



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)

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# **OVW Fiscal Year 2019 Training and Services to End Violence Against Women with Disabilities Grant Program Solicitation**

**Release Date: on or about December 3, 2018**

## **Eligibility**

Eligible applicants are limited to: **states; units of local government; Indian tribal governments or tribal organizations; and victim service providers, such as state or tribal domestic violence or sexual assault coalitions or nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations serving individuals with disabilities.**

(See "[Eligibility Information](#)")

## **Deadlines**

**Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (E.T.) on February 7, 2019.**

(See "[Submission Dates and Times](#)")

**Registration Information:** To submit an application, all applicants must obtain a Data Universal Number System (DUNS) Number and register online with the System for Award Management (SAM) and with [Grants.gov](#). To ensure sufficient time to complete the registration process, applicants must obtain a DUNS Number and register online with SAM and with [Grants.gov](#) immediately, but no later than January 11, 2019.

(See "[Registration](#)")

**Letter of Intent:** Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a Letter of Intent to OVW.Disabilities@usdoj.gov by January 11, 2019. This letter confirms that the applicant has registered with SAM and [Grants.gov](#). Submitting a Letter of Intent will not obligate a potential applicant to submit an application. Interested applicants who do not submit a Letter of Intent are still eligible to apply.

(See “[Letter of Intent](#)”)

**Pre-Application Information Session(s):** OVW will conduct a web-based Pre-Application Information Session for entities interested in submitting an application for this program. Participation in this session is optional. Interested applicants who do not participate are still eligible to apply.

(See “[Pre-Application Information Session\(s\)](#)”)

## Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, email OVW at OVW.Disabilities@usdoj.gov. Alternatively, interested parties may call OVW at (202) 307-6026.

## Submission and Notification Information

**Submission:** Applications for this program will be submitted through [Grants.gov](#). For technical assistance with [Grants.gov](#), contact the [Grants.gov](#) Customer Support Line at 1-800-518-4726.

The [Grants.gov](#) number assigned to this announcement is OVW-2019-15806.

**Notification:** OVW anticipates notifying applicants of funding decisions by October 1, 2019.

# Contents

<i>A. Program Description</i> .....	1
Overview .....	1
About the OVW Training and Services to End Violence Against Women with Disabilities Grant Program .....	1
Program Scope .....	1
Purpose Areas.....	1
OVW Priority Areas .....	2
Activities that Compromise Victim Safety and Recovery and Undermine Offender Accountability .....	2
Out-of-Scope Activities .....	3
Activities Requiring Prior Approval.....	3
<i>B. Federal Award Information</i> .....	3
Availability of Funds.....	3
Award Period and Amounts .....	3
Types of Applications .....	4
Mandatory Program Requirements.....	4
<i>C. Eligibility Information</i> .....	6
Eligible Applicants .....	6
Cost Sharing or Matching .....	7
Other Program Eligibility Requirements .....	7
<i>D. Application and Submission Information</i> .....	8
Address to Request Application Package .....	8
Content and Form of Application Submission .....	8
Formatting and Technical Requirements .....	8
Application Contents.....	9
Summary Data Sheet.....	9
Proposal Abstract .....	10
Project Narrative.....	10
Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative.....	13
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).....	14
Additional Required Information.....	14
Unique Entity Identifier (DUNS Number), System for Award Management (SAM), and Grants.gov Registration .....	18

Submission Dates and Times .....	18
OVW Policy on Late Submissions .....	20
Intergovernmental Review - Single Point of Contact Review .....	22
Funding Restrictions.....	22
Other Submission Requirements.....	23
Submitting a Grant Application .....	24
<i>E. Application Review Information.....</i>	<i>24</i>
Criteria.....	24
Review and Selection Process .....	25
Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates.....	26
<i>F. Federal Award Administration Information .....</i>	<i>26</i>
Federal Award Notices .....	26
Administrative and National Policy Requirements.....	27
Reporting.....	27
<i>G. Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s) .....</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>H. Other Information.....</i>	<i>27</i>
Application Checklist .....	27

# OVW Training and Services to End Violence Against Women with Disabilities Grant Program (CFDA 16.529)

## ***A. Program Description***

### **Overview**

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is a component of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ). 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, stalking and sexual assault. OVW grants support coordinated community responses to hold offenders accountable and serve victims.

