

OVW FY 2024 Research and Evaluation Initiative Pre-application Information Session Questions and Answers

This document summarizes questions received and answers provided during the OVW FY 2024 Research and Evaluation (R&E) Initiative pre-application information session held on February 21, 2024.

Question	Can you provide a link or information about how to find more about the "restorative practices" topic that is in the 2022 reauthorization of VAWA?
Answer	For more information about the restorative practices program statute at 34 U.S.C. § 12514, visit https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/34/12514 .

Question	How does the matching with grantees happen if we are interested in a particular category?
Answer	OVW does not match R&E applicants to grantees. Applicants can propose to evaluate interventions that are currently OVW-funded (like a current grantee), or <i>could</i> be OVW funded, i.e., fall within the scope of at least one OVW grant program.

Question	Is there a certain software used to collect data?
Answer	OVW does not dictate which software R&E applicants should use to collect data.

Question	For emerging innovations, if OVW funds evaluation of such innovations with this grant, what is the possibility that such innovations would be funded by OVW as a new funded program or activity if the evaluation find they are effective.
Answer	All grant programs have competitive processes and solicitations that outline criteria against which applications are reviewed, so there is no guarantee about future funding.

Question	Could you talk about the likelihood of projects being funded if they are responsive to the priorities of OVW, but not exactly to the specific Topics listed on pages 6-8?
Answer	We cannot speculate about the fundability of an application because peer reviewers' assessments of an application factor majorly into funding decisions. That said, not having a perfect nexus to a topic is not inherently problematic.

Question	Does the PI's organization have to do the majority of the work or receive the majority of the budget? Could a "partner" organization evaluate their own program with oversight from an objective PI?
Answer	This is dependent on the specifics of an application. Applicants must ensure research integrity and independence, and peer reviewers and OVW may identify concerns about an application in which an entity is evaluating their own work, even if the direct applicant is not that entity. That said, researcher-practitioner partnerships aren't always clear-cut, so we suggest reaching out to OVW if you have further questions.

Question	Do you have a sample of a grant that was approved for funding? I may be overthinking the process, and I am not very confident.
Answer	You can email OVW.FOIA@usdoj.gov to request a successful R&E application, but this may be of limited utility because each application is assessed on its own merits. All applicants--those who are funded and those who are not--do receive a copy of the peer reviewers' comments on their application, so that can be helpful for applicants planning to resubmit.

Question	For the required research products - Is it one of each?
Answer	Yes.

Question	For those of us who are not affiliated with a university and do not have access to an IRB, what suggestions do you have? Are we allowed to add IRB processes to the budget?
Answer	Yes, you can include IRB costs in the budget. Recipients must secure IRB review on their own; OVW does not have an IRB.

Question	I missed the IRB portion, and in particular if anything needs to be completed at the time of application. IRB approval is not needed prior to submission. Is that correct?
Answer	You do not need to submit IRB approval at the time of application. Awards are issued with a hold on funds that is lifted once the grantee submits documentation of IRB approval or exemption.

Question	Will another solicitation for this grant be put out in FY 2025? Or is this the last one for this grant?
Answer	We anticipate releasing an FY 2025 R&E solicitation.

Question	Do applicants need to disclose other federal funding their subrecipient receives to do similar work?
Answer	No, not for subrecipients.

Question	Can you discuss the awarding process in more detail?
Answer	Applicants selected for funding will be notified by 10/1/2024. After the award is accepted, there are budget negotiations between OVW and the recipient. Funds are on hold until: a) the final budget is approved; and b) the grantee has supplied OVW with documentation of IRB approval or exemption, and a revised Privacy Certificate, if necessary.

Question	Are we able to use part of the funds to hire a full or part time staff member to implement and/or evaluate the training we are proposing?
Answer	Yes.

Question	To clarify - the grant can be submitted through Grants.gov or JustGrants? Or are both platforms required?
Answer	Both. It's a two-step process: Grants.gov then JustGrants. There is a section in the solicitation that lays out the process and associated deadlines.

Question	Still unclear about how we partner with the grantee to evaluate their work in whatever category is selected for the research proposal.
Answer	Researchers and practitioners form these partnerships and supply letters of commitment with their applications, and partner organizations are typically included in the budget. For additional guidance, please refer to the budget section of the R&E solicitation.

Question	Is there a list of grantees receiving funds or is it based on our own networking connections?
Answer	We only see the partnerships when they come in via applications, so OVW cannot speculate as to how applicants formulate and grow meaningful partnerships. All OVW awards under all programs are listed on our website if you'd like to see a list of grantees.

Question	My office is resubmitting a proposal that was submitted last year. Is it possible to meet with a PO to ensure that the changes we've made still align with the proposal solicitation?
Answer	OVW can answer questions about what is allowable/not allowable, in scope vs. out of scope, but we cannot speculate as to how peer reviewers will assess an application. Applicants are welcome to ask us any questions, and we will answer them as best we're able.

Question	What is the difference between an incentive and participant stipend?
Answer	An incentive is to encourage participation, whereas a stipend is to compensate a person for the costs to them of participating in the research. In the solicitation, there's a section on this in Appendix A and the sample budget. OVW R&E does not allow incentives but does support stipends.

Question	Does receiving a VAWA STOP grant from our state SAA count in regard to the 3-year issue and whether we would need to complete the financial questionnaire?
Answer	No, direct OVW funding only.

If you have questions about the content of this document or if you have further questions about the [OVW FY 2024 Research and Evaluation \(R&E\) Initiative Solicitation](#) please email OVW.Research@usdoj.gov.