



U.S. Department of Justice

Office on Violence Against Women

*** * * REVISED * * ***

(Revised sections include *Priorities* and *Program-Specific Unallowable Costs*.)

OVW Fiscal Year 2025 Grants to Improve the Criminal Justice Response Program

Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number

O-OVW-2025-172417

Assistance Listing Number

16.590

Application Due

Deadline to submit Standard Form/SF-424 in Grants.gov: June 16, 2025, by 11:59 PM Eastern Time

Deadline to submit application in JustGrants: June 18, 2025, by 8:59 PM Eastern Time

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Basic Information

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is accepting applications for funding in response to this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). 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.

Executive Summary

The Grants to Improve the Criminal Justice Response Program (ICJR Program) assists state, local, and Tribal governments, and courts to improve the criminal justice response to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking as serious violations of criminal law, and to seek safety and autonomy for victims.

Funding Opportunity Details	
Federal Agency Name	U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women
Funding Opportunity Title	OVW FY 2025 Grants to Improve the Criminal Justice Response Program
Announcement Type	Initial
Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number	O-OVW-2025-172417
Assistance Listing Number	16.590
Statutory Authority	34 U.S.C. §§ 10461 – 10465 - 28 C.F.R. Part 90, Subpart D
Expected Total Amount of Funding	\$23,000,000
Anticipated Number of Awards	35
Expected Award Amount(s)	\$500,000 to \$1,000,000
Expected Award Period(s)	36 months

Key Dates

This table contains deadlines and other important dates.

Key Dates	
Funding Opportunity Release Date	On or about May 8, 2025, NOFO is expected to be released
Pre-Application Information Session(s)	Expected to be available on OVW Website on May 13, 2025
Sam.gov Registration/Renewal	Recommend completing process by May 24, 2025
Grants.gov Registration/Renewal	Recommend completing process by June 16, 2025
Letter of Intent (Optional)	May 23, 2025, at OVW.ICJR@usdoj.gov
Grants.gov Deadline	June 16, 2025, by 11:59 PM Eastern Time (ET)
JustGrants Deadline	June 18, 2025, by 8:59 PM ET
Decision Notification Date	OVW anticipates notifying applicants of funding decisions by October 1, 2025

Contact Information

For assistance with the application process or questions about this funding opportunity, contact the resources listed below.

Contact Information	
OVW Contact	Phone: 202-307-6026 Email: OVW.ICJR@usdoj.gov
For assistance with SAM.gov	Phone: 866-606-8220 Website: https://sam.gov/content/help Hours of Operation: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET Monday-Friday
For assistance with Grants.gov	Phone: 800-518-4726 Email: support@grants.gov Website: https://www.grants.gov/support Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (closed federal holidays)
For assistance with JustGrants	Phone: 866-655-4482 Email: OVW.JustGrantsSupport@usdoj.gov

Resources for Applying

Pre-application Information Session

OVW will post a recorded pre-application information session on the [OVW website](#). Viewing is optional. In this session, OVW staff will summarize the program's requirements, review the funding opportunity, and answer frequently asked questions. The session will be captioned in English and Spanish.

Application Resources

- [Application Companion Guide](#)
- [Resources for Applicants](#)
- Budget Information on [OVW Website](#)
- [JustGrants Application Submission Training](#)

Eligibility

Eligible Applicants

Entities that are eligible to apply are:

States and Territories

- State governments, including the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands (34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(37)).

Units of Local Government

- Any city, county, township, town, borough, parish, village, or other general purpose political subdivision of a State (or territory) (34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(47)).
- The following are not considered units of local government: (1) Police departments; (2) Pre-trial service agencies; (3) District or city attorneys' offices; (4) Sheriffs' departments; (5) Probation and parole departments; (6) Shelters; (7) Nonprofit, nongovernmental victim service agencies including faith-based or community-based organizations; and (8) Universities. (28 C.F.R. §§ 90.2(g), 90.61(b)). **These entities may assume responsibility for the development and implementation of the project but may not apply as a unit of local government. Victim service providers and state or Tribal domestic violence or sexual assault coalitions are eligible for the program as a separate category. The other entities listed above must have a state, local government, or Tribal government apply as the lead applicant.**

Indian Tribal Governments

- The governing body of an Indian Tribe, or

- A Tribe, band, pueblo, nation, or other organized group or community of Indians, including any Alaska Native Village or regional or village corporation (as defined in, or established pursuant to, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. §§ 1601 et seq.)), that is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians (34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(43)).

Courts

- Any civil or criminal, Tribal, and Alaska Native Village, federal, state, local, or territorial court having jurisdiction to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including immigration, family, juvenile, and dependency courts, and the judicial officers serving in those courts, including judges, magistrate judges, commissioners, justices of the peace, or any other person with decision making authority (34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(7)).

State, Tribal, or Territorial Domestic Violence or Sexual Assault Coalitions

- A state or territorial domestic violence coalition is a program determined by the Administration for Children and Families, under 42 U.S.C. §§ 10402, 10411 (See 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(38)).
- A state or territorial sexual assault coalition is a program determined by the Center for Injury Prevention and Control of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention under the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. § 280b et seq.) (See 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(39)).
- A tribal coalition meets the criteria at 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(42) and has been recognized by OVW.

Victim Service Providers

- A nonprofit, nongovernmental or Tribal organization or rape crisis center, including a state or territorial coalition, that assists or advocates for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking victims, including domestic violence shelters, faith-based organizations, and other organizations, with a documented history of effective work concerning domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking (34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(50)). Victim service providers must provide direct services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking as one of their primary purposes and have a demonstrated history of effective work in this field.

Faith-Based Organizations

Faith-Based organizations that meet the eligibility requirements for this program are eligible to apply (more information for faith-based organizations is available in the [Application Companion Guide](#) and [here](#)).

501(c)(3) Status

Any entity that is eligible for this program based on its status as a nonprofit organization must be an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that Code. See 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(15)(B)(i).

Other Program Eligibility Requirements

In addition to being an eligible entity, applicants also must meet the requirements below. All certification and other eligibility related documents must be and developed in accordance with this NOFO.

Certifications must take the form of a letter, on letterhead, signed, and dated by the authorized representative. Each one must be uploaded as a separate attachment under the **Additional Application Components** section in JustGrants. Failure to provide required certifications may disqualify an application. At a minimum, an applicant that fails to include the required certification letter(s) with its application must submit that certification letter prior to receiving an award.

Certifications of Eligibility

Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 10461(c), **all applicants must provide Certifications of Eligibility (COEs)** about the laws, policies, and/or practices of its jurisdiction in order to qualify for an ICJR award. More information can be found in the [Additional Application Components](#) section of this NOFO.

Delivery of Legal Assistance Certification

Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(12), to be eligible for an award, any recipient or subrecipient providing legal assistance with funds awarded under this program must submit a Delivery of Legal Assistance Certification letter as described under [Additional Application Components](#) in this NOFO. A sample [Delivery of Legal Assistance Certification](#) letter can be found on the OVW website.

Required Partnerships

All applications submitted for ICJR funding must include formal partnerships as described below based on lead applicant type. Applicants that fail to include a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), or Letter(s) of Commitment (LOC) will be removed from further consideration.

All formal partnerships must be documented in the form of a MOU or LOC for court applicants, Tribal Governments, and Tribal victim service providers only, at the time of application. A sample [MOU](#) can be found on the OVW Website.

State, Indian Tribal Government, Unit of Local Government and Court Applicants:

Applicants that are states, units of local governments, Tribal governments, or courts are required to enter into a formal partnership with: 1) one or more victim service provider(s) that have a documented history of serving victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking, and 2) other governmental entities that are necessary for the implementation of the proposed project. A victim service provider must be involved in the development and implementation of the project. See [Eligibility Information](#) for the definition of "victim service provider."

State, Tribal, or Territorial Domestic Violence or Sexual Assault Coalition or Victim Service Provider Applicants:

Lead applicants that are victim service providers, including coalitions, are required to enter into a formal partnership with: 1) a state, Indian Tribal government, or unit of local government appropriate to the service area, and 2) any specific governmental entities that are necessary for the implementation of the proposed project. All partners must be involved in the development and implementation of the project. (See [Eligibility Information](#) for more information on Coalition and Victim Service Provider eligibility).

See [Supporting Documents](#) for additional information on the MOU and/or LOC requirements.

Types of Applications

In FY 2025, OVW will accept applications for the ICJR program from the following applicants:

New Applicants

Applicants that have never received funding under the ICJR program or applicants that received previous ICJR funding that expired on or before February 27, 2025.

Continuation Applicants

Applicants that have an existing or recently closed (after February 27, 2025) award under this program. Continuation funding is not guaranteed.

Note: Current recipients with a substantial amount of unobligated funds remaining (50 percent or more of the current award) as of March 31, 2025, without adequate justification, may not be considered for funding or may receive a reduced award amount if selected for funding under this NOFO.

Ineligible Entities and Disqualifying Factors

Applications submitted by ineligible entities or that do not meet all other program eligibility requirements will not be considered for funding. In addition, an application deemed deficient in one or more of the following areas may not be considered for funding:

1. [Program-specific unallowable costs](#)
2. [Risk review](#)
3. [Completeness of application contents](#)
4. [Meeting deadlines](#)

An application will be removed from consideration if the applicant does not comply fully with all applicable unique entity identifier and SAM.gov requirements (see [Submission Requirements and Deadlines](#) section for more information on these requirements).