### **About the OVW Training and Services to End Violence Against Women with Disabilities Grant Program (Disability Grant Program)**

This program is authorized by 34 U.S.C. § 20122. The goal of the Disability Grant Program is to create sustainable change within and between organizations that improves the response to individuals with disabilities and Deaf individuals who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault and to hold perpetrators of such crimes accountable. Disability Grant Program funds are used to establish and strengthen multidisciplinary collaborative relationships; increase organizational capacity to provide accessible, safe, and effective services to individuals with disabilities and Deaf individuals who are victims of violence and abuse; identify needs within the grantee's organization and/or service area; and develop a plan to address those identified needs that builds a strong foundation for future work.

For additional information about this program see <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs> and <http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/vawamei/disabilitymain.htm>.

### **Program Scope**

Activities supported by this program are determined by statute, federal regulations, and OVW policies. If an applicant receives an award, the funded project is bound by the provisions of this solicitation, the [DOJ Financial Guide](#), including updates to the guide after an award is made, the section of the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#) entitled "Post-Award Requirements for All Federal Award Recipients," and the conditions of the award.

### **Purpose Areas**

Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 20122, funds under this program must be used for one or more of the following purposes:

1. To provide personnel, training, technical assistance, advocacy, intervention, risk reduction (including using evidence-based indicators to assess the risk of domestic and dating violence homicide) and prevention of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault against individuals with disabilities;
2. To conduct outreach activities to ensure that individuals with disabilities who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault receive appropriate assistance;

3. To conduct cross-training for victim service organizations, governmental agencies, courts, law enforcement, and nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations serving individuals with disabilities about risk reduction, intervention, prevention and the nature of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault for individuals with disabilities;
4. To provide technical assistance to assist with modifications to existing policies, protocols, and procedures to ensure equal access to the services, programs, and activities of victim service providers for individuals with disabilities;
5. To provide training and technical assistance on the requirements of shelters and victim service providers under Federal anti-discrimination laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. § 12101 *et seq.*) and section 794 of title 29 (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973);
6. To modify facilities, purchase equipment, and provide personnel so that shelters and victim service organizations can accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities;<sup>1</sup>
7. To provide advocacy and intervention services for individuals with disabilities who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault; or
8. To develop model programs providing advocacy and intervention services within organizations serving individuals with disabilities who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

### **OVW Priority Areas**

In FY 2019, OVW is interested in supporting the priority areas identified below.

1. Reduce violent crime against women and promote victim safety.

OVW encourages continuation applicants to include activities addressing purpose areas 1,3,7 and 8 to support this priority.

2. Include substance abuse professionals in a coordinated community response to VAWA crimes and increase victim access to substance abuse services.

OVW encourages applicants to work with substance abuse professionals in their communities to increase victim access to substance abuse services.

### **Activities that Compromise Victim Safety and Recovery and Undermine Offender Accountability**

OVW does not fund activities that jeopardize victim safety, deter or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims, or allow offenders to escape responsibility for their actions. Information on activities that compromise victim safety and recovery and undermine offender accountability may be found in the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#).

Applications that propose any activities that compromise victim safety and recovery or undermine offender accountability may receive a deduction in points during the review process or may be eliminated from consideration entirely.

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<sup>1</sup> Grantees that modify facilities under purpose area 6 will be required to work with OVW to meet the requirements of relevant laws such as the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Historic Preservation Act.

### **Out-of-Scope Activities**

The activities listed below are out of the program scope, and they will not be supported by this program's funding.

1. Research projects (This does not include program assessments conducted only for internal improvement purposes. For information about DOJ regulations on research involving human subjects, see "Research and Protection of Human Subjects" in the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#)).
2. Public service campaigns.
3. Projects that focus on children.

Applications that propose activities that are deemed to be substantially out-of-scope may receive a deduction in points during the review process or may be eliminated from consideration entirely.

### **Activities Requiring Prior Approval**

Activities listed below will require prior approval in order to be supported by grant funds.

