTE x 3 years	\$12,000
Permanent housing advocate	Benefits x 28% of FTE salary	\$ 3,360
Rent subsidies	\$150/month x 36 months x 15 clients/families	\$81,000
OVW Training and TA	Location and cost TBD	\$ 4,000
Subtotal 123 Housing Provider Subaward		\$100,360

Sample narrative: The MOU partner, 123 Housing Provider, will provide rent subsidies for clients and their dependents, permanent housing placement services, and advocacy. The rent subsidy rates are based on our experience with available community housing. Out of the required \$20,000 for OVW mandated technical assistance and training funds, \$4,000 has been allocated to cover the cost of travel for partner staff. Travel estimates are based on the subrecipient's formal written travel policy and training locations are currently unknown.

TOTAL SUBAWARDS: \$142,760

H: Procurement Contracts – Applicants should follow their documented procurement procedures that comply with the procurement standards in the Uniform Guidance at 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317-200.327 or the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

Consultant Fees: For each consultant enter the name, if known, service to be provided, hourly or daily fee (8-hour day), and estimated time on the project. The actual rate for each consultant should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, consistent with fair market value, and equal to the individual's experience, education, and compensation they receive for providing similar services

in the marketplace. Consultant fees over \$650 per day (for an 8-hour day) or \$81.25 per hour require additional justification and prior approval from OVW.

<u>Name of Consultant</u>	<u>Service Provided</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Consultant/Trainer	Sexual Assault Training	\$575/day x 3 days	\$ 1,725

Sample narrative: A Consultant/Trainer will provide a three-day on-site training (at 8 hours per day) on sexual assault and related issues to law enforcement, prosecution, court personnel, and medical and social services personnel. The training will focus on addressing cultural needs of clients who experience sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

Subtotal Consultant Fees: \$ 1,725

Consultant Travel: List all expenses to be paid from the grant to the individual consultant in addition to their fees (i.e., travel, meals, lodging etc.).

<u>Purpose of Travel</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Delivery of Sexual Assault Training	Town of XYZ	Airfare	\$500 (avg.) x 1 person x 1 trip	\$ 500
		Lodging	\$ 75 (avg.)/night x 2 nights	\$ 150
		Per diem	\$ 45 (avg.)/day x 3 days	\$ 135

Subtotal Consultant Travel: \$ 785

Sample narrative: Funds are allocated to pay for the Consultant/Trainer to travel to provide sexual assault training.

Subtotal Consultants: \$ 2,510

Contracts: Provide a clear description of the product or services that will be acquired through the contract, along with an estimated cost. All procurement transactions must be conducted in a manner that ensures full and open competition and adheres to the standards in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317-200.327. A separate justification must be provided for sole source (non-competitive) contracts in excess of \$250,000.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Therapist	\$85/hr. x 10 hrs./month x 36 months	\$30,600
Cell Phone Service	\$75/month x 36 months	\$ 2,700
Copier and Printer Lease	\$262/month x 53% x 36 months	\$ 5,000

Telephonic Interpretation	\$3.95/min. x 300 min. x 3 years	\$3,555
In-person Interpreter – Spanish	\$100/hour x 20 hours x 3 years	\$6,000
In-person Interpreter – non-Spanish	\$125/hour x 10 hours x 3 years	\$3,750
Translation – Spanish	\$25/page x 20 pages x 3 years	\$1,500
Translation – non-Spanish	\$25/page x 14 pages x 3 years	\$1,050
Sign Language Interpretation	\$95/hour x 20 hours x 3 years	\$5,700
CART Services	\$65/hour x 8 hours x 3 years	\$1,560

Subtotal Contracts: \$ 61,415

Sample narrative: The Therapist will be compensated at a rate of \$85/hour, consistent with the therapist's normal rate for providing this service in the marketplace. This contracted position will provide individual counseling sessions to clients on an as-needed basis and facilitate the group healing sessions once per week for 2 hours. A total of 10 hours of service per month is estimated.

The Bilingual Shelter Manager will need a cell phone to ensure 24 hours/day communication to provide emergency services and transportation to clients. This position is funded 100% through the application, therefore 100% of this cost is budgeted.

Equipment to be rented and/or leased includes the copier and printer. The copier and printer costs are estimated based on historical costs and allocated using an FTE allocation method (see allocation breakdown in Supplies Category).