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).

Limit on Number of Applications

OVW will consider only one application for this program per organization for the same service area (i.e., the geographic area to be served). If an applicant submits multiple versions of the same application, OVW will review only the most recent system-validated version submitted before the deadline.

Cost-Sharing

This program has no matching or cost-sharing requirement.

Program Description

This program is authorized by 34 U.S.C. §§ 10461 – 10465 and implemented through regulations at 28 C.F.R. Part 90, Subpart D. For a brief description of this program, see the [Executive Summary](#).

For more information about OVW programs, including how recipients of OVW grant funding achieve program goals, see:

- OVW grant program information: [OVW Grants and Programs webpage](#).
- Data that recipients collect and report: [VAWA Measuring Effectiveness Initiative webpage](#).
- What recipients have achieved and some of the evidence-based approaches they may have used: OVW's [most recent report to Congress](#) on the effectiveness of VAWA grant programs.

Purpose Areas

Funds under this program must be used for one or more of the following purposes:

1. To implement offender accountability and homicide reduction programs and policies in police departments, including policies for protection order violations and enforcement of protection orders across State and Tribal lines.
2. To develop policies, educational programs, protection order registries, data collection systems, and training in police departments to improve tracking of cases and classification of complaints involving domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Policies, educational programs, protection order registries, and training described in this paragraph shall incorporate confidentiality, and privacy protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

3. To centralize and coordinate police enforcement, prosecution, or judicial responsibility for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases in teams or units of police officers, prosecutors, parole and probation officers, or judges.
4. To coordinate computer tracking systems and provide the appropriate training and education about domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking to ensure communication between police, prosecutors, parole and probation officers, and both criminal and family courts.
5. To strengthen legal advocacy and legal assistance programs and other victim services for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including strengthening assistance to such victims in immigration matters. **(Note: Applicants seeking to fulfill this purpose area must limit direct legal services to no more than 30% of project activities.)**
6. To educate Federal, State, Tribal, territorial, and local judges, courts, and court-based and court-related personnel in criminal and civil courts (including juvenile courts) about domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and to improve judicial handling of such cases.
7. To provide technical assistance and computer and other equipment to police departments, prosecutors, courts, and Tribal jurisdictions to facilitate the widespread enforcement of protection orders, including interstate enforcement, enforcement between States and Tribal jurisdictions, and enforcement between Tribal jurisdictions.
8. To develop or strengthen policies and training for police, prosecutors, and the judiciary in recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of domestic violence dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking against individuals 50 years of age or over, Deaf individuals, and individuals with disabilities (as defined in section 12102(2) of Title 42).
9. To develop State, Tribal, territorial, or local policies, procedures, and protocols for preventing dual arrests and prosecutions in cases of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and to develop effective methods for identifying the pattern and history of abuse that indicates which party is the actual perpetrator of abuse.
10. To plan, develop and establish comprehensive victim service and support centers, such as family justice centers, designed to bring together victim advocates from victim service providers, staff from population specific organizations, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, probation officers, governmental victim assistants, forensic medical professionals, civil legal attorneys, chaplains, legal advocates, representatives from community-based organizations and other relevant public or private agencies or organizations into one centralized location, in order to improve safety, access to services, and confidentiality for victims and families. Although funds may be used to support the colocation of project partners under this paragraph, funds may not support construction or major renovation expenses or activities that fall outside of the scope of the other statutory purpose areas.
11. To develop and implement policies and training for police, prosecutors, probation and parole officers, and the judiciary in recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of sexual assault, with an emphasis on recognizing the threat to the community for repeat crime perpetration by such individuals.

12. To develop, enhance, and maintain protection order registries.
13. To develop human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) testing programs for sexual assault perpetrators and notification and counseling protocols.
14. To develop and implement training programs for prosecutors and other prosecution-related personnel regarding best practices to ensure offender accountability, victim safety, and victim consultation in cases involving domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
15. To develop or strengthen policies, protocols, and training for law enforcement, prosecutors, and the judiciary in recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking against immigrant victims, including the appropriate use of applications for nonimmigrant status under subparagraphs (T) and (U) of section 1101(a)(15) of Title 8.
16. To develop and promote State, local, or Tribal legislation and policies that enhance best practices for responding to the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including the appropriate treatment of victims.
17. To develop, implement, or enhance sexual assault nurse examiner programs or sexual assault forensic examiner programs, including the hiring and training of such examiners.
18. To develop, implement, or enhance Sexual Assault Response Teams or similar coordinated community responses to sexual assault.
19. To develop and strengthen policies, protocols, and training for law enforcement officers and prosecutors regarding the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases and the appropriate treatment of victims, including victims among underserved populations (as defined in section 12291(a) of this title).
20. To provide human immunodeficiency virus testing programs, counseling, and prophylaxis for victims of sexual assault.
21. To identify and inventory backlogs of sexual assault evidence collection kits and to develop protocols for responding to and addressing such backlogs, including policies and protocols for notifying and involving victims.
22. To develop multidisciplinary high-risk teams focusing on reducing domestic violence and dating violence homicides by—
 - (a) using evidence-based indicators to assess the risk of homicide and link high-risk victims to immediate crisis intervention services;
 - (b) identifying and managing high-risk offenders; and
 - (c) providing ongoing victim advocacy and referrals to comprehensive services including legal, housing, health care, and economic assistance.
23. To develop, strengthen, and implement policies, protocols, and training for law enforcement regarding cases of missing or murdered Indians, as described in 25 U.S.C. § 5704. **(Note: Proposals under this purpose area must have the primary purpose of improving the criminal justice response to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking as serious violations of criminal law, and seeking safety and autonomy of victims, as required by 34 U.S.C. § 10461(a).)**
24. To compile and annually report data to the Attorney General related to missing or murdered Indians, as described in 25 U.S.C. § 5705. **(Note: Proposals under this purpose area must**

have the primary purpose of improving the criminal justice response to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking as serious violations of criminal law, and seeking safety and autonomy of victims, as required by 34 U.S.C. § 10461(a.)

25. To develop Statewide databases with information on where sexual assault nurse examiners are located.
26. To develop and implement alternative methods of reducing crime in communities, to supplant punitive programs or policies. For purposes of this paragraph, a punitive program or policy is a program or policy that—
 - (a) imposes a penalty on a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, on the basis of a request by the victim for law enforcement or emergency assistance; or
 - (b) imposes a penalty on such a victim because of criminal activity at the property in which the victim resides.

Note:

- Because the majority of the statutory purpose areas listed above include functions and/or activities that are inherently governmental, state/Tribal coalitions and victim service providers applying as the lead applicant can only apply to address purpose areas 5, 10, and 17 above.
- Applicants requesting to fund legal assistance components to their project will only be funded if they have an existing legal services infrastructure or if they partner with an organization that has an existing legal services infrastructure. Applicants may not request to stand up a new legal assistance component.

Statutory Considerations

Sexual Assault Statutory Set Aside

When awarding funds, OVW must ensure that, “not less than 25 percent [of appropriated funds] shall be available for projects that address sexual assault, including stranger rape, acquaintance rape, alcohol or drug facilitated rape, and rape within the context of an intimate partner relationship.” 34 U.S.C. § 10461(g).

- Therefore, applicants proposing to implement 45 percent or more of their project activities to support sexual assault responses **may apply for up to \$200,000 in additional funding**.
- Projects that are funded through a FY 2025 award may, at the end of the 36-month project period, be invited to apply for noncompetitive funding. These projects could receive up to 24 months of additional funding provided that there is documented compliance with the financial and programmatic requirements of the award, including whether the grantee has spent down the grant funds during the initial 36-month period. Grantees invited to apply for noncompetitive funding to continue their projects past the initial period would be required to submit a new budget and narrative for the remaining 24 months of the project. If invited to apply for this

additional funding, the project would be subject to the budgetary cap of that future year's NOFO, not any higher cap for addressing sexual assault.

Applicants applying for this additional funding must allocate at least 45 percent of grant-funded activities to addressing sexual assault (**including non-intimate partner sexual assault**) and must address one or more of the following purpose areas, found at 34 U.S.C. § 10461(b)(11), (13), (17)-(21), (25):

- (11) To develop and implement policies and training for police, prosecutors, probation and parole officers, and the judiciary in recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of sexual assault.
- (13) To develop human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) testing programs for sexual assault perpetrators.
- (17) To develop, implement, or enhance sexual assault nurse examiner programs or sexual assault forensic examiner programs, including the hiring and training of such examiners.
- (18) To develop, implement, or enhance Sexual Assault Response Teams or similar coordinated community responses to sexual assault.
- (19) To develop and strengthen policies, protocols, and training for law enforcement officers and prosecutors regarding the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases and the appropriate treatment of victims.
- (20) To provide human immunodeficiency virus testing programs, counseling, and prophylaxis for victims of sexual assault
- (21) To identify and inventory backlogs of sexual assault evidence collection kits and to develop protocols for responding to and addressing such backlogs.
- (25) To develop Statewide databases with information on where sexual assault nurse examiners are located.

