



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

OVW Fiscal Year 2026 Formula Programs Training and Technical Assistance Initiative - Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number

O-OVW-2026-172378

Assistance Listing Number

16.526

Application Due

Deadline to submit Standard Form/SF-424 in Grants.gov: March 3, 2026, by 11:59 PM Eastern Time (E.T.)

Deadline to submit application in JustGrants: March 5, 2026, by 5:59 PM E.T.

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

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What is this NOFO about? (Basic Information)

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is accepting applications on a competitive basis for the Formula Programs Training and Technical Assistance Initiative. OVW administers 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 (VAWA crimes). OVW funding supports coordinated community responses that provide services to victims and hold offenders accountable.

Executive Summary

The purpose of the Formula Programs Training and Technical Assistance Initiative (Formula TA Initiative) is to provide training and technical assistance (TTA) to State Administering Agencies (SAAs) to enhance their implementation of the Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) and Services* Training* Officers* Prosecutors (STOP) Formula Grant Program. SAAs are responsible for administering formula funds that support communities, including American Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages, in their efforts to develop and strengthen effective responses to VAWA crimes. SAAs must ensure that subrecipients comply with relevant statutory requirements and implement effective programs. Eligible applicants for the Formula TA Initiative are national, Tribal, statewide, or other nonprofit organizations with the capacity to provide this TTA.

Funding Opportunity Details	
Federal Agency Name	U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women
Funding Opportunity Title	OVW FY 2026 Formula Programs Training and Technical Assistance Initiative
Announcement Type	Initial
Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number	O-OVW-2026-172378
Assistance Listing Number	16.526
Statutory Authority	34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(11)
Expected Total Amount of Funding	\$1,300,000
Anticipated Number of Awards	2
Type of Award	Cooperative agreement
Expected Award Amounts	\$600,000 - \$700,000
Expected Award Period	24 months

Key Dates

This table contains deadlines and other important dates.

Key Dates	
Funding Opportunity Release Date	On or about January 20, 2026
SAM.gov Registration/Renewal	Recommend completing process by Feb. 3, 2026
Grants.gov Registration/Renewal	Recommend completing process by Feb. 3, 2026
Grants.gov Deadline	March 3, 2026 by 11:59 PM E.T.
JustGrants Deadline	March 5, 2026 by 5:59 PM E.T.
Anticipated Award Notification Date	After June 1, 2026

Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this NOFO, contacts are:

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

Resources for Applying

- Applicant Resources
 - [Application Companion Guide](#)
 - [Resources for Applicants page](#)
- Budget Resources
 - Budget Information on [OVW Website](#)
 - [Sample Budget Narrative](#) (including Excel file)
 - [Creating a Budget](#) webinar
- JustGrants Resources
 - [JustGrants Application Submission Training](#)
- Sample Application Materials

- [Sample MOU](#)
- Application Submission Checklist

Who can apply? (Eligibility)

Eligible Applicants

Entities that are eligible to apply are: national, Tribal, statewide, or other nonprofit organizations with the capacity to provide TTA on a national level to SAAs.

Current recipients with a substantial amount of unobligated funds left (i.e., 50 percent or more of the current award) as of May 1 of this year, without adequate justification, may not be considered for funding or may receive a reduced award amount if funded.

Disqualifying Factors

An application with problems in one or more of these areas may not be considered for funding:

- [Program-specific unallowable costs](#)
- [Risk review](#)
- [Completeness of application contents](#)
- [Meeting deadlines](#)
- [Not meeting unique entity identifier and SAM.gov requirements](#)
- [Past performance issues](#)
- [Open criminal investigations](#)

Cost sharing: This program has no match or cost-sharing or requirement.

What will recipients do? (Program Description)

This funding opportunity is authorized by 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(11). For a brief description, see the [Executive Summary](#).

