

U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women

OVW Fiscal Year 2025 Addressing Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking at HSIs, HBCUs, and TCUs Initiative

Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number O-OVW-2025-172315

Assistance Listing Number 16.525

Application Due

Deadline to submit Standard Form/SF-424 in Grants.gov: **September 9**, **2025**, by 11:59 PM Eastern Time Deadline to submit application in JustGrants: **September 11**, **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 Addressing Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking at HSIs, HBCUs, and TCUs Initiative (Campus Set Aside Initiative) uses set aside funding (34 U.S.C. § 20125) from the OVW Campus Program to support Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), and Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) in strengthening their institutional response to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The Campus Set Aside Initiative will support activities focused on building the capacity of HSIs, HBCUs, and TCUs to develop and implement strategies to prevent and address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking that meets the needs of its students, including effective response protocols and prevention programming.

Funding Opportunity Details	
Federal Agency Name	U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women
Funding Opportunity Title	OVW FY 2025 Addressing Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking at HSIs, HBCUs, and TCUs Initiative
Announcement Type	Initial
Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number	O-OVW-2025-172315
Assistance Listing Number	16.525
Statutory Authority	34 U.S.C. § 20125
Expected Total Amount of Funding	\$12,500,000
Anticipated Number of Awards	25
Expected Award Amount	Up to \$500,000
Expected Award Period	48 months

Key Dates

This table contains deadlines and other important dates.

Key Dates		
Funding Opportunity Release Date	On or about July 22, 2025	
Pre-Recorded Pre-Application Information	Expected to be available on OVW Website on	
Session	August 7, 2025	
Com you Begintrotion/Benevyel	Recommend completing process	
Sam.gov Registration/Renewal	August 19, 2025	
Grants.gov Registration/Renewal	Recommend completing process by	
	August 19, 2025	
Latter of Intent (Ontional)	Submit to ovw.campusinitiative@usdoj.gov by	
Letter of Intent (Optional)	August 19, 2025	
Cranto gov Doodling	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 by 11:59 PM	
Grants.gov Deadline	Eastern Time (ET)	
JustGrants Deadline	Thursday, September 11, 2025	
	by 8:59 PM Eastern Time (ET)	
Decision Notification Date	OVW anticipates notifying applicants of funding	
Decision Notification Date	decisions by December 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
OVVV Contact	Email: ovw.campusinitiative@usdoj.gov
	Phone: 866-606-8220
For equiptones with CAM you	Website: https://sam.gov/content/help
For assistance with SAM.gov	Hours of Operation: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET Monday-
	Friday
	Phone: 800-518-4726
	Email: support@grants.gov
For assistance with 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
FOI assistance with JustGrants	Email: OVW.JustGrantsSupport@usdoj.gov

Resources for Applying

Pre-application Information Sessions

OVW will post a recorded pre-application information session on the <u>OVW website</u>. 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.

Application Resources

- Application Companion Guide
- Resources for Applicants page
- Budget Information on OVW Website
- JustGrants Application Submission Training

Eligibility

Eligible Applicants

Eligible entities: Institutions of higher education that are HSIs, HBCUs, and TCUs.

An institution of higher education is an educational institution in any state or tribe that: (1) admits as regular students only persons having a certificate of graduation from a school providing secondary education, or the recognized equivalent of such a certificate; or students who have completed a secondary school education in a home school setting that is treated as a home school or private school under state law; (2) is legally authorized within such state or tribe to provide a program of education beyond secondary education; (3) provides an educational program for which the institution awards a bachelor's degree or provides not less than a 2-year program that is acceptable for full credit toward such a degree, or awards a degree that is acceptable for admission to a graduate or professional degree program; (4) is a public or other nonprofit institution; and (5) is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association, or if not so accredited, is an institution that has been granted pre-accreditation status by such an agency or association that has been recognized by the Secretary of Education for the granting of pre-accreditation status, and the Secretary of Education has determined that there is satisfactory assurance that the institution will meet the accreditation standards of such an agency or association within a reasonable time.

The term "state" means any of the several states and the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands. 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(37).

Faith-based Institutions

Faith-based institutions that meet the eligibility requirements for this program are eligible to apply (more information for faith-based organizations is available in the <u>Application Companion Guide</u> and here).