Examples of key activities that meaningfully address the aforementioned ICJR sexual assault-focused purpose areas (11, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 25) include, but are not limited to:

- Hiring and training of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners and Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners;
- Creating a database with information to assist in locating Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners;
- Training investigators and prosecutors to appropriately interview adults and youth over age 11 who are victims of sexual assault, and understand how the neurobiology of trauma affects a victim's ability to recount events;
- Developing, reviewing and/or revising non-intimate partner sexual assault programming, policies, and procedures;

- Law enforcement and prosecutorial capacity building and training for non-intimate partner sexual assault, including sexual assaults that may accompany or be facilitated by online abuse, harassment and/or sexual exploitation;
- Victim advocacy service capacity building and/or service enhancement for non-intimate partner sexual assault (medical, law enforcement, and court accompaniment/advocacy; 24-hour hotline services; crisis intervention; short-term individual and group support services; and comprehensive service coordination); and
- Meaningful inclusion of community-based, culturally specific services and support for survivors of sexual assault, to include outreach activities for underserved communities.

Note: Applicants are not required to address the sexual assault statutory set aside; however, all applicants must identify on their Summary Data Sheet the percentage of the proposed project that addresses sexual assault.

ICJR Grant Program Statutory Priority Areas

Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 10462(b), OVW must prioritize applicants that:

1. Do not currently provide for centralized handling of cases involving domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking by police, prosecutors, and courts;
2. Demonstrate a commitment to strong enforcement of laws, and prosecution of cases, involving domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including the enforcement of protection orders from other states and jurisdictions (including Tribal jurisdictions);
3. Have established cooperative agreements or can demonstrate effective ongoing collaborative arrangements with neighboring jurisdictions to facilitate the enforcement of protection orders from other States and jurisdictions (including Tribal jurisdictions); and
4. In applications describing plans to further the purposes stated in purpose areas 4 or 7 above, will use the grant to develop and install data collection and communication systems, including computerized systems, and training on how to use these systems effectively to link police, prosecutors, courts, and Tribal jurisdictions for the purpose of identifying and tracking protection orders and violations of protection orders, in those jurisdictions where such systems do not exist or are not fully effective.

Applicants proposing to address one or more of these statutory priority areas must discuss how they meet one or more of these priority areas in their [Proposal Narrative](#) (and identify the statutory priority area(s) addressed within the “Summary Data Sheet” section. An applicant that addresses one or more of the statutory priority area(s) will be given special consideration during the application review process.

Priorities

Applications that fare well in merit review and substantively address one or more of the priorities listed below, to the extent consistent with the program’s authorizing statute, may receive priority consideration for funding:

1. Measures to combat human trafficking and transnational crime, particularly crimes linked to illegal immigration and cartel operations, that support safety and justice for trafficking victims who have also suffered domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and/or stalking;
2. Projects to provide victim services, especially housing, and improve law enforcement response in rural and remote areas, Tribal nations, and small towns that often lack resources to effectively combat domestic violence and sexual assault; and
3. Proposals submitted by states or units of local government that certify they comply with federal immigration law, including 8 U.S.C. § 1373.

Program Requirements

Applicants that receive funding under this program will be required to engage in the following activities:

1. Participate in OVW-sponsored training and technical assistance (TTA).
2. Collect and report performance indicators. Forms, instructions, training, and related tools for each OVW program are available on the [VAWA Measuring Effectiveness Initiative webpage](#).
3. Participate in an assessment or evaluation, if OVW conducts one that requires recipient involvement.
4. Attend an ICJR new grantee orientation.
5. Participate in OVW training and technical assistance to improve service delivery, increase understanding, and build capacity to support survivors.
6. If applicable, participate in training and technical assistance to satisfy the [Prosecution Certification](#) required by VAWA 2022.

Program-Specific Unallowable Costs

Applications proposing activities described below may have points deducted during the review process or may be removed from consideration.

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. See the [Application Companion Guide](#) for more details about these activities, including program-specific information.

Out-of-Scope Activities

The activities listed below are out of the program scope and will not be funded.

1. Research projects. Funds under this program may not be used to conduct research, defined by 28 C.F.R. § 46.102(d) as a systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. However, assessments conducted for internal improvement purposes only may be allowable. For information on distinguishing between research and assessments, see the [Application Companion Guide](#).
2. Promoting or facilitating the violation of federal immigration law.
3. Inculcating or promoting gender ideology as defined in Executive Order 14168, *Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government*.
4. Promoting or facilitating discriminatory programs or ideology, including illegal DEI and “diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility” programs that do not advance the policy of equal dignity and respect, as described in Executive Order 14173, *Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity*. This prohibition is not intended to interfere with any of OVW’s statutory obligations, such as funding for HBCUs, culturally specific services, and disability programs.
5. Activities that frame domestic violence or sexual assault as systemic social justice issues rather than criminal offenses (e.g., prioritizing criminal justice reform or social justice theories over victim safety and offender accountability).
6. Generic community engagement or economic development without a clear link to violence prevention, victim safety, or offender accountability.
7. Programs that discourage collaboration with law enforcement or oppose or limit the role of police, prosecutors, or immigration enforcement in addressing violence against women.
8. Awareness campaigns or media that do not lead to tangible improvements in prevention, victim safety, or offender accountability.
9. Initiatives that prioritize illegal aliens over U.S. citizens and legal residents in receiving victim services and support.
10. Excessive funding for consulting fees, training, administrative costs, or other expenses not related to measurable violence prevention, victim support, and offender accountability.
11. Any activity or program that unlawfully violates an Executive Order.
12. Prevention activities. Grant funds may not be used for prevention activities. Grantees are only permitted to engage in outreach activities to inform potential victims about the availability of services.
13. Family violence. Grants funds may not be used to investigate, prosecute, and/or provide services in cases involving violence between a parent or guardian and child or violence

between siblings. Grant funds also may not be used for caregiver abuse of elders and other vulnerable adults unless the caregiver is the victim's intimate partner. These limitations do not apply to grant funds directed toward addressing sexual assault.

14. Services related to child protection systems / dependency proceedings. Grant funds may not be used to provide support or services related to a child protection system or child dependency process, unless the proceedings or processes relate to or arise out of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, of a child's parent or guardian.
15. Services for victims under age 11. Grant funds may not be used to investigate, prosecute, and/or provide services in cases involving victims under the age of 11, unless: 1) the domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking was part of a pattern of conduct that began when the victim was under age 11 and continued after the victim reached the age of 11, and/or 2) services for the child under age 11 are ancillary to those available to the child's parent or guardian who is a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking.
16. Sex offender registry. Grant funds may not be used to create sex offender registries.
17. Missing or murdered indigenous persons. Grant funds may not be used for policies, protocols, training or data collection and reporting that do not further the purpose of improving the criminal justice response to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking as serious violations of criminal law, and seeking safety and autonomy for victims.
18. Criminal representation. For projects providing legal assistance, grant funds may not be used for criminal representation of victims charged with crimes. However, grant funds may be used for postconviction relief proceedings in state, local, Tribal, or territorial court where the conviction of a victim is related to or arising from domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or sex trafficking victimization.
19. Tort cases. For projects providing legal assistance, grant funds may not be used for representation in tort cases. However, grant funds may be used to provide assistance in obtaining restitution in a protection order or criminal case.

Note: Recipients should serve all eligible victims as required by statute, regulation, or award condition.

Other Unallowable Costs

Grant funds under this program also may not be used for the following costs:

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

Limited Use of Funds

Recipients of an award under this program may use up to three percent of the funds to assess the need for internal improvements (e.g. convening listening sessions to identify service gaps in the community; surveying participants about the quality of the training.) The OVW research decision tree in the [Application Companion Guide](#) describes how applicants can ensure that such assessments are not prohibited human subjects research.

Activities Requiring Prior Approval

Recipients must receive prior approval before using grant funds to support surveys, regardless of their purpose, to ensure they are within the scope of the award and meet the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (see the [Application Companion Guide](#) for more information).

Type of Award

Awards will be made as grants.

Application Contents and Format

Letter of Intent

Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a Letter of Intent stating their intention to apply. The letter should be submitted to OVW at OVW.ICJR@usdoj.gov by May 23, 2025. This letter does not obligate the applicant to apply, and applicants that do not submit this letter can still apply. See the OVW website for a sample [Letter of Intent](#).

Application Contents

Applications must include the required documents and meet the program eligibility requirements. For a checklist of all required items, see the [Application Submission Checklist](#) section of this NOFO.

OVW will not contact applicants for missing items on the list below. **Applications must include ALL the following to be considered for funding:**

Required Application Components	Number of Possible Points
Proposal Narrative	
Purpose of the Proposal	20
What Will Be Done	45
Who Will Implement	15
Budget	
Budget worksheet and narrative	15
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and/or Supporting Documents	
MOU or Letter of Commitment (LOC) from courts, Tribal governments, and Tribal victim service providers	5

Formatting and Technical Requirements

Applications must follow the requirements below for all attachments, unless otherwise noted. OVW may deduct points for applications that do not adhere to these requirements:

1. Double-spaced text (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. Correctly numbered pages
6. No more than 20 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 those identified below for each application component

Proposal Abstract

The Proposal Abstract must provide a short summary (no more than 2000 characters) of the proposed project, including names of lead applicant and project partners, project title, purpose of the project, primary activities for which funds are requested, who will benefit (including geographic area to be served), and products and deliverables. The abstract should not summarize past accomplishments. The Proposal Abstract must be entered into a text box in JustGrants. It will not be scored but will be used throughout the review process.

Data Requested with Application

Applicants must complete the Pre-Award Risk Assessment questionnaire in JustGrants. The questionnaire will not be scored. The questions are listed in [Appendix A](#) of this NOFO.