Purpose Areas

Funds under this initiative must be used to provide TTA on:

1. Implementing the STOP Formula Program's statutorily mandated 10 percent set-aside for community-based programs (34 U.S.C. 10446(c)(4)(C)) at a maximum budget of \$600,000. TTA should help SAAs identify and build relationships with community-based organizations and administer the set-aside. – or –
2. Addressing sexual assault and implementing the 20 percent STOP Formula Program set-aside for meaningfully addressing sexual assault (34 U.S.C. 10446(c)(5)) at a maximum budget of \$700,000.

Capacity and Expertise

Applicants must demonstrate the ability to assist SAAs with the administration, planning, and management of the STOP Formula Grant Program and SASP. They must support SAAs in four areas to meet the community-based statutory set-aside: identification, outreach, relationship-building, and support through funding. Applicants must support SAAs in three areas to implement SASP and to meet the STOP Formula Grant Program's sexual assault statutory set-aside: unique needs of sexual assault victims, sexual assault-specific victim services, and the STOP allocations.

Priorities

Applicants are encouraged to substantively address one or more of the priorities listed below, to the extent consistent with the program's authorizing statute:

1. Measures to combat human trafficking and transnational crime, particularly crimes linked to illegal immigration and cartel operations, that support safety and justice for trafficking victims who have also suffered domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and/or stalking.
2. Projects to provide victim services, especially housing, and improve law enforcement response in rural and remote areas, Tribal nations, and small towns that often lack resources to effectively combat domestic violence and sexual assault.

Program Requirements

Applicants that receive funding under this NOFO will be required to do the following:

- Participate in OVW-sponsored training and technical assistance (TTA).
- Collect and report performance indicators. Forms, instructions, training, and tools are on the [VAWA Measuring Effectiveness Initiative webpage](#). See also OVW's [reports to Congress](#) for information on how awards contribute to achieving program goals and objectives.
- Participate in an assessment or evaluation, if OVW conducts one that requires recipient involvement.

Program-specific Unallowable Costs

Applications proposing activities described below may be removed from consideration.

Unallowable Cost	Description
Activities that compromise victim safety and recovery or undermine offender accountability	OVW will not fund activities that compromise victim safety and recovery, deter healing for victims, and/or undermine offender accountability. See the Application Companion Guide for more information.
Out-of-scope activities	*** This list of out-of-scope activities is the subject of federal litigation. For the most up-to-date information about out-of-scope activities, please see the OVW website at:

Unallowable Cost	Description
Out-of-scope activities, continued	<p>https://www.justice.gov/ovw/open-notices-of-funding-opportunity.***</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research projects. Funds under this program may not be used to conduct research, defined by 28 C.F.R. § 46.102(d) as a systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. However, assessments conducted for internal improvement purposes only may be allowable. For information on distinguishing between research and assessments, see the Application Companion Guide. 2. Promoting or facilitating the violation of federal immigration law. 3. Inculcating or promoting gender ideology as defined in Executive Order 14168, <i>Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government</i>. 4. Promoting or facilitating discriminatory programs or ideology, including illegal DEI and “diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility” programs that do not advance the policy of equal dignity and respect, as described in Executive Order 14173, <i>Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity</i>. This prohibition is not intended to interfere with any of OVW’s statutory obligations, such as funding for HBCUs, culturally specific services, and disability programs. 5. Activities that frame domestic violence or sexual assault as systemic social justice issues rather than criminal offenses (e.g., prioritizing criminal justice reform or social justice theories over victim safety and offender accountability). 6. Generic community engagement or economic development without a clear link to violence prevention, victim safety, or offender accountability. 7. Programs that discourage collaboration with law enforcement or oppose or limit the role of police, prosecutors, or immigration enforcement in addressing violence against women. 8. Awareness campaigns or media that do not lead to tangible improvements in prevention, victim safety, or offender accountability. 9. Initiatives that prioritize illegal aliens over U.S. citizens and legal residents in receiving victim services and support. 10. Excessive funding for consulting fees, training, administrative costs, or other expenses not related to measurable violence prevention, victim support, and offender accountability. 11. Any activity or program that unlawfully violates an Executive Order.