The most common language in the local service area is Spanish, followed by Mandarin Chinese and Tagalog. Spanish language interpreters in applicant's area charge approximately \$100 per hour, and Mandarin and Tagalog interpreters charge approximately \$125 per hour. We estimate the number of hours of interpretation based on previous years plus an anticipated 10% increase during the project period. (We also employ a Spanish-English bilingual Shelter Manager, who assists with Spanish language interpretation.)

Translations in our service area cost approximately \$25 per page. We plan to have the following documents translated into Spanish during the project period: intake form (3 pages), confidentiality policy (1 page), house rules (2 pages), non-discrimination notice and complaint forms (3 pages), pamphlet on domestic violence (5 pages), pamphlet on sexual assault (5 pages), Power and Control Wheel (1 page). We plan to have the following documents translated into Mandarin and Tagalog: intake form (3 pages X 2), confidentiality policy (1 page X 2), non-discrimination notice and complaint forms (3 pages X 2).

Qualified sign language interpreters charge approximately \$95 per hour, and we anticipate using interpreters approximately 20 hours per year, based on past use and allowing for a 5% increase in usage over past years. We will host 1 day-long training session each year and anticipate providing Communication Access Realtime Translation services at each session.

TOTAL PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS: \$ 63,925

I. Other Costs – List items (e.g., rent, reproduction, telephone, janitorial or security services, and investigative or confidential funds) by each type of cost and the basis of the computation. For example, provide the square footage and the cost per square foot for rent, and provide a monthly rental cost and how many months to rent.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Participant stipends	\$50 per in-depth interview * 2 interviews (one at baseline and one at 6 months) * 81 survivor participants	\$ 8,100
Rent	\$1.50/sq. foot x 1,000 sq. feet x 36 months	\$54,000
Utilities	\$200/month x 36 months	\$ 7,200
Housing Assistance	\$500/family x 12 families/year x 3 years	\$18,000

Refer to [Research Participant Costs and Incentives](#) for information on requesting OVW approval to provide research participant stipends to cover the cost of participants' time, transportation, gas, and other incidentals (excluding food and beverages). A stipend, which can be in the form of cash, is not a salary, honorarium, incentive, or fee.

Sample narrative: Funds have been allocated for stipends for victim interview participants, to compensate participants for their time and contribution to the research project and offset any costs they incur for participating. Stipends will be paid in gift card amounts of \$50/participant per interview, and a spreadsheet will be used to account for the time, date, and amount disbursed to each participant. The applicant expects participants with limited or no means to pay for transportation to and from the secure interview site, and/or childcare during their travel and participation time, will be less inclined to participate if they cannot recoup these costs. The estimated impact of not using stipends is that the study participation rate will be lower than necessary for the study to be successful, and that study participants in lower income brackets will be less likely to participate, thus potentially compromising the validity of the research findings. The amount of \$50 is reasonable and based on a realistic estimate for compensating participants' time and offsetting the cost of gas mileage or taxi fare to/from the interview site, and the potential need for participants to pay for childcare while they are at their interview. The Client Services Program rents a safe house located within the community. The house is used to provide temporary housing to clients who experience domestic violence and their minor children. The rent is consistent with the fair market rate for similar properties in the local

community. This is a direct cost to the program and is used solely for the purpose of this program, therefore the cost is not allocated.

The cost of utilities (i.e., gas, electric, and water service) for the Client Services Program safe house averages \$200/month. The services are necessary to ensure that the house is suitable for occupancy. This is a direct cost to the program and is used solely for the purpose of this program, therefore the cost is not allocated.

Funds have been budgeted to provide monthly housing assistance to at least one client who experienced domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. Each client and dependents will receive up to \$500 to assist with rent and utility payments. Housing assistance will not be used to pay for delinquent or past due utility or rental costs.

Funds for Language Line Solutions (LLS) for telephonic interpreting at a rate of \$3.95 per minute are budgeted. In recent years, we have used LLS between 225 and 275 minutes per year, and we anticipate a 10% increase in usage based on recent trends.

TOTAL OTHER COSTS: \$ 87,300

J. Indirect Costs – Indirect costs are allowed if the applicant has a federally approved indirect cost rate. A copy of the rate approval (a fully executed, negotiated agreement) must be submitted with the application. If the applicant does not have an approved rate, they may request one from their cognizant federal agency or choose to charge a de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct costs (MTDC) in accordance with 2 C.F.R. 200.414(f). If the applicant's accounting system allows for it, costs may be allocated in the direct cost categories.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Cost</u>
32% of Direct Salaries (Excluding Fringe Benefits)	\$321,000 x 32%	\$102,720

TOTAL INDIRECT COSTS: \$ 102,720

Sample narrative: The Indirect Cost Rate Agreement was approved by the Department of Health and Human Services, the applicant's cognizant federal agency on January 1, 2023. (A copy of the fully executed, negotiated agreement that covers the current period is attached).