Other Program Eligibility Requirements

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

Certifications must take the form of a letter, on letterhead, signed, and dated by the authorized representative (e.g., President, Chancellor, Provost, and/or designee with similar authority). Each one must be uploaded as a separate attachment under the **Additional Application Components** section in JustGrants. Failure to provide required certifications may disqualify an application.

Certification of Eligibility

Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 20125(c)(3), all Campus Program/Campus Set Aside Initiative applicants must certify that they are in compliance with section 485(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, which requires institutions of higher education to collect and report certain types of information about campus crime statistics and campus security policies for their respective campuses. See 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f). A sample of Certification of Eligibility letter can be found on the OVW website at https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/1124406/dl?inline.

All applicants must include the **certification of eligibility letter at the time of application submission.** Applicants that fail to submit the Certification of Eligibility or do not include the appropriate signatory will not be considered for funding.

<u>Certification of Statutory Minimum Requirements</u>

All applicants must certify that they have knowledge of and are committed to the full implementation of each of the statutory minimum requirements of the Campus Program. See 34 U.S.C. § 20125(d)(3) (A-D). A sample Certification of Statutory Minimum Requirements letter can be found on the OVW website at https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/1569451/dl.

If an application is missing the Certification of Statutory Minimum Requirements letter at the time of application submission, a successful applicant will be required to submit this certification letter prior to receiving an award.

<u>Delivery of Legal Assistance Certification</u>

If an applicant is proposing to provide legal assistance, then a third certification is required.

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.

If an application proposes to provide legal assistance and is missing the Delivery of Legal Assistance Certification Letter at the time of submission, a successful applicant will be required to submit this certification letter prior to receiving an award.

Required Partnerships

All applicants are required to partner with a variety of departments, offices, and organizations within the institution of higher education and submit an Internal Memorandum of Understanding (IMOU) as part of the application. These partners must include: 1) the institution of higher education's president/chancellor or designee; 2) student affairs administrators; 3) Clery Act compliance officers and campus security authorities; 4) campus-based victim service providers, if applicable; 5) campus law enforcement or public safety personnel; 6) campus housing authorities, if applicable; and 7) campus resolution process personnel, including the Title IX Coordinator, board members, investigators, and adjudicators, and/or hearing officers. Over the course of a project, successful applicants will add additional partners to the IMOU.

For purposes of this NOFO, a victim service provider is a nonprofit, nongovernmental or Tribal organization or rape crisis center, including a state or Tribal domestic violence and/or sexual assault coalition, that assists or advocates for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking victims, including a domestic violence shelter, faith-based organization or other organization, 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

This year, OVW will accept applications for this program from the following applicants:

New Applicants

Applicants that can apply are those that have never received a grant award under the Campus Program or whose most recent Campus Program award was from FY 2020 or an earlier year.

Recipients of a Campus Program award in FY 2021 or a later year are NOT eligible to apply as the lead applicant or as a partner/subrecipient on an FY 2025 application under the Campus Set Aside Initiative.

Note: While applicants may apply in FY 2025 for both the regular Campus Program and the Campus Set Aside Initiative, they cannot receive awards under both this year. If an application fares well enough to be funded under either program, OVW has the discretion to determine under which program—the Campus Set Aside Initiative or the Campus Program—to make an award.

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 <u>Submission Requirements and Deadlines</u> 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 institution. If an applicant submits multiple versions of the same application, OVW will review only the most recent system-validated version submitted before the deadline.

Cost-sharing

This program has no matching or cost-sharing requirement.

Program Description

This program is authorized by 34 U.S.C. § 20125. For a brief description of this program, see the <u>Executive Summary</u>. This initiative was developed to meet the statutory requirements in 34 U.S.C. § 20125(a)(2)(C) and 34 U.S.C. § 20125(e).

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 initiative must be used for one or more of the following purposes:

1. To provide personnel, training, technical assistance, data collection, and other equipment with respect to the increased apprehension, investigation, and adjudication of persons committing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking on campus.

