



U.S. Department of Justice

Office on Violence Against Women

OVW Fiscal Year 2025 Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Program

Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number
O-OVW-2025-172287

Assistance Listing Number
16.589

Application Due

Deadline to submit Standard Form/SF-424 in Grants.gov: July 8, 2025, by 11:59 PM Eastern Time
Deadline to submit application in JustGrants: July 10, 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 Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Program (Rural Program) enhances the safety of rural victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking by supporting projects uniquely designed to address and prevent these crimes in rural areas. This program supports cooperative efforts among law enforcement officers, prosecutors, victim service providers, and other community partners to investigate and prosecute sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking; treatment, advocacy, counseling, legal assistance, or other victim services for victims in rural communities; or programs addressing sexual assault. Eligible applicants are states and territories, Indian Tribes, local governments, and nonprofit (public or private) entities, including Tribal nonprofit organizations.

The Rural Program also includes a [Rural SANE Initiative](#) to support the implementation of new SANE services in communities where they previously did not exist.

Funding Opportunity Details	
Federal Agency Name	U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women
Funding Opportunity Title	OVW FY 2025 Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Program
Announcement Type	Initial
Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number	O-OVW-2025-172287
Assistance Listing Number	16.589
Statutory Authority	34 U.S.C. § 12341
Expected Total Amount of Funding	\$36,000,000
Anticipated Number of Awards	55
Expected Award Amount(s)	\$500,000-\$950,000
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 6, 2025
Pre-Application Information Session	Expected to be available on OVW Website on May 16, 2025.
Sam.gov Registration/Renewal	Recommend completing process by June 17, 2025
Grants.gov Registration/Renewal	Recommend completing process by June 17, 2025
Grants.gov Deadline	Tuesday, July 8, 2025, by 11:59 PM ET
JustGrants Deadline	Thursday, July 10, 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.rural@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 Sessions

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](#)
- [Sample Proposal Narrative](#)
- Budget Information on [OVW Website](#), including the [Sample Budget Narrative](#)
- [JustGrants Application Submission Training](#)

Eligibility

Eligible Applicants

Entities that are eligible to apply are:

States

- 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)).
- Although the District of Columbia is included in the statutory definition of “state”, it is not eligible to apply because of the statutory requirement to serve a rural area or community.

Indian Tribes

- 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)(22)).

Local Governments

- 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)).

Nonprofit (Public or Private) Entities, including Tribal Nonprofit Organizations

- Tribal, state, territory, and local law enforcement and prosecution agencies and courts are eligible to apply as nonprofit public entities.

- Nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations are broadly eligible to apply as nonprofit private entities.
- A Tribal nonprofit organization is a victim services provider that has as its primary purpose to assist Native victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; and staff and leadership of the organization must include persons with a demonstrated history of assisting American Indian or Alaska Native victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking (34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(44)).

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](#)).

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 current (i.e., dated between October 1, 2024 and July 10, 2025) 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 eligibility document must be uploaded as a separate attachment under the **Additional Application Components** section in JustGrants. Failure to provide required eligibility documents may disqualify an application. At a minimum, an applicant that fails to include the required document(s) with its application must submit them prior to receiving an award.

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.

Eligible Service Area

To be eligible to receive Rural Program funding, including through the [Rural SANE Initiative](#), an applicant must demonstrate that it proposes to serve a rural area or rural community. Every application must include documentation demonstrating that the proposed service area meets this requirement. The only exception is for federally recognized Indian Tribes, which are statutorily identified as rural, regardless of their location, and therefore are not required to submit this documentation.

A rural area or rural community is defined by 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(32) to mean: (a) any area or community, respectively, no part of which is within an area designated as a standard metropolitan statistical area by the Office of Management and Budget; (b) any area or community, respectively, that is (i) within an area designated as a metropolitan statistical area or considered as part of a metropolitan statistical area; and (ii) located in a rural census tract; or (c) any federally recognized

Indian Tribe. Note that areas that do not meet these definitions cannot be served with funding from this Program.

Information on the required documentation is provided in the [Additional Application Components](#) section of this NOFO.