Unallowable Cost	Description
	<p>12. Direct victim services and justice system interventions. Formula TA Initiative funds are intended to support educational and training opportunities and TTA to SAAs. They cannot support law enforcement activities, legal representation, direct services, or other interventions.</p> <p>13. Applications focused on a single state, region, or local geographic community, unless specified in the purpose areas.</p> <p>Note: Recipients should serve all eligible victims as required by statute, regulation, or award condition.</p>
Other unallowable costs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lobbying 2. Fundraising. 3. Purchase of real property. 4. Physical modifications to buildings, including minor renovations (e.g., painting, carpeting). 5. Construction.
Non-supplanting	<p>Grant funds must be used to supplement, not supplant, non-federal funds that would otherwise be available for activities under this program.</p>

Limited Use of Funds

Recipients may only use up to one percent of the funds to assess the need for internal improvements. Examples include convening listening sessions to identify service gaps or surveying participants after a webinar to see what they learned.

The OVW research decision tree in the [Application Companion Guide](#) describes how applicants can ensure that such assessments are not prohibited human subjects research.

Type of Award

Awards will be made as cooperative agreements. This is a type of award in which OVW expects to be substantially involved in the project. Examples of substantial involvement are: participating in meetings, reviewing drafts of products and plans, and helping select trainers and subject matter experts.

What do I need to submit? (Application Contents and Format)

Application Contents

Applicants must submit these required items: Project Narrative, Budget and Budget Narrative, Memorandum of Understanding and Letters of Support. Any application missing those items is incomplete and will not be funded.

Application Contents and Submission Checklist

Application Item	Required?	Submission Type	Submission Website	Date Completed
<u>Abstract</u>	Yes	Text box in JustGrants	JustGrants	
<u>Application for Federal Assistance: SF-424</u>	Yes	Online Form	Grants.gov	
<u>Pre-Award Risk Assessment</u>	Yes	Online Form	JustGrants	
<u>Summary Data Sheet</u>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Project Narrative</u> (up to 70 points)	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Budget Worksheet and Narrative</u> (up to 15 points)	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Indirect Cost Rate Agreement</u>	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Financial Capability Questionnaire</u>	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Memorandum of Understanding</u> (up to 10 points)	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Letters of Support</u> (up to 5 points)	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Certification Regarding Out-of-Scope Activities</u>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Disclosure of Process Related of Executive Compensation</u>	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Confidentiality Notice Form</u>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Disclosure of Lobbying Activities</u>	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
<u>Summary of Other Federal Funding</u>	If applicable	Online form	JustGrants	

Formatting and Technical Requirements

Applications must follow these requirements for all attachments, unless otherwise noted:

- Double-spaced text (charts may be single-spaced)
- 8½ x 11-inch pages
- One-inch margins
- Arial font, type no smaller than 11-point, except for footnotes, which may be 9-point
- Correctly numbered pages
- No more than 20 pages for the Project Narrative
- Documents in these formats: Microsoft Word (.doc), PDF files (.pdf), or Text Documents (.txt)

Abstract

The Abstract is a short summary (no more than 2,000 characters) of the proposed project. It must include the 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. Do not summarize past accomplishments. The Abstract must be entered into a text box in JustGrants. It is not scored.

Project Narrative (70 points total)

The Project Narrative must include the three sections below. Applicants should refer to the [Capacity and Expertise](#) section when developing the application.

Demonstrated Understanding of the SAA Role (15 points)

1. Demonstrate the applicant's understanding of the SAA's role in managing a formula grant.
2. Describe challenges faced by STOP SAAs meeting the set-aside (community-based or sexual assault set-aside, depending on which the proposed project addresses).
3. Describe how the applicant will identify and meet the resource, training, and technical assistance needs of SAAs.