Summary Data Sheet

The Summary Data Sheet must be completed and submitted as an attachment under the Additional Application Components section in JustGrants. It will not be scored. Refer to [Appendix B](#) for the list of questions

Proposal Narrative

(80 points, 20 pages maximum, double-spaced)

The Proposal Narrative must include the sections outlined below.

Purpose of the Proposal (20 points)

This section must:

1. Describe the populations in the service area and the needs the project will address.
2. If applicable, describe how the proposal will address [priority](#) one (human trafficking and transnational crime) and/or [priority](#) two (under-resourced rural and remote areas, Tribal nations, and small towns).
3. Describe the characteristics of the service area. Be sure to include any geographic or population specific information including rates of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, non-intimate partner sexual assault, and stalking as applicable to the proposal. (Note: Applicants must upload a service area map with population size to their application in JustGrants. The map will not count towards the 20-page limit.)
4. Describe the challenge(s) or need(s) faced by the community that the project would address.
5. Identify the [purpose area\(s\)](#) the application is proposing to address, as they relate to the challenge(s) or need(s) identified.
6. Explain how the proposed project will complement and not duplicate currently available services.
7. If applicable, describe how the proposal will address one or more of the [ICJR Grant Program Statutory Priorities](#).

What Will Be Done (45 points)

The application must provide a clear link between the proposed activities and the need identified in the "Purpose of the Proposal" section above. This section should not include any of the activities listed as [unallowable costs](#) in the Program Description section of this NOFO.

This section must:

1. Describe how the proposed project will address the needs identified in the Purpose of the Proposal section above.
2. Describe the goals, objectives, and activities for the proposed project.
3. Describe how the applicant will track project goals and objectives, how success will be measured.
4. Provide a detailed timeline for the proposed project that demonstrates how the activities will be accomplished within the 36-month project period.
5. List and describe all deliverables or products, if any (e.g., a video, brochure, curriculum, training, website, or other electronic media), that will be created under this project.
6. Describe what steps the applicant and any proposed partner(s) will take to make proposed services accessible to people with disabilities, people with limited English proficiency, and people who are Deaf or hard of hearing.

Who Will Implement the Proposal (15 points)

This section must:

1. Identify the key people and organizations, including project partners involved in the proposed project.
2. Demonstrate that the people and organizations identified have the capacity to address the stated need and can successfully implement the proposed project activities. Job descriptions of all key personnel must be attached but will not count toward the page limit.
3. Provide detailed information about the experience and expertise of the organizations, key personnel, and project partners who will be directly involved with the proposed project. Include information on how they will address the needs and challenges identified.
4. Explain which goals, objectives, and activities key personnel and project partners implementing the project will work on.

Budget and Associated Documentation

OVW awards are governed by the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200 and the [DOJ Financial Guide](#).

Applicants must submit a detailed budget and budget narrative and upload the applicable associated documentation under each heading, as described below. The budget worksheet and budget narrative will be reviewed separately from the Proposal Narrative. The associated documentation will not be scored, but failure to include it may result in removal from consideration or a delay in access to funding.

For additional information on budget requirements and allowable costs, see the [Budget Information](#), the [Sample Budget Narrative](#) (including Excel file), and the [Creating a Budget](#) webinar on the OVW website.

Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (15 points)

Applicants must upload in JustGrants a detailed budget and budget narrative for all applicable cost categories. OVW strongly encourages using a spreadsheet (e.g., Excel, Numbers, etc.) for the budget worksheet. 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. Budgetary requirements vary among programs. The budget should be reasonable and based on the resources needed to implement the proposed project in the applicant's specific geographic location.

Award Period and Amounts

The award period is 36 months. Budgets, including the total "estimated funding" on the [SF-424](#), must reflect 36 months of project activity. OVW anticipates that the award period will start on October 1, 2025.

Funding levels under this program for FY 2025 are:

1. \$500,000 for projects that have a service area population up to 400,000;
2. \$750,000 for projects that have a service area population of 400,001 to 700,000;
3. \$1,000,000 for projects that have a service area population above 700,000; and
4. \$1,000,000 for statewide projects, regardless of population size. Note: Statewide projects must include activities that address the entire state.

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.

Budget Notes:

- Budgets should cover a project period of 36 months starting October 1, 2025, and ending on September 30, 2028. Budget requests should not exceed the funding levels listed above, based upon service area population, unless the applicant is addressing the sexual assault statutory consideration.
- If the applicant proposes to implement the sexual assault statutory consideration by allocating at least 45 percent of grant-funded activities to address sexual assault (including non-intimate partner sexual assault), such applicants may apply for up to an additional \$200,000, in addition to the budget cap corresponding to their service area population. Activities should cover the 36-month award period as discussed above.
- Applications that include legal services must limit direct legal services to no more than 30 percent of project activities. Applicants requesting to fund legal assistance components to their project will only be funded if they have an existing legal services infrastructure or if they partner with an organization that has an existing legal services infrastructure. Applicants cannot request to stand up a new legal services program.

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. Fairly and reasonably compensate all project partners for their full level of effort, unless otherwise stated in the MOU or LOC.
3. Include sufficient funds to provide language access, identify other funds that the applicant has budgeted for language access for this project, or describe other resources that the applicant has secured to ensure meaningful access for persons with limited English proficiency. See the [Accessibility](#) section of this NOFO for more information.
4. Include sufficient funds to provide access for people with disabilities or who are Deaf/hard of hearing, identify other funds that the applicant has budgeted for such access for this project, or describe other resources that the applicant has secured to ensure meaningful access for such people. See the [Accessibility](#) section of this NOFO for more information.
5. Include funds to attend OVW-sponsored TTA in the amount of \$40,000 for applicants located in the 48 contiguous states and \$45,000 for applicants located in Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, Hawaii, and Alaska. This amount is for the entire 36-month and NOT per year. Applicants also may budget expenses in excess of the required amount if they are aware of relevant non-OVW sponsored conferences or training for which they would like permission to use grant funds to support staff/project partner attendance.

Note: OVW-sponsored TTA amounts should include attendance at the required new grantee orientation and if applicable, additional training that will satisfy the Prosecution Certification as described in the Required Certifications section.

6. Distinguish clearly between subawards and contracts in allocating any grant funds to other entities.
 - a. 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 recipient's use.
 - b. The substance of the relationship is more important than the form of the agreement in determining whether the entity receiving federal funds is a subrecipient or a contractor.
 - c. 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 oversight requirements in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317-200.327.
 - d. The issuance and monitoring of subawards must meet the requirements of 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.328-200.329 & 200.332, which includes oversight of subrecipient spending and overall performance to ensure that the goals of the subaward are achieved.

For more information on distinguishing between subawards and contracts, see the [Budget Information](#), the [Sample Budget Narrative](#), and the [Application Companion Guide](#).

It is recommended that potential applicants review the Grants Financial Management Division's (GFMD) [Creating a Budget Training](#), which explains the core components and attributes required to design an OVW approved budget.

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 Costs Guidelines (posted on the [OVW website](#)).

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 Planning](#).

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 federal

negotiated indirect cost rate (including provisional rate), may elect to charge a de minimis rate of up to 15% 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.

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.

Nonprofits Only: Disclosure of Process for Setting Executive Compensation (if applicable)

Nonprofit organizations that use the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) Safe Harbor Procedure (described below) must submit a special disclosure to OVW (required by 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(15)(B)(iii)). All other applicants may skip this section.

IRS Safe Harbor Procedure: A nonprofit organization that provides unreasonably high compensation to certain executives may subject both the organization's managers and those who receive the compensation to additional federal taxes. However, the IRS may treat executive compensation levels as reasonable if the nonprofit organization satisfies certain rules set out in IRS regulations. These rules concern the organization's process for making compensation decisions and are known as the "three-step safe-harbor procedure" to create a "rebuttable presumption" of reasonableness for compensation of an organization's executives. See 26 C.F.R. § 53.4958-6.

The special disclosure must describe the process the applicant uses to determine the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees, and key employees. At a minimum it must describe (terms explained in IRS regulations are in italics):

1. the composition of the body that reviews and approves *compensation* arrangements for officers, directors, trustees, and key employees (covered individuals);
2. the methods and practices used by the organization to ensure that no individual with a *conflict of interest* participates in such review and approval;
3. the *appropriate data as to comparability* (obtained in advance) that the body uses to review and approve compensation arrangements for covered individuals; and
4. the records the applicant maintains as concurrent and adequate *documentation* of the body's decisions related to compensation, including records of deliberations and of the basis for decisions.

The disclosure must be uploaded as an attachment to the application in JustGrants, titled "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation." A sample disclosure is available on the [OVW website](#).

Note: OVW is required by law to make the applicant’s disclosure available for public inspection, if requested. In addition, if funded, the applicant must update its disclosure in certain circumstances (e.g., if it changes the way it determines compensation).

Memorandum of Understanding and Supporting Documents

Memorandum of Understanding and/or Letter of Commitment (5 points)

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

The MOU is a document containing the terms of the partnership and the allocation of roles and responsibilities between two or more parties, and it must be included as an attachment to the application in JustGrants. The MOU is not a substitute for a subaward agreement, which ensures that subrecipients adhere to the requirements of the award and 2 C.F.R. Part 200 (see 2 C.F.R. § 200.332). Partners receiving funds under the award generally are considered subrecipients because they are carrying out a portion of the federal award.