Required Partnerships

Applications must include at least one partner and must include a victim service provider as either a formal project partner or the lead applicant, as demonstrated through a required [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\)](#). Applicants that fail to demonstrate that the partnership requirements have been met through an MOU will not be considered for funding. (Note: Letter(s) of Support will only be accepted in lieu of an MOU for court applicants or court partners that cannot sign an MOU. An application for the [Rural SANE Initiative](#) may also include Letter(s) of Support in lieu of an MOU.)

Additionally, applications must include the agencies and organizations necessary to implement the proposed project. These partners may include additional victim service providers; law enforcement agencies; prosecutors; courts; other criminal justice service providers; human and community service providers; educational institutions; and/or health care providers, including sexual assault forensic examiners. See 34 U.S.C. § 12341(a)(1).

For purposes of the partnership requirements, a “victim service provider” is 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.

Types of Applications

In FY 2025, applicants may apply to the Rural Program as a new or continuation applicant, or they may apply as a new [Rural SANE Initiative](#) applicant (see below). If an applicant submits an application for both the Rural SANE Initiative and the regular Rural Program, only the application to the regular Rural Program will be considered. Please note that SANE activities are allowed under the Rural Program; therefore, only applicants seeking to implement **new** SANE services should apply for the Rural SANE Initiative.

New Applicants

Applicants that have never received funding under this program or whose previous funding under this program expired on or before July 10, 2024.

Continuation Applicants

Applicants that have an existing or recently closed (after July 10, 2024) 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 of this year, without adequate justification, may not be considered for funding or may receive a reduced award amount if selected for funding under this NOFO.

Sub-type: Rural Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (Rural SANE) Initiative - New applicants should identify if they are applying under the Rural SANE Initiative:

The Rural SANE Initiative seeks to address the shortage of SANEs and sexual assault medical forensic exams in rural communities by supporting the creation of sexual assault medical forensic exam services and increasing the number of trained SANEs in rural areas. Successful applicants will establish hospital-based and/or community-based programs that offer sexual assault medical forensic exams and sexual assault victim services using coordinated community response strategies. Either the applicant or its partner(s) must be a victim service provider with a mission that is specific to the provision of services for sexual assault victims. Any sexual assault victim services outside of the medical forensic exam must be provided by trained victim advocates.

OVW encourages innovative approaches to addressing the unique challenges of providing these services in rural communities. Selected sites will have access to specialized technical assistance (TA) providers with expertise on this issue. Through this Initiative, OVW will select up to four sites to be awarded up to \$500,000 for 36 months to establish new rural-specific sexual assault medical forensic exam services in their communities. ***Pre-existing, currently operational SANE projects are not eligible to apply under the Rural SANE Initiative.***

Examples of possible Rural SANE Initiative project activities include (but are not limited to):

- Implementing a new sexual assault medical forensic exam or SANE program;
- Provision of sexual assault medical forensic exam services utilizing a mobile model;
- Establishing partnerships with local hospitals to secure facilities to conduct sexual assault medical forensic exam services;
- Partnering with or training qualified midwives to perform sexual assault medical forensic exam services;
- Minimizing barriers to accessing sexual assault medical forensic exam services through assistance with transportation, emergency financial assistance, childcare, language access, etc.;
- Purchasing equipment, supplies, and other items needed to conduct sexual assault medical forensic exams;
- Recruiting and providing training to registered nurses to become SANEs; and/or
- Providing ongoing training for SANEs.

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. If an applicant submits an application for both the FY 2025 [Rural SANE Initiative](#) and the regular Rural Program, only the application to the regular Rural Program will be considered.

Cost-Sharing

This program has no matching or cost-sharing requirement.