- 2. To develop, strengthen, and implement campus policies, protocols, and services that more effectively identify and respond to the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including the use of technology to commit these crimes, and to train campus administrators, campus security personnel, and all participants in the resolution process, including personnel from the Title IX coordinator's office, student conduct office, and campus disciplinary or judicial boards on such policies, protocols, and services that promote a prompt, fair, and impartial investigation.
- 3. To provide prevention and education programming about domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including technological abuse and reproductive and sexual coercion, that is age-appropriate, culturally relevant, ongoing, delivered in multiple venues on campus, accessible, promotes respectful nonviolent behavior as a social norm, and engages men and boys. Such programming should be developed in partnership or collaboratively with experts in intimate partner and sexual violence prevention and intervention.
- 4. To develop, enlarge, or strengthen victim services programs and population specific services on the campuses of the institutions involved, including programs providing legal, medical, or psychological counseling, for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and to improve delivery of victim assistance on campus. To the extent practicable, such an institution shall collaborate with any victim service providers in the community in which the institution is located. If appropriate victim services programs are not available in the community or are not accessible to students, the institution shall, to the extent practicable, provide a victim services program on campus or create a victim services program in collaboration with a community-based organization. The institution shall use not less than 20 percent of the funds made available through the grant for a victim services program provided in accordance with this paragraph, regardless of whether the services are provided by the institution or in coordination with community victim service providers.
- 5. To create, disseminate, or otherwise provide assistance and information about victims' options on and off campus to bring disciplinary or other legal action, including assistance to victims in immigration matters.
- 6. To develop, install, or expand data collection and communication systems, including computerized systems, linking campus security to the local law enforcement for the purpose of identifying and tracking arrests, protection orders, violations of protection orders, prosecutions, and convictions with respect to the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking on campus.
- 7. To provide capital improvements (including improved lighting and communications facilities but not including the construction of buildings) on campuses to address the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
- 8. To support improved coordination among campus administrators, campus security personnel, and local law enforcement to reduce domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking on campus.
- 9. To develop or adapt, provide, and disseminate developmental, culturally appropriate, and linguistically accessible print or electronic materials to address both prevention and intervention in domestic violence, dating violence, sexual violence, and stalking.

- 10. To develop or adapt and disseminate population-specific strategies and projects for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking from underserved populations on campus.
- 11. To train campus health centers and appropriate campus faculty, such as academic advisors or professionals who deal with students on a daily basis, on how to recognize and respond to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including training health providers on how to provide universal education to all members of the campus community on the impacts of violence on health and unhealthy relationships and how providers can support ongoing outreach efforts.
- 12. To train campus personnel in how to use a victim-centered, trauma-informed interview technique, which means asking questions of a student or a campus employee who is reported to be a victim of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, in a manner that is focused on the experience of the reported victim, that does not judge or blame the reported victim for the alleged crime, and that is informed by evidence-based research on trauma response. To the extent practicable, campus personnel shall allow the reported victim to participate in a recorded interview and to receive a copy of the recorded interview.
- 13. To develop and implement restorative practices (as defined in the Violence Against Women Act (34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(31))).

Statutory Considerations

By statute, 34 U.S.C. § 20125(a)(2), OVW must make every effort to ensure the following:

- 1. The equitable participation of private and public institutions of higher education in the activities assisted under this program.
- 2. The equitable geographic distribution of grants under this program among the various regions of the United States.
- 3. The equitable distribution of grants to Tribal colleges and universities and traditionally black colleges and universities.

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; and
- 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.

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), including a New Grantee Orientation and up to four grantee trainings. Campus Set Aside Initiative recipients participate in an intensive, structured process with OVW-funded TA provider(s) to build the infrastructure to create a comprehensive program to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking on campus that is grounded in strategies relevant to their student population.
- 2. Collect and report performance indicators. Forms, instructions, training, and related tools for each OVW program are available on the <u>VAWA Measuring Effectiveness Initiative webpage.</u>
- 3. Participate in an assessment or evaluation, if OVW conducts one that requires recipient involvement.
- 4. Meet the statutory minimum requirements and additional initiative requirements outlined below.

Statutory Minimum Requirements (34 U.S. Code § 20125 - Grants to combat violent crimes on campuses)

Each grantee shall comply with the following minimum requirements during the grant period:

- A. The grantee shall create a coordinated community response including both organizations external to the institution and relevant divisions of the institution.
- B. The grantee shall establish a mandatory prevention and education program on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking for all students.
- C. The grantee shall train all campus law enforcement to respond effectively to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
- D. The grantee shall train all participants in the resolution process, including the campus disciplinary board, the title IX coordinator's office, and the student conduct office, to respond effectively to situations involving domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Additional Requirements

- 1. Develop an action plan that includes specific activities to:
 - a) Build the institution's infrastructure to establish a comprehensive program to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
 - b) Describe focused strategies to support the capacity-building process throughout the award period.
 - c) Outline how proposed activities will be grounded in strategies that meet the needs of the student population.
 - d) Provide comprehensive and confidential victim services on or off campus to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

- e) Include key partners and responsible staff for the completion of the activities outlined in the action plan.
- f) Build on strengths and address gaps in prevention and intervention efforts on campus.
- 2. By the end of the project, provide comprehensive, confidential victim services and advocacy, either through an off-campus victim service provider that is part of the coordinated community response (CCR) team or through the development of a campus-based victim services program in partnership with a community victim services partner.