1. Surveys.
2. Renovations, including such minor things as painting and carpeting (i.e., National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance).

## ***B. Federal Award Information***

### **Availability of Funds**

All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law. There is no guarantee that funds will be available in the future. OVW may elect to make awards in a future fiscal year for applications submitted under this solicitation but not selected for FY 2019 funding, depending on the merits of the applications and the availability of funding.

### **Award Period and Amounts**

The award period is 36 months for new applications and 24 months for continuation applications. Budgets must reflect 36 or 24 months of project activity, and the total "estimated funding" on the SF-424 must reflect 36 or 24 months. Generally, the award period will start on October 1, 2019.

This program typically makes awards in the range of \$325,000 - \$500,000. OVW estimates that it will make up to 10 awards for an estimated \$4,275,000.

Funding levels under this program for FY 2019 are:

1. New, local-focused \$425,000 for 36 months
2. New, state-focused \$500,000 for 36 months
3. Continuation, local-focused \$325,000 for 24 months
4. Continuation, state-focused \$400,000 for 24 months

OVW has the discretion to make awards for greater or lesser amounts than requested and to negotiate the scope of work and budget with applicants prior to making an award.

Awards will be made as cooperative agreements. Cooperative agreements are a form of award when OVW expects to have ongoing substantial involvement in award activities. For this program, the substantial involvement includes, but is not limited to, regular contact (electronic, telephonic, and in person) between OVW and grant recipients, OVW review and approval of all products and materials, and grant recipient participation in proactive technical assistance, such as attending and participating in new grantee orientation and training institutes, webinars, and site visits.

### **Types of Applications**

In FY 2019, OVW will accept the following types of applications for this program:

New: applicants that have never received funding under this program. If an applicant received an award under this program previously, but it has been more than 24 months since the award has been active, then the applicant can choose to submit either a new or a continuation application.

Continuation: applicants that have an existing or recently closed (within the last 24 months) award under this program. If an applicant received an award under this program previously, but it has been more than 24 months since the award has been active, then the applicant can choose to submit either a new or a continuation application.

This program's grant recipients that received an FY 2017 new or FY 2018 continuation award are NOT eligible to apply.

Additionally, current grantees with 60% or more of funds remaining at the time of application submission without adequate justification may not be considered for funding, or may receive a reduced award amount if selected for funding in FY 2019.

Sub-Type: In addition to new and continuation applications, OVW has determined that applicants for this program must also identify as one of the sub-types listed below.

1. New, local-focused project
2. New, state-focused project
3. Continuation, local-focused project
4. Continuation, state-focused project

### **Mandatory Program Requirements**

Grant funds cannot be used to support conferences, meetings (other than routine partner meetings) or trainings without prior OVW approval through the issuance of a Grant Adjustment Notice (GAN). OVW does not anticipate Disability Program Grantees holding conferences, training, or other such meetings.

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

### **New Applicants**

#### Planning & Development and Implementation Phases

OVW mandates that new grantees engage in an intensive, structured process which includes a planning and development phase prior to an implementation phase. New grantees must work



closely with OVW and the OVW-designated technical assistance provider (TA provider) throughout the award. Project activities during the planning and development phase have been predetermined by OVW. Implementation phase initiatives and activities will be identified in the strategic plan drafted during the planning and development phase and will directly respond to the needs identified in the planning and development phase.

The program planning requirements during the planning and development phase of the project include the creation of the following materials:

1. Collaboration charter;
2. Project focus memo;
3. Needs assessment plan and tools (includes implementing performance indicators);
4. Needs assessment report; and
5. Strategic plan.

#### Technical Assistance

Technical assistance (TA) under this program is proactive and mandatory. Multidisciplinary collaborative teams must participate in all technical assistance events supported by OVW related to this program. TA will be delivered through, but not limited to, frequent, regular contact with the TA provider, site visits, telephone/video conference calls, grantee meetings, and web-based technical assistance. New grantees should expect a high level of involvement with the TA provider for the duration of their awards.