Program Description

This program is authorized by 34 U.S.C. § 12341. 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 identify, assess, and appropriately respond to child, youth, and adult victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and/or stalking in rural communities, by encouraging collaboration among
 - a. domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking victim service providers;
 - b. law enforcement agencies;
 - c. prosecutors;
 - d. courts;
 - e. other criminal justice service providers;
 - f. human and community service providers;
 - g. educational institutions; and
 - h. health care providers, including sexual assault forensic examiners;
2. To establish and expand nonprofit, nongovernmental, State, Tribal, territorial, and local government victim services in rural communities to child, youth, and adult victims;
3. To increase the safety and well-being of women and children in rural communities, by—
 - a. dealing directly and immediately with domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking occurring in rural communities; and
 - b. creating and implementing strategies to increase awareness and prevent domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking; and
4. To develop, expand, implement, and improve the quality of sexual assault forensic medical examination or sexual assault nurse examiner programs.

The Rural Program is one of the few sources of funding to support the provision of core services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking in rural communities. For this reason, OVW will only fund applications that propose projects that implement a collaborative response and support victim services in rural communities.

Additionally, proposed projects must devote at least 70% of their project activities and budget to Rural Program purpose areas 1, 2, 3(a) or 4. Applicants proposing to implement Purpose Area 3 may not dedicate more than 30% of the project budget and activities to prevention and awareness activities.

In addition to the purpose areas listed above, Rural Program grantees are required to implement at least one of the strategies set forth in 34 U.S.C. § 12341(b)(1)-(5):

1. Implementing, expanding, and establishing cooperative efforts and projects among law enforcement officers, prosecutors, victim service providers, and other related parties to investigate and prosecute incidents of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including developing multidisciplinary teams focusing on high-risk cases with the goal of preventing domestic and dating violence homicides;
2. Providing treatment, counseling, advocacy, legal assistance, and other long-term and short-term victim and population specific services to adult and minor victims of domestic violence,

dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking in rural communities, including assistance in immigration matters;

3. Working in cooperation with the community to develop education and prevention strategies directed toward such issues;
4. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing sexual assault, including sexual assault forensic examiner programs, Sexual Assault Response Teams, law enforcement training, and programs addressing rape kit backlogs; or
5. Developing programs and strategies that focus on the specific needs of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking who reside in remote rural and geographically isolated areas, including addressing the challenges posed by the lack of access to quality forensic sexual assault examinations by trained health care providers, shelters, and victims services, and limited law enforcement resources and training, and providing training and resources to Community Health Aides involved in the delivery of Indian Health Service programs.

Statutory Considerations

The Rural Program has two statutory funding requirements:

1. **Rural States:** Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 12341(d)(5), at least 75% of the total amount of funding made available for this program must be allocated to eligible entities located in rural states. A rural state is a state that has a population density of 57 or fewer persons per square mile or a state in which the largest county has fewer than 250,000 people, based on the most recent decennial census. 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(33).

Based on this definition, there are 17 states and four U.S. territories that are rural: Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, Virgin Islands, and Northern Mariana Islands.

OVW will prioritize applications from entities in rural states to meet this statutory requirement.

2. **Sexual Assault:** Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 12341(d)(2)(A), OVW must award 35% of funds appropriated for this program to meaningfully address sexual assault in rural communities.

To meet this statutory requirement, OVW will prioritize applications that focus primarily (75% or more of proposed goals, objectives, activities, and budget) on responding to sexual assault.

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.
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. Provide services within statutorily defined rural areas and communities, as described in the [Other Program Eligibility Requirements](#) section.

Additional Program Requirements for the Rural SANE Initiative Only

Recipients of an award under the [Rural SANE Initiative](#) must:

1. Participate in an up to nine-month planning period with OVW-designated TA providers, in addition to on-going TA throughout the project period. Required deliverables at the end of the planning period include an MOU (or an updated MOU, if changed from the MOU submitted with the application) and working protocols among partners. Staff implementing activities must be hired by the end of the planning period.
2. During the planning period, develop partnerships to ensure a collaborative community response to sexual assault (i.e., Sexual Assault Response Teams (SARTs) or Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs)).
3. Develop a new SANE program that offers comprehensive sexual assault forensic exams and supportive services for survivors.
4. Develop or enhance policies and procedures that align with the Department of Justice's [National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations – Adult/Adolescent](#), and the [National Protocol for Sexual Abuse Medical Forensic Examinations – Pediatric](#), and the [National Protocol for Intimate Partner Violence Medical Forensic Examinations](#).