What Will Be Done (30 points)

1. If applicable, describe how the project will address [priority one](#) (human trafficking and transnational crime) and/or [priority two](#) (under-resourced rural and remote areas, Tribal nations, and small towns).
2. Propose and justify technical assistance, resource development, and training activities.
3. Explain the expected outcome of each activity and how the activity will assist the SAAs.
4. Describe products, if any, that will be developed.

Who Will Implement the Project (25 points)

1. Identify the key people and organizations, including project partners, involved in the proposed project and detail their experience providing technical assistance on a national scale.

2. Detail key people and organizations' experience working with a range of SAAs (e.g., SAAs in rural states, different regions, U.S. territories, etc.)

Budget and Associated Documentation

Budget Worksheet with Narrative (up to 15 points)

Applicants must upload a detailed budget with narrative in JustGrants. Note:

- The total amount budgeted should be the same as the total “estimated funding” on the SF-424.
- The budget should be reasonable and necessary, based on the resources needed to implement the project in the applicant’s geographic location.
- Applicants are encouraged to use a spreadsheet (e.g., Excel, Numbers, etc.) for the budget worksheet and uploading the document as either a .xlsx or .pdf document. A sample budget worksheet is [here](#).
- Awards are governed by the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200 and the [DOJ Financial Guide](#).

Note: OVW may make awards for greater or lesser amounts than requested. OVW also may negotiate the scope of work and budget with applicants before or after making an award.

The budget must:

1. **Provide line-item descriptions.** 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.
2. **Clearly link activities.** 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 Project Narrative.
3. **Compensate project partners.** Fairly and reasonably compensate all project partners for their full level of effort, unless otherwise stated in the MOU.
4. **Include \$7,500 to attend OVW-sponsored TTA.** If you would like to attend non-OVW-sponsored TTA related to the project, include costs associated with those trainings, too.
5. **Include funds for accessibility.** Include sufficient funds to provide access for people with limited English proficiency and people with disabilities. See the [Application Companion Guide](#) for more information.
6. **Identify subawards and contracts.** Distinguish clearly between subawards and contracts in allocating any grant funds to other entities. For more information on distinguishing between subawards and contracts, see [Budget Information](#) and the [Application Companion Guide](#).

Conference Planning and Food/Beverage Costs

See [OVW Conference Cost Guidelines](#) for information on using federal funds for conferences. Food for victims is not subject to these guidelines but must be approved as part of the recipient’s budget.

Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

Applicants that intend to charge indirect costs through the use of a negotiated indirect cost rate must have a current, signed, federally approved indirect cost rate agreement and must upload and attach it to their application in JustGrants. Applicants that do not have a current federal negotiated indirect cost rate (including provisional rate), may elect to charge a de minimis rate of up to 15% of modified total direct costs (MTDC).

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

Financial Capability Questionnaire (if applicable)

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

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. It must be uploaded as an attachment to the application in JustGrants. A [sample disclosure](#) letter 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 (MOU) and Letters of Support

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (10 points)

The MOU is a document defining the terms of the partnership and the roles and responsibilities between two or more parties. It is submitted as an attachment in JustGrants.

The MOU is not a substitute for a subaward agreement, which ensures that subrecipients adhere to the requirements of the award and 2 C.F.R. Part 200 (see 2 C.F.R. § 200.332). Partners receiving funds under the award generally are considered subrecipients because they are carrying out a portion of the federal award.

The MOU must be a single document developed specifically for this application. It must be signed and currently dated by the Authorized Representative of each proposed partner organization.

Electronic signatures are fine. MOUs missing signatures may result in a point deduction or removal from consideration, particularly if the MOU is missing the signature of a required partner. A sample [MOU](#) is available on the OVW website.