#### Decision-Maker Participation

The Executive Director, CFO/CEO, Board of Directors and other decision-makers from all organizations involved with the project must be involved in an active and meaningful manner throughout the life of the project. They should expect to attend meetings and engage in collaborative discussions at various points throughout the project. They should also be prepared to implement systemic changes within their organization to improve services and responses to individuals with disabilities and Deaf individuals who have experienced violence and abuse. This participation must be outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding.

#### **Continuation Applicants**

##### Scope of Activities

Continuation applicants must propose projects that will either enhance the previously funded project or replicate the previously funded project in a different community. Specifically, proposed activities must build upon successful initiatives undertaken and funded during the previous award period.

##### Critical Assessment

Continuation grantees will be required to reexamine proposed activities to ensure that they enhance and build upon initiatives undertaken and funded during the previous award period. This review will take place within six months of the project start date.

##### Purpose Areas

Continuation applicants may not propose to engage solely in providing direct services. If applicants propose to use grant funds to support direct services, the proposal must also include: (1) an overall coordinated response to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking against individuals with disabilities and/or Deaf individuals, and (2) a proposal to engage in at least one Disability Grant Program purpose area other than the provision of direct services.

## C. Eligibility Information

Applications that are submitted by ineligible entities or that do not meet all program eligibility requirements will not be considered for funding. In addition, an application that is deemed deficient in one or more of the following categories may not be considered for funding: 1. [activities that compromise victim safety](#), 2. [out-of-scope activities](#), 3. [unallowable costs](#), 4. [pre-award risk assessment](#), 5. [completeness](#), and 6. [timeliness](#). Further, an applicant with [past performance issues](#), long-standing open audits, or an open criminal investigation also may not be considered for funding.

### Eligible Applicants

The following entities are eligible to apply for this program (34 U.S.C. § 20122(c)):

1. States;<sup>2</sup>
2. Units of local government;<sup>3</sup>
3. Indian tribal governments or tribal organizations;<sup>4</sup> and
4. Victim service providers, such as state or tribal domestic violence or sexual assault coalitions or nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations serving individuals with disabilities.<sup>5</sup>

### Nonprofit Organization Requirement – 501(c)(3) Status

Any entity that is eligible for this program based on its status as a nonprofit organization must be an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that Code. See 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(16)(B)(i).

### Nonprofit Organization Requirement – Offshore Accounts

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<sup>2</sup> A state is defined as each of the several states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands. 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(31). OVW does not consider public universities to be “states” for purposes of eligibility for the Disability Grant Program. However, some universities are affiliated with nonprofit organizations that may otherwise qualify under the statute. Please contact the Disability Grant Program Specialist at (202) 307-6026 if you need further information regarding the eligibility requirements for public universities.

<sup>3</sup> A unit of local government is any city, county, township, town, borough, parish, village, or other general purpose political subdivision of a state. 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(40). The following entities generally will not be considered a unit of local government for purposes of eligibility for the Disability Grant Program: (1) County departments or offices (e.g. department of health & human services, office of health services); (2) Police departments; (3) Sheriffs’ departments; and (4) District or city attorneys’ offices.

<sup>4</sup> Indian tribal government is defined as a tribe, band, pueblo, nation, or other organized group or community of Indians, including any Alaska Native village or regional or village corporation (as defined in, or established pursuant to, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. § 1601 et seq.)), that is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians. 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(16). Tribal organization is defined as (A) the governing body of any Indian tribe; (B) any legally established organization of Indians which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body of a tribe or tribes to be served, or which is democratically elected by the adult members of the Indian community to be served by such organization and which includes the maximum participation of Indians in all phases of its activities; or (C) any tribal nonprofit organization. 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(38).

<sup>5</sup> A victim service provider is a nonprofit, nongovernmental or tribal organization or rape crisis center, including a state or tribal coalition that assists or advocates for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking victims, including domestic violence shelters, faith-based organizations, and other organizations with a documented history of effective work concerning domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(43).

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)(16)(B)(ii).

### **Cost Sharing or Matching**

This program has no match or cost sharing requirement.

### **Other Program Eligibility Requirements**

In addition to meeting the eligible entity requirements outlined above, applications for this program must also meet the requirements below. All certification and other eligibility related documents must be current and developed in accordance with the FY 2019 solicitation.