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 will not fund activities that compromise victim safety and recovery, deter healing for victims, and/or undermine offender accountability. 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. Child abuse or family violence issues such as violence perpetrated by a child against a parent or violence perpetrated by a sibling against another sibling. These limitations do not apply to activities addressing sexual violence.
13. Services to children for anything other than child sexual assault or when there is an inextricable link between a parent's victimization and the child's need for services. For example, funds may be used to provide services to children of survivors of domestic violence residing in a shelter.
14. Education and prevention for students not specifically related to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking, such as "bullying" or "character building" educational programs.
15. For projects providing legal assistance, criminal defense of victims charged with crimes **except for** legal representation in post-conviction relief proceedings where the victim's conviction is related to or arose from domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking of the victim.
16. For projects providing legal assistance, representation in tort cases.

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.
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 two 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

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	10
What Will Be Done	45
Who Will Implement	15
Budget	
Budget worksheet and narrative	15
Memorandum of Understanding and Supporting Documents	
Memorandum of Understanding (or Letter of Support for eligible entities)	15

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 2,000 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.

Applicants are strongly encouraged, but not required, to use the following template for the abstract:

Through this [choose one: new or continuation] OVW Rural Program project, [Applicant Legal Name], in partnership with [list MOU Partners], will implement [insert project name]. This [if applicable, choose one or more: victim service, SANE/SART, law enforcement, prosecution] project addresses the following purpose area(s): [list [purpose areas](#) being addressed] for [list rural counties/geography served]. Specific activities will include: 1) [list specific activities and products/deliverables that will be developed]. [If applicable: This application proposes to address the Rural SANE Initiative.]

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

(1 to 4 pages maximum, single or double-spaced)

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

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

The Proposal Narrative may be submitted in **one** of two ways:

1. **Standard Proposal Narrative:** This is the typical format used for OVW applications. Requirements for the proposal narrative can be found below.

OR

2. **Sample Proposal Narrative:** The Sample Proposal Narrative can be downloaded from the OVW website. It is also included as [Appendix C](#) in this NOFO. This completed document

should be uploaded as a Word document or PDF to meet the proposal narrative requirement for this NOFO. (Note: If using the Sample Proposal Narrative, tables may be single-spaced.)

The Proposal Narrative must include the sections outlined below.

Purpose of the Proposal (10 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 current services offered by the applicant or proposed partners to victims in the targeted rural service area(s).
4. Describe gaps in services for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking within the targeted rural service area(s).
5. Identify the statutory [purpose area\(s\) and strategies](#) the project will address. This should match what is reported on the Summary Data Sheet.

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 services that will be provided through this project and the crimes they are meant to address (i.e., domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking). If services will be provided to both adults and children, specify the services that will be provided to children through this project.
3. Describe the measurable goals and objectives for the proposed project and the tasks and activities necessary to accomplish them. Include a timeline that identifies when the tasks and activities will be accomplished. This detail should include expected outcomes and outputs of the tasks and activities (e.g., number of victims served, number of trainings to be provided, number of individuals trained), as well any deliverables (brochures, ads, posters, billboards, curricula, etc.) that will be developed with grant funds. (Note: Applicants proposing activities for the [Rural SANE Initiative](#) must include an up to nine-month planning period in their timeline.)
4. If the project is to serve more than one county and/or defined area, specifically describe how services will be accessed and how activities will be implemented within each county and/or defined area.
5. If the applicant is located in a non-rural area and/or is an agency serving both rural and non-rural areas, describe how the proposed project and requested funding, including all proposed activities and costs, directly benefit only rural area(s) and/or rural community(ies).
6. If seeking the [statutory consideration](#) for meaningfully addressing sexual assault, describe how the proposed project will focus 75% or more of proposed goals, objectives, activities, and budget on responding to sexual assault.