The MOU **must** be a single document developed specifically for this application. It **must** be signed and currently dated by the Authorized Representative of each proposed partner organization. OVW will accept electronic signatures. MOUs missing signatures may result in a point deduction or **removal from consideration, particularly if the MOU is missing the signature of a required partner**. If necessary, an MOU can include multiple signature pages so long as each page includes the names and titles of all signatories to the MOU. A sample [MOU](#) is available on the OVW website.

The MOU must clearly:

1. Identify the project partners and provide a brief history of the collaborative relationship between those partners, including when and under what circumstances the collaborative relationship began and when each partner entered into the relationship.
2. Describe the roles and responsibilities each partner will assume to ensure the success of the proposed project.
3. State that each project partner has reviewed the budget, is aware of the total amount being requested, and is being equitably compensated for their work under the grant or is agreeing to be partially compensated or receive no compensation from the grant.
4. Describe the resources each partner would contribute to the project, either through time, in-kind contributions, or grant funds (e.g., office space, project staff, and training).
5. Demonstrate the commitment of each project partner to work together to achieve stated project goals.
6. Identify the key personnel who will be responsible for developing and implementing project activities and describe how they will work together and with project partners.

Letter(s) of Commitment (LOC)

The LOC is a letter affirming the intent to commit the specified resources towards the project by one party and it must be included as an attachment to the application in JustGrants. Courts unable to submit an MOU may submit an LOC in its place. Tribal governments or Tribal victim service providers unable to submit a signed MOU may submit a Letter of Commitment from each partnering organization(s). If funded, the Tribal applicant will be required to submit a signed MOU as a deliverable post award

If a court, Tribal Government, or Tribal victim service provider is unable to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), they may submit a LOC in lieu of entering into an MOU as described below:

1. If the court, Tribal government, or Tribal victim service provider is the lead applicant and unable to enter into an MOU, all project partners should submit LOCs and no MOU is required. If the Tribal government or Tribal victim service provider is the applicant and is funded, the applicant will be required to submit a signed MOU as a deliverable by the end of the first year of their award.

If the court, Tribal government, or Tribal victim service provider is a project partner and unable to sign an MOU, the lead applicant should still submit an MOU signed by the applicant and any other non-court, Tribal government, or Tribal victim service provider partners and the court, Tribal government, or Tribal victim service provider partner should submit an LOC.

Note: LOCs submitted in lieu of an MOU under circumstances other than those defined above will not be accepted.

The LOC must clearly:

1. Identify the partners and provide a brief history of the collaborative relationship between those partners, including when and under what circumstances the collaborative relationship began and when each partner entered into the relationship.
2. Describe the roles and responsibilities each partner will assume to ensure the success of the proposed project.
3. State that each project partner has reviewed the budget, is aware of the total amount being requested, and is being equitably compensated for their work under the grant or is agreeing to be partially compensated or receive no compensation from the grant.
4. Describe the resources each partner would contribute to the project, either through time, in-kind contributions, or grant funds (e.g., office space, project staff, and training).
5. Demonstrate the commitment of each project partner to work together to achieve stated project goals.

6. Identify the key personnel who will be responsible for developing and implementing project activities and describe how they will work together and with project partners

Additional Application Components

The following documents will not be scored but must be uploaded and attached to the application in JustGrants. Failure to do so may 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.

Certification Regarding Out-of-Scope Activities

Applicants must attach a letter to OVW's Director, signed by the Authorized Representative, certifying that grant funds will not be used for the following out-of-scope activities:

1. Promoting or facilitating the violation of federal immigration law.
2. Inculcating or promoting gender ideology as defined in Executive Order 14168, *Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government*.
3. Promoting or facilitating discriminatory programs or ideology, including illegal DEI and "diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility" programs that do not advance the policy of equal dignity and respect, as described in Executive Order 14173, *Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity*. This prohibition is not intended to interfere with any of OVW's statutory obligations, such as funding for HBCUs, culturally specific services, and disability programs.
4. Activities that frame domestic violence or sexual assault as systemic social justice issues rather than criminal offenses (e.g., prioritizing criminal justice reform or social justice theories over victim safety and offender accountability).
5. Generic community engagement or economic development without a clear link to violence prevention, victim safety, or offender accountability.
6. Programs that discourage collaboration with law enforcement or oppose or limit the role of police, prosecutors, or immigration enforcement in addressing violence against women.
7. Awareness campaigns or media that do not lead to tangible improvements in prevention, victim safety, or offender accountability.
8. Initiatives that prioritize illegal aliens over U.S. citizens and legal residents in receiving victim services and support.
9. Excessive funding for consulting fees, training, administrative costs, or other expenses not related to measurable violence prevention, victim support, and offender accountability.
10. Research projects.

11. Any activity or program that unlawfully violates an Executive Order.

Note: Nothing in this certification prohibits recipients from serving all eligible victims as required by statute, regulation, or award condition.

Certification Regarding Compliance with Federal Immigration Law

State or local government applicants seeking [priority consideration](#) for compliance with federal immigration law, including 8 U.S.C. § 1373, must submit a letter making this certification signed by the applicant's Authorized Representative.

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.

Proof of 501(c)(3) Status (Nonprofit Organizations Only)

As noted under the [Eligible Applicants](#) section, an entity that is eligible for this program based on its status as a nonprofit organization must be an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of the Code. All such applicants are required to attach a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service recognizing their tax-exempt status. OVW cannot make an award to any nonprofit organization that does not submit a 501(c)(3) determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service.

Confidentiality Notice Form

All applicants are required to acknowledge that they have received notice that recipients and subrecipients 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.

Certifications of Eligibility

Applicants should upload in JustGrants under this heading the Certifications of Eligibility appropriate for their type of jurisdiction and compliance status as described below.

Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 10461(c), **all applicants must provide Certifications of Eligibility (COEs)** about the laws, policies, and/or practices of their jurisdictions in order to qualify for an ICJR award. These COEs must be signed by the Chief Executive Officer of the applicant for states, local governments, Tribal governments, and courts or the state, unit of local government, or Tribal government partner for victim service provider and state/Tribal coalition applicants. "Chief Executive Officer" means the highest official of a state, unit of local government, Tribe, or court. Examples of Chief Executive Officers include: the governor for a state applicant, the mayor or county executive for

a unit of local government, or Tribal chairperson for a Tribal government applicant. Other government officials, such as the District Attorney or Attorney General, are not considered the Chief Executive Officer. A victim service provider or state/Tribal coalition cannot sign the COEs.

With the exception of courts, all applicants must also provide two additional letters:

- 1) a Prosecution Certification, and
- 2) a Minor Certification.

Each certification varies depending upon the type of applicant and whether their jurisdiction is in, or will come into, compliance with the requirements of the statute as follows.

➤ **Applicants that are states, Indian Tribal governments, or units of local government must complete all three (3) certifications: a Certification of Eligibility, a Prosecution Certification, and a Minor Certification:**

- I. In the ICJR General Certification of Eligibility, the above-mentioned applicants must:
 - A. If the jurisdiction is currently and fully in compliance,
 - i. certify that their laws or official policies:
 - a. encourage arrests of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking offenders based on probable cause that an offense has been committed; and
 - b. encourage arrest of offenders who violate the terms of a valid and outstanding protection order;
 - ii. demonstrate that their laws, policies, or practices and their training programs discourage dual arrests of offender and victim;
 - iii. certify that their laws, policies, or practices prohibit issuance of mutual restraining orders of protection except in cases where both parties file a claim and the court makes detailed findings of fact indicating that both parties acted primarily as aggressors and that neither party acted primarily in self-defense;
 - iv. certify that their laws, policies, and practices do not require, in connection with the prosecution of any misdemeanor or felony domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking offense, or in connection with the filing, issuance, registration, modification, enforcement, dismissal, or service of a protection order, or a petition for a protection order, to protect a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault, that the victim bear the costs associated with the filing of criminal charges against the offender, or the costs associated with the filing, issuance, registration, modification, enforcement, dismissal, or service of a warrant, protection order, petition for a

protection order, or witness subpoena, whether issued inside or outside the State, Tribal, or local jurisdiction; and

- v. certify that, their laws, policies, or practices will ensure that—
 1. no law enforcement officer, prosecuting officer or other government official shall ask or require an adult, youth, or child victim of a sex offense as defined under Federal, Tribal, State, territorial, or local law to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth telling device as a condition for proceeding with the investigation of, trial of, or sentencing for such an offense; and
 2. the refusal of a victim to submit to an examination described in clause (i) shall not prevent the investigation of, trial of, or sentencing for the offense.
- B. For new applicants only, if the jurisdiction will come into compliance with all five (5) elements **within the period ending on the date on which the next session of the State or Indian Tribal legislature ends**, the applicant should state that they will do so and enumerate each of the five (5) elements listed above.

Sample ICJR General [Certification of Eligibility](#) letters can be found on the OVW website.