The MOU must:

1. Identify the project partners and provide a brief history of the collaborative relationships among them, including when and under what circumstances those relationships began.
2. Reflect the project goals, objectives, and activities as described in the Project Narrative and budget.
3. Describe the roles/responsibilities each partner will assume to ensure the project's success.
4. Describe, for each partner, the expertise they bring to the project.
5. Confirm that each project partner has reviewed the budget, is aware of the total amount requested, and is being equitably compensated for their work under the grant or is agreeing to be partially compensated or receive no compensation from the grant.
6. Include the printed name, title, and agency for the applicant and partners and be signed and dated by the Authorized Representative of each partner organization and all key consultants.

Letters of Support (5 points)

Applicants must include two letters of support from a previous recipient of their training and/or technical assistance. Do not include more than two. The letters must not exceed two single-spaced pages each.

The letters must:

1. Identify the nature and specify the timeframe of the training and/or technical assistance the letter-writer received from the applicant and/or key project partner of the applicant.
2. Discuss the extent to which the training and/or technical assistance was helpful.

Additional Application Components

The following documents should be uploaded and attached to the application in JustGrants. Any certification must be a letter, on letterhead, signed, and dated by the authorized representative. Certifications must be uploaded as separate attachments under the Additional Application Components section in JustGrants.

Additional Application Component	Description
<u>Certification Regarding Out-of-Scope Activities (required)</u>	<p>***This Certification Regarding Out-of-Scope Activities is the subject of federal litigation. For the most up-to-date information about the certification requirement, please see the OVW website at: https://www.justice.gov/ovw/open-notices-of-funding-opportunity.***</p> <p>Applicants must attach a letter to OVW's Director, signed by the Authorized Representative, certifying that grant funds will not be used for the <u>out-of-scope activities</u> listed in this NOFO. See sample <u>Certification of Out-of-Scope Activities Letter</u>. Note: Nothing in this certification prohibits recipients from serving all eligible victims as required by statute, regulation, or award condition.</p>
Proof of 501(c)(3) status (required for nonprofit organizations only)	<p>As noted under <u>Eligibility</u>, an entity that is eligible for this program based on its status as a nonprofit organization must be an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of the Code. All such applicants are required to attach a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) recognizing their tax-exempt status. OVW cannot make an award to any nonprofit organization that does not submit a 501(c)(3) determination letter from the IRS.</p>
Confidentiality Notice Form	<p>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. The completed <u>acknowledgment form</u> must be uploaded and attached to the application in JustGrants. This form must be signed by the Authorized Representative.</p>

Disclosures and Assurances

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

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (Required if applicable)

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

Summary Data Sheet

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

The Summary Data Sheet must be uploaded as an attachment under Additional Application Components in JustGrants. It is not scored. Find it [here](#) on OVW's [Resources for Applicants](#) page.

Summary of Other Federal Funding

Applicants must disclose whether they have any of the following: 1) an OVW grant or cooperative agreement that is open or that closed within 12 months of the date this funding opportunity closes; 2) a subaward under an OVW grant or cooperative agreement that is open or that closed within 12 months of the date this funding opportunity closes; 3) a pending OVW application as either the lead applicant/potential recipient or as a partner/potential subrecipient; 4) a federal award to do the same or similar work; or 5) a pending federal application to do the same or similar work. Applicants must provide this information by completing the Summary of Other Federal Funding form in the Disclosures and Assurances section of JustGrants during the application submission process.

DOJ Certified Standard Assurances

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

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

Applicants must read and acknowledge these DOJ certifications in JustGrants, a copy of which is available [here](#).

How do I apply? (Submission Requirements and Deadlines)

The complete application package (i.e., this NOFO, including links to required forms) is available on Grants.gov and on the OVW website. If you need to request a paper copy of these materials you can contact OVW at 202-307-6026 or OVW.TechAssistance@usdoj.gov.

Deadlines for the steps below are in the [Key Dates](#) section of this NOFO.