7. Describe how the project will provide safety planning to survivors and how services will be trauma-informed.
8. Describe how the applicant and collaborative partners will ensure victim safety and confidentiality when sharing information and coordinating services.
9. For applicants proposing to provide direct legal services, provide a supervision and mentoring plan for attorney staff involved in the project.
10. Describe how the proposed project will address the unique needs of the populations identified in the Purpose of the Proposal section above.
11. 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. Identify all project partners, specify their respective roles and responsibilities, and describe the collaborative relationship to be developed or enhanced.
4. Describe the experience and expertise of key staff that will provide direct services to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.
5. Clearly demonstrate that staff, partners, and consultants have knowledge or experience relevant to the populations that will be served.

Rural SANE Initiative Only - In addition to responding to 1-5 above, applications for the [Rural SANE Initiative](#) must include responses to the following:

1. Describe the expertise of the organization that will be providing SANE services.
2. Discuss any previous or current experience providing victim services using multidisciplinary partnerships.
3. Describe the criteria for individuals hired as SANEs.

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](#) and [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. New applications that [meaningfully address sexual assault](#) are limited to \$700,000 for the entire 36 months.
2. Other new applications are limited to \$500,000 for the entire 36 months.
3. Continuation applications that [meaningfully address sexual assault](#) are limited to \$950,000 for the entire 36 months.
4. Other continuation applications are limited to \$750,000 for the entire 36 months.

OR

5. Applications for the [Rural SANE Initiative](#) are limited to \$500,000 for the entire 36 months.

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.

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 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)/Letter of Support (LOS).
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 \$10,000 for applicants located in the 48 contiguous states and \$15,000 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 months and NOT per year. Applicants should budget expenses for other, non-OVW-sponsored TTA 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.
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](#).

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

(15 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. Directly align with the project as described in “What Will Be Done” section (goals, objectives and activities) and budget.
5. Include all relevant agencies or organizations that will collaborate to implement the goals, objectives and activities of the proposed project. Specify any partner(s) included to meaningfully address sexual assault.
6. Describe the resources each partner will contribute to the project, either through time, in-kind contributions, or grant funds (e.g., office space, project staff, and training), and specify the extent of each partner’s participation in developing the application.

Letters of Support will only be accepted in lieu of an MOU under the following circumstances:

1. The lead applicant is a state, Tribal, territory, or local court and cannot enter into an MOU. The court may submit a Letter of Support in lieu of an MOU, and the court’s partners may submit an MOU among themselves or Letters of Support.
2. A state, Tribal, territory, or local court is a project partner (not the lead applicant) and cannot enter into an MOU. The court partner(s) may submit a Letter of Support, but the lead applicant and all other project partners must sign an MOU.
3. The applicant is applying to the SANE Initiative. The applicant and project partners can submit Letters of Support in lieu of an MOU.

No other letters of support will be accepted. A sample [Letter of Support](#) (LOS) is available on the OVW website.

The LOS must clearly:

1. Identify the partners and provide a brief history of the collaborative relationship between the organization and other project 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 the organization will assume to ensure the success of the proposed project.
3. State that the organization has reviewed the budget, is aware of the total amount being requested, and is being fully compensated for its work under the grant or is agreeing to be partially compensated or receive no compensation from the grant.
4. Specify the extent of the organization’s participation in developing the application.
5. Describe the resources that the organization would contribute to the project, either through time, in-kind contributions, or grant funds (e.g., office space, project staff, and training), if the application is funded.

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.

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.

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.

Delivery of Legal Assistance Certification

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 letter](#) is available on the OVW website.

Rural Eligibility Documentation

As described in [Other Program Eligibility Requirements](#), all applicants, whether from [statutorily defined rural states](#) or non-rural states, must submit the [Rural Eligibility](#) Checklist to document that the proposed service area is rural. The only exception is for federally recognized Indian Tribes, which are statutorily identified as rural regardless of their location and are therefore exempt from this requirement.