Budget Summary – Upon completion of the budget worksheet, transfer the totals for each category to the spaces below. Compute the total direct costs and the total project costs. Indicate the amount of federal funds requested and the amount of non-federal funds that will support the project.

Budget Category	Amount
A. Personnel	\$ 321,000
B. Fringe Benefits	\$ 52,413
C. Travel	\$ 15,537
D. Equipment	\$ 3,000
E. Supplies	\$ 10,353
F. Construction	\$ 0
G. Subawards.	\$ 142,760
H. Procurement Contracts	\$ 63,925
I. Other Costs	\$ 87,300
Total Direct Costs	\$ 694,113
J. Indirect Costs	\$ 102,720
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	<u>\$ 796,833</u>
Federal Share Requested	\$ 796,833
Non-Federal (Match) Amount	\$ 0

Appendix B: Pre-Award Risk Assessment

Pre-Award Risk Assessment

Each applicant must respond to each question. **Do not submit responses from a prior fiscal year without updating them to be responsive to all questions listed in the questionnaire.** This information will be used for a mandatory pre-award risk assessment. Failure to provide this information or to respond to questions from OVW regarding this information in a timely manner could result in the application being removed from consideration or a delay in access to funds. Provide complete responses that address all questions included for each numbered item.

1. Will all funds awarded under this program be maintained in a manner that they will be accounted for separately and distinctly from other sources of revenue/funding? Provide a brief description of the applicant's policies and procedures that ensure funds will be tracked appropriately.
2. Does the applicant have written accounting policies and procedures? How often are these policies and procedures updated? Provide a brief list of the topics covered in the applicant's policies and procedures. OVW may request a copy for review during the application/award process or as part of the grant monitoring process.
3. Is the applicant's financial management system able to track actual expenditures and outlays with budgeted amounts for each grant or subgrant? Provide a brief summary of the organization's process for tracking expenditures, including tracking budgeted versus actual amounts.
4. Does the applicant have procedures in place for minimizing the time between transfer of funds from the United States Treasury and disbursement for project activities? Provide a short summary of the applicant's policy for requesting payments for grant awards.
5. Does the applicant have effective internal controls in place to ensure that federal funds are used solely for authorized purposes? Provide a brief description of the applicant's internal controls that will provide reasonable assurance that the award funds will be managed properly.
6. Does the applicant have a documented records retention policy? If so, briefly describe the policy and confirm that the policy complies with federal regulations. Information on Record Retention and Access can be found at 2 C.F.R. 200.334-200.338.
7. Does the applicant or any of its employees have any potential personal or organizational conflicts of interest related to the possible receipt of OVW award funds? Applicants are required to disclose in writing any potential conflicts of interest to their awarding agency. See 2 C.F.R. 200.112 and Chapter 3.20, Grant Fraud, Waste and Abuse, of the [DOJ Financial Guide](#) for additional information.
8. Is the individual primarily responsible for fiscal and administrative oversight of grant awards familiar with the applicable grants management rules, principles, and regulations including the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 C.F.R. Part 200)? Provide a short list of the

individual's qualifications/experience. If the individual is not familiar with the applicable rules and regulations, the applicant must contact OVW's Grants Financial Management Division at OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov or 1-888-514-8556 immediately after the applicant is notified of its award to coordinate training.

9. Does the applicant have policies and procedures in place to manage subawards and monitor activities of subrecipients as necessary to ensure that subawards are used for authorized purposes, in compliance with laws, regulations, and terms and conditions of the award, and that established subaward performance goals are achieved (2 C.F.R. 200.331-200.333)? Provide a brief description of the organization's policies and procedures on subrecipient management and monitoring.
10. Does the applicant currently require employees to maintain time distribution records that accurately reflect the work performed on specific activities or cost objectives in order to support the distribution of employees' salaries among federal awards or other activities (2 C.F.R. 200.430)? Budget estimates do not qualify as support for charges to federal awards. Provide a brief description of the organization's established timekeeping policies and procedures.
11. Is the applicant designated as high risk by a federal agency outside of DOJ? (High risk includes any status under which a federal awarding agency provides additional oversight due to the applicant entity's past performance, or other programmatic or financial concerns with the applicant entity.) If so, provide the names(s) of the federal awarding agency, the date(s) the agency notified the applicant entity of the high-risk designation, contact information for the high-risk point of contact at the federal agency, and the reason for the high-risk status, as set out by the federal agency.