If the applicant anticipates developing a campus-based victim services program, then it should allocate 20 percent or more of the grant funding to develop these services. On-campus counseling services alone do not meet the requirement to provide comprehensive victim services either on or off campus.

Note: Applicants must acknowledge that they are aware of the statutory requirements regarding compliance with the confidentiality and privacy provisions of VAWA, 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(2) (see the confidentiality notice form).

Note: The victim service provider must be actively engaged in direct victim services in order to meet the victim services requirement.

- 3. Support a Project Director who is at least 75 percent of a full-time position. A Project Director's primary role is to oversee the project, coordinate the work of the CCR team, and ensure the project achieves its stated goals. Considering the scope of work needed for effective implementation and to avoid potential conflicts of interest, the Project Director must not be a Title IX Coordinator, victim advocate, or confidential advisor and must not be in or supervised by the Title IX office or any Title IX position. Failure to establish this separation will result in a loss of points in the application review.
- **4.** The institution's designated financial point of contact must complete the DOJ Grants Financial Management Online Training, if not completed in the last two years, and submit the corresponding evidence in Just Grants.

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 <u>Application Companion Guide</u> 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. 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. Any activity or program that unlawfully violates an Executive Order.
- 11. Projects that focus primarily on alcohol and substance abuse.
- 12. Activities that focus on sexual harassment issues that do not involve domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
- 13. Education or prevention programs for elementary and secondary students on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
- 14. Mandatory self-defense classes or self-defense classes as the only means of providing prevention education programs to students.
- 15. Theater performances that do not specifically address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
- 16. Products and/or materials that are not specifically focused on the dynamics of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and campus responses to these crimes.
- 17. Victim assistance not directly related to the domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking victimization.
- 18. Purchase of anonymous web-based reporting systems or apps for students (excludes law enforcement incident/report databases).
- 19. Incentives for students to participate in mandatory trainings and climate surveys. (Note: OVW does not discourage incentives; however, grant funds may not be used.)

- 20. Support for Title IX Investigator or Coordinator positions and trainings, conferences, activities, or materials focused primarily on Title IX. (Note: Campus Set Aside Initiative recipients should nonetheless ensure that they are familiar and comply with current regulations from the Department of Education on Title IX compliance, available at https://www2.ed.gov/policy/rights/reg/ocr/index.html.)
- 21. "Do-It-Yourself" sexual assault evidence collection kits.
- 22. For projects providing legal assistance, criminal defense of victims charged with crimes is considered out of scope, except for 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.
- 23. For projects providing legal assistance, representation in tort cases.
- 24. 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.

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, carpeting, installing lighting, surveillance cameras, etc.) without prior NEPA approval submitted to OVW.
- 5. Construction.
- 6. Tuition reimbursement in lieu of salary for project staff.

Limited Use of Funds

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

Activities Requiring Prior Approval

OVW must approve the following activities before recipients use grant funds to support them:

1. Surveys, regardless of their purpose, to ensure they are within the scope of the award and meet the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

 Renovations, including such minor activities as painting, carpeting, or installing lighting. Recipients must also ensure that funded renovations comply with the <u>National</u> <u>Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)</u> and related laws, which may be time-consuming and include public notice and consultation.

Type of Award

Awards will be made as grants.

Application Contents and Format

Letter of Intent

Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a Letter of Intent stating their intention to apply. The letter should be submitted to OVW at OVW.Campusinitiative@usdoj.gov by August 19, 2025. This letter does not obligate the applicant to apply, and applicants that do not submit this letter can still apply. See the OVW website for a sample Letter of Intent.

Application Contents

Applications must include the required documents and meet the program eligibility requirements. For a checklist of all required items, see the <u>Application Submission Checklist</u> section of this NOFO.