Instructions to complete the [Rural Eligibility](#) Checklist can be found on the OVW website. The checklist must be uploaded as an attachment to the application in JustGrants. If multiple service areas are proposed, the checklist must be completed for all proposed service areas (i.e., every county and/or census tract). **The only documentation that will be accepted is described in the [Rural Eligibility](#) Documentation instructions. Other types of documentation (from other sources, showing different information, etc.) will NOT be accepted.**

- [Rural Eligibility Instructions can be accessed through this link.](#)
- [Rural Eligibility Checklist – this link will prompt a download.](#)

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 ovw.rural@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 **June 17, 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 Tuesday, July 8, 2025
- Deadline to submit the full application in JustGrants: 8:59 pm ET on Thursday, July 10, 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. OVW will not contact applicants for missing items prior to peer review. 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	
Pre-Award Risk Assessment	Yes	Online Form	JustGrants	
Summary Data Sheet	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
Proposal Narrative or Sample Proposal Narrative Template	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	

Application Item	Required ?	Submission Type	Submission Website	Date Completed
<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 or Letter/s of Support</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>Rural Eligibility Checklist</u> (except for Indian Tribes)	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 or LOS, and [Rural Eligibility Checklist](#)) 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 or LOS, and [Rural Eligibility Checklist](#)).

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 and to deduct points from applications for the following reasons:

1. Activities that compromise victim safety and recovery and undermine offender accountability (deduct up to 25 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.

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 A](#). 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 Just Grants.

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 holds money in offshore accounts for the purpose of avoiding paying the tax described in section 511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code?
- Yes
 - No
6. Is the applicant a **sexual assault victim service provider**, defined as a victim service provider with a mission that is specific to the provision of sexual assault services (see 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(50))?
- Yes
 - No
7. Is the applicant a federally recognized Tribe (see 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(22))?
- Yes
 - No
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 application propose to meet the statutory priority for projects that meaningfully address sexual assault (i.e., focused primarily (75% or more of proposed goals, objectives, activities, and budget) on responding to sexual assault)?

10. Which of the following Rural Program Purpose Area(s) does the application address? **Note:** applicants must address at least one Rural Program purpose area. For more information, see the [Purpose Areas](#) section of this NOFO.

- Purpose Area #1: To encourage collaboration to identify, assess, and respond to adult, youth, and child victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking in rural communities.
- Purpose Area #2: To establish and expand victim services in rural communities.
- Purpose Area #3: To increase the safety and well-being of women and children in rural communities.
- Purpose Area #4: To develop, expand, implement, and improve the quality of sexual assault forensic medical examination or sexual assault nurse examiner programs.

11. Which of the following Rural Program statutory strategy(ies) does the application address? **Note:** grantees are required to implement at least one of the strategies specified in 34 U.S.C. § 12341(b)(1)-(5). For more information on these strategies, see the [Purpose Areas](#) section of this NOFO.

- Statutory Strategy #1: Collaborative efforts to investigate and prosecute domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and multidisciplinary teams to prevent domestic and dating violence homicides in high-risk cases.
- Statutory Strategy #2: Short- and long-term victim services and population specific services, including assistance in immigration matters.
- Statutory Strategy #3: Develop education and prevention strategies in cooperation with the community.
- Statutory Strategy #4: Programs addressing sexual assault, including forensic examiner programs, response teams, law enforcement training, and rape kit backlogs.
- Statutory Strategy #5: Programs and strategies that focus on the specific needs of victims in remote rural and geographically isolated areas.

12. Does the application propose to address the FY 2025 [Rural SANE Initiative](#)?

- Yes
- No

Appendix C: Sample Proposal Narrative Template

Instructions: Applicants have the option to submit either the standard proposal narrative (see the [Formatting and Technical Requirements](#) section) or this sample proposal narrative template to meet the Proposal Narrative requirement for this NOFO.

Within each section, there are numbered questions that correspond to the questions in the [Proposal Narrative](#) section of the NOFO. Enter responses to each question in the corresponding text box. **Do not remove or change the text of the questions.**

When answering questions in the narrative template, applicants must follow the [Formatting and Technical Requirements](#) described in the NOFO:

- Double-spaced text (charts may be single-spaced)
- Arial font, type no smaller than 11-point, except for footnotes, which may be 9-point
- No more than 20 pages
- Number all pages

This sample narrative template has one-inch margins on 8½ x 11-inch pages that are numbered. Please do not adjust the size of the margins or the orientation of the pages.