Appendix C: Applicant Entity Questionnaire

Applicant Entity Questionnaire

Note: Applicants must complete this questionnaire in JustGrants. The questions listed below are for reference only.

The Applicant Entity Questionnaire is required for every applicant for OVW funding and therefore includes questions that may not be obviously relevant or specifically focused on a particular grant program. Applicants should provide the most accurate answers and may respond “Yes” to more than one question or “No” to all questions. These questions help OVW understand the organizations that are applying for funding, but the answers do not influence funding decisions.

1. Is the applicant a **sexual assault victim service provider**, defined as a victim service provider for which the primary purpose of the organization is to provide intervention and related assistance to victims of sexual assault without regard to their age (see 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(50) & 12511(b))?
2. Is the applicant a federally recognized tribe (see 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(22))?
3. Is the applicant a tribal organization as defined by 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(45)?

Note: 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(45) defines a tribal organization in three ways:

- the governing body of an Indian tribe;
 - any legally established organization of Indians which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body of a tribe or tribes to be served, or which is democratically elected by the adult members of the Indian community to be served by such organization and which includes the maximum participation of Indians in all phases of its activities; or
 - any tribal nonprofit organization (defined by 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(44) as a victim services provider that has as its primary purpose to assist Native victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and that has staff and leadership with a demonstrated history of assisting American Indian or Alaska Native victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking).
4. Does the applicant primarily focus on a rural area or community as defined by 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(32)?

Note: Applicants can enter their address or zip code into the following tool to determine if their area or community is rural: <https://data.hrsa.gov/tools/rural-health>.

5. Is the applicant a **faith-based organization**?
6. Is the applicant a **culturally specific organization**, defined as a private nonprofit/tribal organization for which the primary purpose of the organization as a whole is to provide culturally specific services to American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and

Aleuts), Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, Blacks, or Hispanics (see 34 U.S.C. 20421(c) and 12291(a)(8)-(9); 42 U.S.C. 300u-6(g))?

If yes, are the services of the applicant entity *primarily* directed toward serving:

- Hispanics or Latinos
- Black or African Americans
- American Indians
- Alaska Natives
- Asian Americans
- Native Hawaiians
- Other Pacific Islanders

7. Is the applicant a **population specific organization**, defined by 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(26) as a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization that primarily serves members of a specific underserved population and has demonstrated experience and expertise providing targeted services to members of the **specific underserved population**?

Underserved population (defined by 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(46)) means a population who faces barriers in accessing and using victim services, including populations underserved because of geographic location, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, underserved racial and ethnic populations, and populations underserved because of special needs (such as language barriers, disabilities, immigration status, or age).

If yes, is the applicant entity designed *primarily* to serve a population underserved because of:

- Rural location
- Sexual orientation/gender identity
- Religion
- Race
- Ethnicity
- Language barriers
- Disabilities
- Immigration status
- Age

Appendix D: Summary Data Sheet

1. Provide the following information for the grant point-of-contact. This person must be an employee of the applicant.
 - Name
 - Title
 - Address
 - Telephone number
 - Email address
2. Is the applicant (the organization whose unique entity identifier is being used for the application) serving as a fiscal agent? A fiscal agent is an entity that does not participate in implementation of the project and passes **all** funds through to subrecipients, conducting minimal administrative activities. **Note: The fiscal agent must be an eligible applicant for the program.**
 - If yes, list all subrecipients
 - Note: The applicant acknowledges that it will be responsible for all applicable statutory, fiscal, and programmatic requirements, including those of 2 C.F.R. Part 200, as well as all project deliverables.
3. Has the applicant expended \$750,000 or more in federal funds in the applicant's past fiscal year?
 - If yes, specify the end date of the applicant's fiscal year.
4. Is the applicant a nonprofit organization that holds money in offshore accounts for the purpose of avoiding paying the tax described in section 511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code?
5. Is the applicant a nonprofit organization that uses the Internal Revenue Service's three-step safe-harbor procedure to establish a rebuttable presumption that its executives' compensation is reasonable? For additional information about the safe-harbor procedure, see Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation in the Budget and Associated Documentation section of this solicitation.
 - If yes, note: The applicant must upload the required Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation in the Budget and Associated Documentation section of JustGrants.