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

Required Application Components	Number of Possible Points		
Proposal Narrative			
Purpose of the Proposal	20		
Who Will Implement	35		
Budget			
Budget worksheet and narrative	20		
Memorandum of Understanding and Supporting Documents			
Internal Memorandum of Understanding	25		
Additional Application Components			
Certification of Eligibility Letter	0		

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 15 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.

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 <u>Appendix A</u> 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 <u>Appendix B</u> for the list of questions.

Proposal Narrative

(55 points, 15 pages maximum, double-spaced)

The Proposal Narrative must include the sections outlined below.

Purpose of the Proposal (20 points)

This section must:

- 1. Describe the campus and surrounding community, including the geographic location and 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 main student population that the institution serves, based on the applicant's designation as an HBCU, HSI, or TCU.
- 4. Describe the scope of the problem with regards to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking for the main student population the institution serves, based on its designation as an HBCU, HSI, or TCU.
- 5. Identify the available services for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and describe the degree to which the services are relevant to the student population.
- 6. Describe the challenges in creating prevention and intervention approaches to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Who Will Implement the Proposal (35 points)

This section must:

- 1. Identify the departments and/or organizations, including project partners as outlined in the IMOU involved in the proposed project, and describe their roles and responsibilities.
- 2. Demonstrate that the departments and organizations identified have the capacity to address the stated need and can successfully implement the proposed project activities.
- 3. Describe where the initiative will be housed on campus and how that office and/or department will support project activities.
- 4. Identify the Project Supervisor and describe their commitment and dedicated time for supervision of project activities, including the proposed supervision structure.
- 5. Describe how the Project Supervisor will use their position within their institution to seek leadership buy-in and promote CCR team development and project activities.
- 6. Identify and detail the experience and expertise of the Project Director in addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
- 7. Detail the roles and responsibilities of all key personnel and outline the percentage of time dedicated to the project. Note: If the applicant plans to hire any of the key staff position(s), include a brief job description of the roles and responsibilities.
- 8. Identify the key individuals on campus, including executive leadership (president/chancellor and/or governing board members), who will help elevate the importance of addressing these crimes, increase awareness of these crimes, and commit to sustaining these efforts, including how they will do so.
- 9. Identify the departments and/or community partners that will support project activities to ensure efforts are accessible to individuals with disabilities, individuals who are Deaf or hard of hearing, and persons with limited English proficiency.

Note: The Proposal Narrative does not include a section describing proposed activities because grantees will spend the project period carrying out an intensive, structured process to build the infrastructure for a comprehensive program to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking on campus, as described in the Mandatory Program Requirements section of this NOFO, including developing the required action plan.

Budget and Associated Documentation

OVW awards are governed by the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200 and the <u>DOJ Financial Guide</u>.

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 <u>Budget Information</u>, the <u>Sample Budget Narrative</u> (including Excel file), and the <u>Creating a Budget</u> webinar on the OVW website.

Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (20 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 48 months. Budgets, including the total "estimated funding" on the <u>SF-424</u>, must reflect 48 months of project activity. OVW anticipates that the award period will start on December 1, 2025.

Awards under this program for FY 2025 will be made for up to \$500,000.

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

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 IMOU.
- 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 <u>Accessibility</u> section of this NOFO for more information.
- 5. Include funds to attend OVW-sponsored TTA in the amount of \$30,000 for applicants located in the 48 contiguous states and \$40,000 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 48 months and NOT per year. Applicants also may budget expenses in excess of the required amount if they are aware of relevant non-OVW sponsored conferences or training for which they would like permission to use grant funds to support staff/project partner attendance.
- 6. Support at least a .75 full-time equivalent (FTE) position for the Project Director.
- 7. If the applicant anticipates developing a campus-based victim services program, then it should allocate 20 percent or more of grant funds to support the provision of direct victim services.
- 8. Include indirect costs that are limited to no more than 20 percent of Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC). This limit applies to both direct recipients and subrecipients of Campus Set Aside Initiative funds. The amount of indirect costs charged cannot exceed the amount an institution or subrecipient would charge using their federally approved indirect cost rate.
- 9. Include a set-aside of \$40,000 to compensate at least one domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and/or stalking victim service provider within the community or Tribe where the institution is located. This victim service provider will be identified during the action plan development and included in the EMOU to be developed during the project period. All project partners need to be fairly and reasonably compensated for their full level of effort unless otherwise stated in the EMOU.
- 10. 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 <u>Budget</u> <u>Information</u>, 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