While following these formatting and technical requirements, applicants may write as much or little as they wish in response to each question. To shorten the length of a text box, click within the box and tap the backspace key. To extend the length of a text box so that you can record a longer response, click within the box and tap the enter/return key.

Remove this instruction page and submit the completed narrative template as a Word or PDF file in JustGrants with the rest of the application. The file should be saved as: APPLICANTNAME_RURAL_NARRATIVE.

Purpose of the Proposal (10 points)

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 current services offered by the applicant or proposed partners to victims in the targeted rural service area(s).
4. Describe gaps in services for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking within the targeted rural service area(s).
5. Identify the statutory purpose area(s) and strategies the project will address. This should match what is reported on the Summary Data Sheet.

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.

1. Describe how the proposed project will address the needs identified in the Purpose of the Proposal section above.															
2. Describe the services that will be provided through this project and the crimes they are meant to address (i.e., domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking). If services will be provided to both adults and children, specify the services that will be provided to children through this project.															
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Crimes</th> <th>Services</th> <th>Adults/Children</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Domestic violence</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dating violence</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sexual assault</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stalking</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Crimes	Services	Adults/Children	Domestic violence			Dating violence			Sexual assault			Stalking		
Crimes	Services	Adults/Children													
Domestic violence															
Dating violence															
Sexual assault															
Stalking															
3. Describe the measurable goals and objectives for the proposed project and the tasks and activities necessary to accomplish them. Include a timeline that identifies when the tasks and activities will be accomplished. This detail should include expected outcomes and outputs of the tasks and activities (e.g., number of victims served, number of trainings to be provided, number of individuals trained), as well any deliverables (brochures, ads, posters, billboards, curricula, etc.) that will be developed with grant funds. (Note: Applicants proposing activities for the Rural SANE Initiative must include an up to nine-month planning period in their timeline.)															
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Goal/Objective 1</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tasks/Activities</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Goal/Objective 1		Tasks/Activities												
Goal/Objective 1															
Tasks/Activities															

Outcomes/Outputs	
Deliverables (if applicable)	
Timeline	
Goal/Objective 2	
Tasks/Activities	
Outcomes/Outputs	
Deliverables (if applicable)	
Timeline	
Goal/Objective 3	
Tasks/Activities	
Outcomes/Outputs	
Deliverables (if applicable)	
Timeline	
Goal/Objective 4	
Tasks/Activities	
Outcomes/Outputs	
Deliverables (if applicable)	
Timeline	
Goal/Objective 5	
Tasks/Activities	
Outcomes/Outputs	
Deliverables (if applicable)	
Timeline	
4. If the project is to serve more than one county and/or defined area, specifically describe how services will be accessed and how activities will be implemented within each county and/or defined area.	
5. If the applicant is located in a non-rural area and/or is an agency serving both rural and non-rural areas, describe how the proposed project and requested funding, including all proposed activities and costs, directly benefit only rural area(s) and/or rural community(ies).	
6. If seeking the statutory consideration for meaningfully addressing sexual assault, describe how the proposed project will focus 75% or more of proposed goals, objectives, activities, and budget on responding to sexual assault.	
7. Describe how the project will provide safety planning to survivors and how services will be trauma-informed.	
8. Describe how the applicant and collaborative partners will ensure victim safety and confidentiality when sharing information and coordinating services.	

9. For applicants proposing to provide direct legal services, provide a supervision and mentoring plan for attorney staff involved in the project.

10. Describe how the proposed project will address the unique needs of the populations identified in the Purpose of the Proposal section above.

11. 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)

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. Identify all project partners, specify their respective roles and responsibilities, and describe the collaborative relationship to be developed or enhanced.

4. Describe the experience and expertise of key staff that will provide direct services to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

5. Clearly demonstrate that staff, partners, and consultants have knowledge or experience relevant to the populations that will be served.

Rural SANE Initiative Applicants Only - In addition to responding to 1-5 above, applications for the Rural SANE Initiative must include responses to the following:

1. Describe the expertise of the organization that will be providing SANE services.

2. Discuss any previous or current experience providing victim services using multidisciplinary partnerships.

3. Describe the criteria for individuals hired as SANEs.