State or local courts (including juvenile courts) must submit one Courts Certificate of Eligibility (COE) to:

- 1) certify that their laws, policies, or practices prohibit issuance of mutual restraining orders of protection except in cases where both parties file a claim, and the court makes detailed findings of fact indicating that both parties acted primarily as aggressors and that neither party acted primarily in self-defense;
- 2) certify that their laws, policies, and practices do not require, in connection with the prosecution of any misdemeanor or felony domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking offense, or in connection with the filing, issuance, registration, modification, enforcement, dismissal, or service of a protection order, or a petition for a protection order, to protect a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault, that the victim bear the costs associated with the filing of criminal charges against the offender, or the costs associated with the filing, issuance, registration, modification, enforcement, dismissal, or service of a warrant, protection order, petition for a protection order, or witness subpoena, whether issued inside or outside the State, Tribal, or local jurisdiction;
- 3) certify that, their laws, policies, or practices will ensure that—
 - (ii) no law enforcement officer, prosecuting officer or other government official shall ask or require an adult, youth, or child victim of a sex offense as defined under Federal, Tribal, State, territorial, or local law to submit to a polygraph examination or other

- truth telling device as a condition for proceeding with the investigation of, trial of, or sentencing for such an offense; and
- (iii) the refusal of a victim to submit to an examination described in clause (i) shall not prevent the investigation of, trial of, or sentencing for the offense.

A sample [Courts' Certification of Eligibility letter](#) can be found on the OVW website.

II. The Prosecution Certification requires all applicants with the exception of courts to:

- (1) If the jurisdiction is currently and fully in compliance,
 - i. certify that the laws, policies, and practices of the State or the jurisdiction in which the eligible grantee is located ensure that prosecutor's offices engage in planning, developing, and implementing—
 - (1) training developed by experts in the field regarding victim-centered approaches in domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking cases;
 - (2) policies that support a victim-centered approach, informed by such training; and
 - (3) a protocol outlining alternative practices and procedures for material witness petitions and bench warrants, consistent with best practices, that shall be exhausted before employing material witness petitions and bench warrants to obtain victim-witness testimony in the investigation, prosecution, and trial of a crime related to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking of the victim in order to prevent further victimization and trauma to the victim; and
- (2) If the jurisdiction will come into compliance, **not later than 3 years after the date on which an eligible grantee receives the first ICJR award after the date of the enactment of the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2022**, the above-mentioned applicants may certify their intent to complete the foregoing three parts, also found at 34 U.S.C. § 10461(c)(1)(F).

Sample [Prosecution Certification letters](#) can be found on the OVW website.

III. The Minor Certification requires all applicants with the exception of courts to:

- A. If the jurisdiction is currently and fully in compliance,
 - i. certify that the laws, policies, and practices of the State or the jurisdiction in which the eligible grantee is located prohibits the prosecution of a minor under the age of 18 with respect to prostitution.
- B. If the jurisdiction **will come into compliance with this element within the period ending on the date on which the next session of the State or Indian Tribal legislature ends**, the applicant should state that they will do so prospectively.

Sample [Minor Certification letters](#) can be found on the OVW website.

- **A State, Tribal, or territorial domestic violence or sexual assault coalition or a victim service provider that partners with a State, Indian Tribal government, or unit of local government must submit three (3) certifications:**
 - 1) the Certificate of Eligibility, listed above, to indicate either current or future compliance;
 - 2) the Prosecution Certification, listed above, to indicate either current or future compliance;
and
 - 3) the Minor Certification, listed above, to indicate either current or future compliance.

These COEs must be signed by the Chief Executive Officer of the jurisdiction state, unit of local government, or Tribal government partner. A victim service provider or state/Tribal coalition cannot sign the COEs. Detailed information for all three COE's may be found above under "States, Indian Tribal Governments, or Units of Local Government" and in the [Sample Templates](#) available on the OVW website.

Please note that if a certification letter specifies that a recipient will come into compliance, OVW may freeze their funds if the recipient does not come into compliance by the end of the required period.

As noted, [sample letters](#) for the ICJR Certification of Eligibility, Prosecution Certification, and Minor Certification can all be found on the OVW website.

Additional Certifications

➤ HIV Certification

State and local government applicants also must upload the HIV certification, assurance, or letter of exemption as described below:

HIV Certification:

Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 10461(d), states and units of local government that receive ICJR Program funding shall not be entitled to five (5) percent of their total award unless the state or unit of local government:

1. certifies that it has a law, policy, or regulation that requires –
 - a. the state or unit of local government at the request of a victim to administer to a defendant, against whom an information or indictment is presented for a crime in which by force or threat of force the perpetrator compels the victim to engage in sexual activity, testing for the immunodeficiency virus (HIV) not later than 48 hours after the date on which the information or indictment is presented and the defendant is in custody or has been served with the information or indictment;

- b. as soon as practicable notification to the victim, or parent and guardian of the victim, and the defendant of the testing results; and
 - c. follow-up tests for HIV as may be medically appropriate, and that as soon as practicable after each such test the results be made available in accordance with subparagraph (b);
or
2. gives the Attorney General assurances that its laws and regulations will be in compliance with requirements of paragraph (1) within the period ending on the date on which the next session of the state legislature ends.

All state and local government applicants must submit either a certification that they are in compliance with the above requirement along with a copy of the relevant law, regulation, or policy, or an assurance attesting that the applicant will meet the requirement by the end of the next legislative session from the date of application. The certification or assurance must be in the form of a letter, on government letterhead, signed and dated by the authorized representative of the state or local government. A special condition withholding five percent of funds will be added to all awards to states and units of local governments that submit assurances or do not provide a compliant law, regulation, or policy with the certification.

Pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 90.64(b)(2), in the event that a unit of local government does not have authority to prosecute “crime[s] in which by force or threat of force the perpetrator compels the victim to engage in sexual activity[,]” the unit of local government may submit a letter from an appropriate legal authority in the jurisdiction certifying that the jurisdiction does not have authority to prosecute “crime[s] in which by force or threat of force the perpetrator compels the victim to engage in sexual activity” and that therefore the certification is not relevant to the unit of local government in question. The signed HIV Certification, HIV Assurance, or HIV Exemption letter must be uploaded as an additional attachment at the end of the application submission in JustGrants.

A sample [HIV certification](#) letter can be found on the OVW website.

Delivery of Legal Assistance Certification

If applicable, applicants must upload the legal assistance certification as described below

As referenced under [Other Program Eligibility Requirements](#), applicants proposing to provide legal assistance must certify in writing that:

1. any person providing legal assistance with funds through this program – (A)(i) is a licensed attorney or is working under the direct supervision of a licensed attorney; (ii) in immigration proceedings, is a Board of Immigration Appeals accredited representative; (iii) in Veterans’ Administration claims, is an accredited representative; or (iv) is any person who functions as an attorney or lay advocate in Tribal court; and (B)(i) has demonstrated expertise in providing legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking in the targeted population; or (ii)(I) is partnered with an entity or person that has demonstrated expertise described in clause (i); and (II) has completed, or will complete, training in

connection with domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault and related legal issues, including training on evidence-based risk factors for domestic and dating violence homicide;

2. any training program conducted in satisfaction of the requirement of paragraph (1) has been or will be developed with input from and in collaboration with a Tribal, state, territorial, local, or culturally specific domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking victim service provider or coalition, as well as appropriate Tribal, state, territorial, and local law enforcement officials;
3. any person or organization providing legal assistance with funds through this program has informed and will continue to inform state, local, or Tribal domestic violence, dating violence, or sexual assault programs and coalitions, as well as appropriate state and local law enforcement officials of their work; and
4. the recipient's organizational policies do not require mediation or counseling involving offenders and victims physically together, in cases where sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or child sexual abuse is an issue.

A sample [Delivery of Legal Assistance](#) letter is available on the OVW website.

Applicants failing to submit a Delivery of Legal Assistance letter will be required to submit a Delivery of Legal Assistance letter prior to acceptance of an award.

Disclosures and Assurances

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

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (if applicable)

Applicants are required to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure form (Standard Form/SF-LLL) **IF** they have paid or will pay any person to lobby in connection with the award for which they are applying **AND** their application is for more than \$100,000. This disclosure requirement is not applicable to such payments by an Indian Tribe, Tribal organization, or any other Indian organization that are permitted by other federal law. For this requirement, lobbying means influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress. (See 31 U.S.C. § 1352; 28 C.F.R. part 69.)

Applicants that are required to submit the SF-LLL must download the form from https://apply07.grants.gov/apply/forms/sample/SFLLL_2_0-V2.0.pdf, complete it, and upload it with their application when prompted to do so in JustGrants.

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 funding opportunity closes; 2) a subaward under an OVW grant or cooperative agreement that is open or that closed within 12 months of the date this funding opportunity 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 must 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.

DOJ Certified Standard Assurances

Applicants must read and acknowledge the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants, a copy of which is available [here](#).

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, a copy of which is available [here](#).

Submission Requirements and Deadlines

Address to Request Application Package

The complete application package (this NOFO, 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 202-307-6026 or at OVW.ICJR@usdoj.gov.

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](#) includes receiving a UEI and takes an average of **2 to 3 weeks**.
- Grants.gov: Registration with [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 contact the system's [help desk](#) and 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.

All applicants must maintain active registration in SAM.gov with current information whenever they have a federal award or an application under consideration by a federal agency. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that they are registered with SAM.gov, 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 **May 24, 2025. Failure to do so may result in missing the application deadline and therefore not being considered for funding.**

How to Apply

Step 1:

Submit the SF-424, which is generated when the applicant begins the submission process in Grants.gov. To view the form before completing it in Grants.gov, applicants should click the Package tab under the funding opportunity for which they are applying and select Preview. Preview then provides links to the form.

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 funding opportunity is subject to Executive Order (E.O.) 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs. Applicants must check the Office of Management and Budget's website for the names and addresses of state [Single Points of Contact](#) (SPOC) under Intergovernmental Review. If the applicant's state appears on the SPOC list, the applicant must contact the state SPOC to comply with the state's process under E.O. 12372. In completing the SF-424, the applicant must make the appropriate selection in response to question 19 once it has complied with its state E.O. 12372 process. An applicant whose state does not appear on the SPOC list should answer question 19 by selecting the following response: "Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the state for review."