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; however, **indirect costs under the Campus Set Aside Initiative are limited to no more than 20% of the Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC).** Applicants that have an indirect cost rate agreement 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 <u>Applicant Financial Capability Questionnaire</u> 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):

- 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

Internal Memorandum of Understanding (IMOU) (25 Points)

The IMOU is a document containing the terms of the partnership and the allocation of roles and responsibilities with different departments, offices, and organizations within the institution of higher education (see the Required Partnerships section of this NOFO), and it must be included as an attachment to the application in JustGrants. The IMOU 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 IMOU **must** be a single document developed specifically for this application. It **must** be signed and currently dated by the Authorized Representative of the institution of higher education (e.g. the President, Provost, or Chancellor) and the chief executive officers and/or directors of all participating partner departments, offices, and organizations within the institution during the development of the application. OVW will accept electronic signatures. IMOUs missing signatures may result in a point deduction or **removal from consideration**, **particularly if the IMOU is missing the signature of a required partner**. If necessary, an IMOU 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 IMOU must clearly:

- 1. Identify the campus 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.
- Provide a brief description of any limitation on information sharing as well as confidentiality and privilege restrictions for each partner and state that each partner understands the limits on disclosure of personally identifying information under VAWA (see the confidentiality notice form).
- 4. Address how privacy and informed consent will be used to ensure that victim confidentiality is maintained to the extent legally possible.

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. Any activity or program that unlawfully violates an Executive Order.
- 11. All other activities listed under the Out-of-Scope Activities section.

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

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 <u>Letter of Nonsupplanting</u> 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.

Certification of Eligibility

Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 20125(c)(3), all Campus Program applicants must certify that they are in compliance with section 485(f) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, which requires institutions of higher education to collect and report certain types of information about campus crime statistics and campus security policies for their respective campuses. See 20 U.S.C. § 1092(f). A sample of Certification of Eligibility letter can be found on the OVW website at https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/1124406/dl?inline.

All applicants must include the certification of eligibility letter at the time of application submission. Applicants that fail to submit the Certification of Eligibility or do not include the appropriate signatory will not be considered for funding.

Certifications of Statutory Minimum Requirements

As referenced under Other Program Eligibility Requirements, all applicants must certify that they have knowledge of and are committed to the full implementation of each of the statutory minimum requirements of the Campus Program. See 34 U.S.C. § 20125(d)(3) (A-D). A sample Certification of Statutory Minimum Requirements letter can be found on the OVW website at https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/1569451/dl.

If an application is missing the Certification of Statutory Minimum Requirements at the time of application, a successful applicant will be required to submit this certification letter prior to receiving an award. The signed certification letter must be uploaded as a separate attachment in JustGrants.

Delivery of Legal Assistance Certification (if applicable)

As referenced under <u>Other Program Eligibility Requirements</u>, 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;
- 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;
- 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.

If an application is missing the Delivery of Legal Assistance Certification Letter at the time of submission, a successful applicant will be required to submit this certification letter prior to receiving an award. The signed certification letter must be uploaded as a separate attachment in JustGrants. A sample Delivery of Legal Assistance Certification Letter can be found on the OVW Website.

Disclosures and Assurances

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

<u>Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (if applicable)</u>

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.

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

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 202-706-0305 or ovw.campusinitiative@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 <u>SAM.gov</u> includes receiving a UEI and takes an average of 2 to 3 weeks.
- Grants.gov: Registration with <u>Grants.gov</u> takes an average of **1 week.**
- JustGrants: Registration with JustGrants needs to be completed <u>ONLY</u> after successful submission of <u>Step 1</u> 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 <u>help desk</u> and refer to the <u>OVW Policy for Applicants Experiencing Technical Difficulties During the Registration and Submission Processes</u> 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 August 19, 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 **September 9, 2025.**
- Deadline to submit the full application in JustGrants: 8:59 pm ET on **September 11, 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 <u>OVW Policy for Applicants</u> Experiencing Technical Difficulties During the Registration and Submission Processes.

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

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

Application Submission Checklist

Applicants must submit all required application items. Prior to peer review, OVW **will not** contact applicants for missing items. Applicants applying to more than one OVW program are responsible for ensuring that only documents pertinent to this funding opportunity are included with this application. OVW will not redirect documents submitted with the wrong application (e.g., a Rural Program letter submitted with a Transitional Housing Program application will not be transferred to the Rural application).