Prior to Application Submission

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

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

- SAM.gov: Registration with [SAM.gov](#) includes receiving a UEI and takes an average of 2 to 3 weeks.
- Grants.gov: Registration with [Grants.gov](#) takes an average of 1 week.

- JustGrants: Registration with JustGrants needs to be completed ONLY after successful submission of [Step 1](#) of the application as described below under *How to Apply*.

Registration time frames are estimates. Applicants having registration challenges should contact the system's [help desk](#). 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 encourages applicants to begin the registration process or ensure that all accounts are active and up to date. Failure to do so may prevent OVW from making an award.

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 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 resources.

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

The Grants.gov and JustGrants deadlines are typically only a few days apart. Applicants experiencing technical difficulties, severe inclement weather, or natural or manmade disasters affecting submission should follow the steps described on OVW's [website](#).

How will OVW review my application? (Review Information)

Review and Selection Process

Responsiveness Review

Applications will be screened after the deadline passes to ensure that basic minimum requirements of this NOFO are met. Applications that are ineligible or incomplete will be removed from further consideration. Eligible and complete applications are then subject to a peer review and a programmatic review.

Peer Review

OVW's [peer review process](#) is based on the criteria outlined in the [Application Contents](#) section of this NOFO. OVW may use internal reviewers, external reviewers, or a combination of both.

OVW peer reviewers typically are current practitioners or recent retirees from varied professions with expertise in the subject matter of this funding opportunity. 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.

Programmatic Review

Programmatic review involves OVW assessing the application for alignment with the program's scope, flagging activities that compromise victim safety, and, if applicable, reviewing past performance and priority area targeting. OVW may deduct points for these reasons:

- Activities that compromise victim safety and recovery and undermine offender accountability (maximum point deduction: 15)
- Out-of-scope and unallowable activities (maximum point deduction: 20)
- Past performance (maximum point deduction: 25)
- Formatting and technical requirements (maximum point deduction: 5)

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 funded. An applicant with considerable past performance issues may receive a deduction in points or be removed from consideration regardless of peer review score.

Past Performance Review

As part of the programmatic review, applicants with current or recently closed OVW awards under this program will be reviewed for past performance, based on the following:

Subject	Factors
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compliance with terms of conditions of existing award(s) from OVW• Timely response to OVW requests
Programmatic Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Following the grant program's statutory purposes and requirements• Implementation of project according to plan, within original period of performance, and as designed without unjustified modification• Attendance at/participation in all required training and technical assistance events• Timely resolution of issues identified during programmatic monitoring• Development of deliverables that support project goals and are of acceptable quality
Financial Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drawdown of funds in line with level of project activities completed• Uninterrupted access to funds• Timely resolution of issues identified during financial monitoring
Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Timely submission of financial and performance reports• Submission of complete and accurate performance reports
Closeout	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Timely resolution of issues necessary to close out prior awards• Completion of closeout within 120 days of project end date

All award decisions will be made by the OVW Director unless there is a written delegation of authority to another official. The OVW Director may consider factors including but not limited to: geographic diversity, past performance, priorities outlined in this NOFO, and available funding when making awards. All award decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

Risk Review

OVW reviews information related to applicant risk as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.206(b). OVW uses the applicant's responses to the [Pre-award Risk Assessment Questions](#) to conduct this assessment. 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 currently appears in SAM.gov and was entered by another federal awarding agency. OVW considers the applicant's comments, in addition to the other information available in SAM.gov, in its assessment of the risk posed by 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. Current or prior recipients, whether designated high-risk or not, that have substantial or persistent performance or compliance issues, long-standing open audits, or open criminal investigations may not be funded.

How will I know if I receive an award? (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 document and they must submit the declaration and certification required to accept the award. These steps must be completed in JustGrants.

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

Availability of Funds

Awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and any modifications or 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 applying. This information can be found in the *Requirements for All OVW Applicants and Recipients* section of the [Application Companion Guide](#).

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

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](#).