Step 2:

Submit the full application, including attachments, in JustGrants at <https://justicegrants.usdoj.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. 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.

Note that the Grants.gov and JustGrants deadlines are typically only a few days apart.

Submission Dates and Times

- Deadline to submit form SF-424 in Grants.gov: 11:59 pm ET on June 16, 2025
- Deadline to submit the full application in JustGrants: 8:59 pm ET on June 18, 2025

Applicants must make every effort to submit their application electronically in Grants.gov and JustGrants by the deadlines above.

Applicants experiencing technical difficulties should refer to the [OVW Policy for Applicants Experiencing Technical Difficulties During the Registration and Submission Processes](#).

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.

Application Tip: OVW strongly encourages all applicants to begin the 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.

Application Submission Checklist

Applicants must submit all required application items. Prior to peer review, OVW will not contact applicants for missing items. Applicants applying to more than one OVW program are responsible for ensuring that only documents pertinent to this funding opportunity are included with this application. OVW will not redirect documents 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 Item	Required?	Submission Type	Submission Website	Date Completed
Application for Federal Assistance: SF-424	Yes	Online Form	Grants.gov	
Proposal Abstract	Yes	Online Form	JustGrants	

Application Item	Required?	Submission Type	Submission Website	Date Completed
<u>Pre-Award Risk Assessment</u>	Yes	Online Form	JustGrants	
<u>Summary Data Sheet</u>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Proposal Narrative</u>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative</u>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Indirect Cost Rate Agreement</u>	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation</u>	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Memorandum of Understanding/Letter(s) of Commitment</u>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Certification Regarding Out-of-Scope Activities</u>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Certification Regarding Compliance with Federal Immigration Law</u>	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Letter of Nonsupplanting</u>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Confidentiality Notice Form</u>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Disclosure of Lobbying Activities</u>	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Summary of Other Federal Funding</u>	If applicable	Online Form	JustGrants	
<u>Delivery of Legal Assistance Certification</u>	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Proof of 501(c)(3) Status (Nonprofit Organizations Only)</u>	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	

Application Item	Required?	Submission Type	Submission Website	Date Completed
<u>Certifications of Eligibility</u> a) <u>ICJR Certification</u> b) <u>Prosecution Certification</u> c) <u>Minor Certification</u>	As applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>HIV Certification</u>	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Service Area Map</u>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Job Descriptions</u>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	

OVW Policy for Applicants Experiencing Technical Difficulties

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.gov or Grants.gov

1. Contact [SAM.gov 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 the [OVW contact](#) by email, stating the applicant is experiencing technical difficulties with SAM.gov or Grants.gov. The applicant should provide regular updates to the OVW contact.
4. If the technical difficulty cannot be resolved before the Grants.gov deadline, the applicant must notify the [OVW contact](#) by email 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-424, Proposal Narrative, Budget and Budget Narrative, MOU and/or LOC (for courts, Tribal governments, and Tribal victim service providers only), Letter of Nonsupplanting, Confidentiality Notice Form, Certifications of Eligibility, HIV Certification, service area map and all documentation confirming the technical difficulty to the [OVW contact](#) by the [JustGrants deadline](#).

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. Work with OVW JustGrants Support to resolve the technical difficulty.
4. Email the [OVW contact](#) before the [JustGrants deadline](#). If an applicant must submit their application by email due to a technical difficulty, they must do so by the JustGrants 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-424, Proposal Narrative, Budget and Budget Narrative, MOU, and/or LOC (for courts, Tribal governments, and Tribal victim service providers only), Letter of Nonsupplanting, Confidentiality Notice Form, Certifications of Eligibility, HIV Certification, service area map, Delivery of Legal Assistance Certification (if applicable))

OVW does not guarantee that applications submitted by email will be considered for funding, even if the email is received before the JustGrants deadline. OVW will decide and notify applicants of the decision within 30 days of the JustGrants deadline. OVW may then ask applicants to coordinate with OVW to submit applications in Grants.gov and JustGrants.

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 the deadline. In such circumstances:

1. Email the [OVW contact](#) listed in this NOFO as soon as the applicant is aware of severe weather or disaster that may prevent the applicant from submitting the application on time. The email should describe the weather event or disaster, including when it occurred or is likely to occur, the impacted area, and the impact on the applicant and/or partners' ability to ensure the application is submitted before 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, then attach the application to the email.
2. After following step 1, 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.

Within 30 days of receiving a request for late submission, OVW will notify the applicant of a decision to approve or deny it.

Application Review Information

Responsiveness Review

Criteria that make an application or project ineligible are listed in the [Application Contents](#) and [Eligibility](#) sections of this NOFO. Additional information about circumstances that may result in removal from consideration is provided below under [Review and Selection Process](#) and [Risk Review](#).

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. Applications will also 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 even if it is included elsewhere within the application. Each section will be reviewed as a separate document and will be scored as such. Scoring details can be found in the [Application Contents](#) section of this NOFO.

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 NOFO. OVW may use internal reviewers, external reviewers, or a combination of both.

OVW peer reviewers may include victim advocates, judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officers, legal professionals, and others with expertise in areas such as Tribal communities, colleges and universities, rural areas, urban areas, working with people with disabilities or older adults, and providing services to victims, including transitional housing and services provided by community organizations and the faith community. While some peer reviewers are expert consultants on violence against women issues, the vast majority are current practitioners or recent retirees from the professions mentioned above. To ensure that applications are reviewed by people with on-the-ground experience responding to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, OVW does not use professional peer reviewers. All reviewers are required to adhere to OVW's peer review conflict of interest policy, which is designed to identify and resolve any issues that may call into question a reviewer's impartiality or objectivity regarding an application.

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 compliance with the program's scope, activities that compromise victim safety, and, if applicable, past performance and priority area review. OVW reserves the right to add up to 10 points to applications submitted by states and local governments that certify their compliance with federal immigration law.

OVW also reserves the right to give special consideration to applications fully addressing ICJR statutory priority areas including the sexual assault statutory priority area. As noted above, pursuant to statute "not less than 25 percent [of appropriated funds] shall be available for projects that address sexual assault." OVW also reserves the right to deduct points from applications for the following reasons:

1. Activities that compromise victim safety and recovery and undermine offender accountability (deduct up to 10 points).
2. Out-of-scope and unallowable activities (deduct up to 25 points).
3. Past performance (deduct up to 25 points).
4. Formatting and Technical Requirements (deduct up to 5 points).

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.
18. Justification for having 50% or more of ICJR grant funds remaining in their current award.

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

Risk Review

Prior to making an award, OVW must evaluate the risk posed by applicants as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.206(b), using the applicant's responses to the questions listed in [Appendix B](#). OVW also must review and consider integrity and performance information about applicants that is available in SAM.gov. Applicants may review and comment on information about themselves that another federal awarding agency has previously entered. OVW considers the applicant's comments as well as other information available in SAM.gov in making its judgment about the risk posed by making an award to the applicant.

High-Risk Recipients

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

Award Notices

OVW notifies applicants through JustGrants (not Grants.gov) when they receive an award. Successful applicants then log into JustGrants to review and accept the award. The Authorized Representative must acknowledge that they have read and understood all sections of the award instrument and they must submit the required declaration and certification to accept the award. These steps must be completed electronically in JustGrants.

By the anticipated decision notification date in the [Key Dates](#) section of this NOFO, unsuccessful applicants will receive a letter addressed to their Authorized Representative with information on how to receive feedback on their application.

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 application's merit, OVW may fund an application not selected under this funding opportunity in a future fiscal year or under another OVW program.

Post-Award Requirements and Administration

Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements

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 [Application Companion Guide](#) entitled "Requirements for All OVW Applicants and 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.

Awards **may** include a requirement for recipients to certify compliance with all applicable federal law, including but not limited to 8 U.S.C. § 1373.

Civil Rights and Accessibility

Recipients must comply with applicable federal civil rights laws and nondiscrimination provisions. Taken together, these federal laws prohibit recipients from discriminating either in *employment* (subject to an exemption for certain faith-based organizations) or in the *delivery of services or benefits* based on race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disability, and in the delivery of services or benefits based on age. In addition, VAWA, as amended, includes a nondiscrimination provision that covers any program or activity funded in whole or in part by OVW. 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(13)(A).

Sex-specific Programming

Recipients may provide sex-segregated or sex-specific programming if doing so is necessary for the essential operation of a program (e.g., in the case of women's safety), so long as the recipient provides comparable services to those who cannot be provided with the sex-segregated or sex-specific programming. *Id.* § 12291(b)(13)(B). More information on these obligations is available in the [Application Companion Guide](#).

Compliance with federal civil rights laws includes taking reasonable steps to ensure that persons with limited English proficiency (LEP individuals) have meaningful access to recipients' programs and activities and to ensure that their programs and activities are readily accessible to people with disabilities, as well as people who are Deaf or hard of hearing. **Serving victims effectively and supporting their safety and recovery requires programs to be accessible to people with disabilities and those who are Deaf or hard of hearing, to provide language access to LEP individuals, to ensure that any sex-segregated or sex-specific services are comparable, and generally to serve all survivors free from discrimination.**

Post-Award Reporting Requirements

OVW recipients must submit semi-annual performance reports and quarterly Federal Financial Reports (SF-425). Performance report forms will be provided to all award recipients. Forms 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 [Application Companion Guide](#) and the award condition on recipient integrity and performance matters available on the [OVW website](#).