Application Item	Required?	Submission Type	Submission Website	Date Completed
Application for Federal Assistance: SF-424	Yes	Online Form	Grants.gov	
Proposal Abstract	Yes	Online Form	JustGrants	
Pre-Award Risk Assessment	Yes	Online Form	JustGrants	
Summary Data Sheet	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
Proposal Narrative	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
Indirect Cost Rate Agreement	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
Internal Memorandum of Understanding	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
Certification Regarding Out-of-Scope Activities	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
Letter of Nonsupplanting	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
Confidentiality Notice Form	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	

Application Item	Required?	Submission Type	Submission Website	Date Completed
Summary of Other Federal Funding	If applicable	Online Form	JustGrants	
Delivery of Legal Assistance Certification	Yes/If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
Certification of Statutory Minimum Requirements Letter	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
Certification of Eligibility	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 <u>OVW contact</u> 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, IMOU, Certification of Eligibility) and all documentation confirming the technical difficulty to the OVW contact by the JustGrants deadline.

Technical difficulties while applying in JustGrants

- Contact OVW JustGrants Support at <u>OVW.JustGrantsSupport@usdoj.gov</u> 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 <u>OVW contact</u> before the <u>JustGrants deadline</u>. 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, IMOU and Certification of Eligibility).

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 <u>Application Contents</u> and <u>Eligibility</u> sections of this NOFO. Additional information about circumstances that may result in removal from consideration is provided below under <u>Review and Selection Process</u> and <u>Risk Review</u>.

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 <u>peer review process</u> 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 substantively addressing one or more priorities and to deduct points for following reasons:

- 1. Activities that compromise victim safety and recovery and undermine offender accountability (deduct up to 15 points).
- 2. Out-of-scope and unallowable activities (deduct up to 35 points).
- 3. 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.

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

Risk Review

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

High-Risk Recipients

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

Award Notices

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

By the anticipated decision notification date in the <u>Key Dates</u> 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."

<u>Terms and conditions</u> for OVW awards are available on the OVW website. These terms are subject to change prior to the issuance of the awards.

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.

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

Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 C.F.R. Part 200)? Provide a short list of the individual's qualifications/experience. If the individual is not familiar with the applicable rules and regulations, the applicant must contact OVW's Grants Financial Management Division at OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov or 1-888-514-8556 immediately after the applicant is notified of its award to coordinate training.

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

Appendix B: Summary Data Sheet

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

- 1. Provide the following information for the grant point-of-contact. This person must be an employee of the applicant.
 - Name
 - Title
 - Address
 - Telephone number
 - Email address
- 2. Is the applicant (the organization whose unique entity identifier is being used for the application) serving as a fiscal agent? A fiscal agent is an entity that does not participate in implementation of the project and passes <u>all</u> 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. The applicant must acknowledge 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? (Excludes federal financial aid).
 - 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.
 - o Yes

- o 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
 - o No
- 5. 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).
 - a. Domestic violence
 - b. Dating violence
 - c. Sexual assault
 - d. Stalking
- 6. Provide the following information for the applicant:
 - Name of the institution
 - Location of the institution
 - Public or private
 - Number of students enrolled
- 7. Identify the type of institution.
 - Traditional four-year school
 - Community college
 - Technical college
 - Historically Black College or University (HBCU)
 - Hispanic-serving institution
 - Tribal college or University
 - Faith-based
 - State the denomination
 - Other
- 8. Provide the demographics of the student population.
- 9. Has the applicant ever received a Campus Program award?
 - Yes
 - If yes, provide previous award number(s)
 - No
- 10. All applicants are required to partner with, at a minimum, the following: 1) The institution of higher education's president/chancellor or designee; 2) Student affairs administrators; 3) Clery Act compliance officers and campus security authorities; 4) Campus-based victim service

providers, if applicable; 5) Campus law enforcement or public safety personnel; 6) Campus housing authorities, if applicable; and 7) Campus resolution process personnel including Title IX Coordinator, board members, investigators, and adjudicators, and/or hearing officers.

Provide the name(s) of campus personnel representing each required partner type.

- 11. Do students have access to campus-based and/or community-based victim services? Note: this does not include civil legal services.
 - Yes
 - o If yes, state whether campus-based, community-based, or both.
 - No