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.

Appendix A: Pre-Award Risk Assessment

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

The Summary Data Sheet must be completed and submitted as an attachment under the Additional Application Components section in JustGrants

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.**
 - Yes – go to Q 2A & 2B
 - No

2A. List all subrecipients

2B. 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?
 - Yes – go to 3A
 - No

3A. Specify the end date of the applicant's fiscal year.

 4. Does the application substantively address any of the following priorities:
 - Measures to combat human trafficking and transnational crime, particularly crimes linked to illegal immigration and cartel operations, that support safety and justice for trafficking
-

victims who have also suffered domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and/or stalking.

- Yes
- No

- Projects to provide victim services, especially housing, and improve law enforcement response in rural and remote areas, Tribal nations, and small towns that often lack resources to effectively combat domestic violence and sexual assault.
 - Yes
 - No
- Proposals submitted by states or units of local government that certify they comply with federal immigration law, including 8 U.S.C. § 1373.
 - Yes
 - No

5. Is the applicant a nonprofit organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that Code?

- If yes, the applicant must upload proof of 501(c)(3) status in the Additional Application Components section of JustGrants.

6. 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?

7. 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, the applicant must upload the required Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation in the Budget and Associated Documentation section of JustGrants.

8. Identify the percentage of grant activities, should the application be funded, that will address each of the following issues (the total percentages should not exceed 100)

- Domestic Violence
- Dating Violence
- Sexual Assault

- Stalking

9. Does the applicant propose to meet the Sexual Assault Statutory Priority and allocate at least 45% of grant funded activities to addressing sexual assault?
10. Is the applicant an Indian Tribal Government?
 - If yes, identify the victim service provider partner.
11. Is the applicant a State?
 - If yes, identify the victim service provider partner.
12. Is the applicant a unit of local government?
 - If yes, identify the victim service provider partner.
13. Is the applicant a state or local court (including juvenile courts)?
 - If yes, identify the victim service provider partner.
14. Is the applicant a victim service provider that will partner with a state, Indian Tribal government, or unit of local government?
 - If yes, identify the state, Indian Tribal government, or unit of local government partner.
15. Is the applicant a state, Tribal, or territorial domestic violence or sexual assault coalition that will partner with a state, Indian Tribal government or unit of local government?
 - If yes, identify the state, Indian Tribal government, or unit of local government partner.
16. All applicants are required to address at least one Purpose Area. The Applicant Type will determine which Purpose Area an applicant can address. Applicants must identify which Purpose Area the application will address. Check all that apply.

15A. Purpose area #1 To implement offender accountability and homicide reduction programs and policies in police departments, including policies for protection order violations and enforcement of protection orders across State and Tribal lines.

15B. Purpose area #2 To develop policies, educational programs, protection order registries, data collection systems, and training in police departments to improve tracking of cases and classification of complaints involving domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Policies, educational programs, protection order registries, and training described in this paragraph shall incorporate confidentiality, and privacy protections for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

15C. Purpose area #3 To centralize and coordinate police enforcement, prosecution, or judicial responsibility for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases in teams or units of police officers, prosecutors, parole and probation officers, or judges.

15D. Purpose area #4 To coordinate computer tracking systems and provide the appropriate training and education about domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking to ensure communication between police, prosecutors, parole and probation officers, and both criminal and family courts.

15E. Purpose area #5 (victim service providers may implement) To strengthen legal advocacy and legal assistance programs and other victim services for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including strengthening assistance to such victims in immigration matters.

15F. Purpose area #6 To educate federal, state, Tribal, territorial, and local judges, courts, and court-based and court-related personnel in criminal and civil courts (including juvenile courts) about domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and to improve judicial handling of such cases.

15G. Purpose area #7 To provide technical assistance and computer and other equipment to police departments, prosecutors, courts, and Tribal jurisdictions to facilitate the widespread enforcement of protection orders, including interstate enforcement, enforcement between states and Tribal jurisdictions, and enforcement between Tribal jurisdictions.

15H. Purpose area #8 To develop or strengthen policies and training for police, prosecutors, and the judiciary in recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking against individuals 50 years of age or older, Deaf individuals, and individuals with disabilities (as defined in section 12102(2) of title 42).

15I. Purpose area #9 To develop state, Tribal, territorial, or local policies, procedures, and protocols for preventing dual arrests and prosecution in cases of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and to develop effective methods for identifying the pattern and history of abuse that indicates which party is the actual perpetrator of abuse.

15J. Purpose area #10 (victim service providers may apply) To plan, develop and establish comprehensive victim service and support centers, such as family justice centers, designed to bring together victim advocates from victim service providers, staff from population specific organizations, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, probation officers, governmental victim assistants, forensic medical professionals, civil legal attorneys, chaplains, legal advocates, representatives from community-based organizations and other relevant public or private agencies or organizations into one centralized location, in order to improve safety, access to services, and confidentiality for victims and families. Although funds may be used to support the colocation of project partners under this paragraph, funds may not support construction or major renovation expenses or activities that fall outside of the scope of the other statutory purpose areas.

15K. Purpose area #11 To develop and implement policies and training for police, prosecutors, probation and parole officers, and the judiciary in recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of sexual assault, with an emphasis on recognizing the threat to the community for repeat crime perpetration by such individuals.

15L. Purpose area #12 To develop, enhance, and maintain protection order registries.

15M. Purpose area #13 To develop human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) testing programs for sexual assault perpetrators and notification and counseling protocols.

15N. Purpose area #14 To develop and implement training programs for prosecutors and other prosecution-related personnel regarding best practices to ensure offender accountability, victim safety, and victim consultation in cases involving domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

15O. Purpose area #15 To develop or strengthen policies, protocols, and training for law enforcement, prosecutors, and the judiciary in recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking against immigrant victims, including the appropriate use of applications for nonimmigrant status under subparagraphs (T) and (U) of section 1101(a)(15) of title 8.

15P. Purpose area #16 To develop and promote state, local, or Tribal legislation and policies that enhance best practices for responding to the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including the appropriate treatment of victims.

15Q. Purpose area #17 (victim service provider may apply) To develop, implement, or enhance sexual assault nurse examiner programs or sexual assault forensic examiner programs, including the hiring and training of such examiners.

15R. Purpose area #18 To develop, implement, or enhance Sexual Assault Response Teams or similar coordinated community responses to sexual assault.

15S. Purpose area #19 To develop and strengthen policies, protocols, and training for law enforcement officers and prosecutors regarding the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases and the appropriate treatment of victims, including victims among underserved populations (as defined in section 40002(a) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (34 U.S.C. §12291(a))).

15T. Purpose area #20 To provide human immunodeficiency virus testing programs, counseling, and prophylaxis for victims of sexual assault.

15U. Purpose area #21 To identify and inventory backlogs of sexual assault evidence collection kits and to develop protocols for responding to and addressing such backlogs, including policies and protocols for notifying and involving victims.

15V. Purpose area #22 To develop multidisciplinary high-risk teams focusing on reducing domestic violence and dating violence homicides by: a) using evidence-based indicators to assess the risk of homicide and link high-risk victims to immediate crisis intervention services; b) identifying and managing high-risk offenders; and c) providing ongoing victim advocacy and referrals to comprehensive services including legal, housing, health care, and economic assistance.

15W. Purpose area #23 To develop, strengthen, and implement policies, protocols, and training for law enforcement regarding cases of missing or murdered Indians, as described in section 5704 of title 25.

15X. Purpose area #24 To compile and annually report data to the Attorney General related to missing or murdered Indians, as described in section 5705 of title 25.

15Y. Purpose area #25 To develop Statewide databases with information on where sexual assault nurse examiners are located.

15Z. Purpose area #26 To develop and implement alternative methods of reducing crime in communities, to supplant punitive programs or policies. For purposes of this paragraph, a

punitive program or policy is a program or policy that—(a) imposes a penalty on a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, on the basis of a request by the victim for law enforcement or emergency assistance; or (b) imposes a penalty on such a victim because of criminal activity at the property in which the victim resides.

16. Will the applicant address ICJR Statutory Priority Area #1 for applicants who do not currently provide for centralized handling of cases involving domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking by police, prosecutors, and courts?

17. Will the applicant address ICJR Statutory Priority Area #2 for applicants who demonstrate a commitment to strong enforcement of laws, and prosecution or cases, involving domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including the enforcement of protection orders from other states and jurisdictions, including Tribal jurisdictions?

18. Will the applicant address ICJR Statutory Priority Area #3 for applicants who have established cooperative agreements or can demonstrate effective ongoing collaborative arrangements with neighboring jurisdictions to facilitate the enforcement of protection orders from other states and jurisdictions, including Tribal jurisdictions?

19. Will the applicant address ICJR Statutory Priority Area #4 for applicants who intend to utilize grant funds to develop and install data collection and communication systems, including computerized systems, and training on how to use these systems effectively to link police, prosecutors, courts, and Tribal jurisdictions for the purpose of identifying and tracking protection orders and violations of protection orders, in those jurisdictions where such systems do not exist or are not fully effective?

20. Identify the project's service area.

21. Identify the project's population size. The population size must be from the most current, appropriate government data source.

22. State the start and end date of the applicant's next state or Tribal legislative session.