#### Required Partnerships

#### **Multidisciplinary Collaborative Team/Memorandum of Understanding**

Every applicant must identify and support a multidisciplinary collaborative team comprised of, at a minimum, the following:<sup>6</sup>

1. At least one victim service provider or tribal organization serving victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault; and
2. At least one nonprofit, nongovernmental organization or tribal organization serving individuals with disabilities and/or Deaf individuals.

Applicants must enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the members of the multidisciplinary collaborative team and provide a copy of the MOU together with the application. OVW will review the MOU to identify the multidisciplinary collaborative team members and the budget as evidence of how the applicant will support the multidisciplinary collaborative team. Furthermore, every applicant must identify whether the multidisciplinary collaborative team will have a state focus or a local focus.

A state-focused project is a multidisciplinary collaborative team comprised solely of organizations that operate at the state level (e.g. a state independent living council, state or tribal domestic violence and/or sexual assault coalition). A state-focused project may concentrate efforts between the organizations on the multidisciplinary collaborative team, or in one to two communities within the state (pilot sites).

A local-focused or tribal-focused project is a multidisciplinary collaborative team comprised **solely** of local, tribal or community-based organizations (e.g. a center for independent living, community mental health organization, rape crisis center, or domestic violence shelter/program). Grant activities will focus within and between the local, tribal or community based organizations represented on the multidisciplinary collaborative team.

#### Limit on Number of Applications

OVW will consider only one application per organization for the same service area in response to this solicitation. In addition, if an applicant submits multiple versions of the same application, OVW will review only the most recent system-validated version submitted before the deadline.

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<sup>6</sup> For new applications, a college or university may not be proposed as a partner. For continuation applications, a college or university may be proposed as a multidisciplinary collaborative team member.

## ***D. Application and Submission Information***

### **Address to Request Application Package**

The complete application package (this solicitation, including links to required forms) is available on [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov) or the [OVW website](#). Applicants wishing to request a paper copy of these materials should contact 202-307-6026 or [OVW.Disability@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.Disability@usdoj.gov).

### **Pre-Application Information Session(s)**

OVW will conduct a web-based pre-application information session for entities interested in submitting an application for this program. During this session, OVW staff will review this program's requirements, review the solicitation, and allow for a brief question and answer period. The session is tentatively scheduled for:

- Tuesday, January 8, 2019 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. E.T.

The total number of participants for the session may be limited, and therefore interested participants from the same agency/jurisdiction are expected to participate together. OVW reserves the right to deny multiple registrations from a single agency/jurisdiction to allow as many interested applicants as possible to participate.

To register, contact the Disability Grant Program at [OVW.Disability@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.Disability@usdoj.gov) or at 202-307-6026. Registration must be received at least two days prior to the start of the session. Participants are not registered until they receive a confirmation email. The webinar will be captioned in English and Spanish. Interested applicants needing additional language assistance should contact this program's POC at [OVW.Disability@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.Disability@usdoj.gov) or at 202-307-6026 as soon as possible, but no later than January 4, 2019.

### **Content and Form of Application Submission**

The information below (“**Letter of Intent** through “**Additional Required Information**”) describes the full content and form of application submission. For a complete checklist of required contents, see the “[Other Information](#)” section in this solicitation.

#### Letter of Intent

Applicants intending to apply for FY 2019 funding under this program are strongly encouraged to submit a Letter of Intent. The letter should state that the applicant is registered and current with SAM and with [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov). The letter should be submitted to OVW at [OVW.Disabilities@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.Disabilities@usdoj.gov) by January 11, 2019. This letter will not obligate the applicant to submit an application. See <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants> for a sample Letter of Intent.

### **Formatting and Technical Requirements**

Applications must follow the requirements below. Points may be deducted for applications that do not adhere to the following requirements:

1. Double spaced (Project Abstract, Summary Data Sheet and charts may be single spaced)
2. 8½ x 11 inch paper
3. One-inch margins
4. Type no smaller than 12 point, Times New Roman font
5. Page numbers

6. No more than 20 pages for the Project Narrative
7. Word documents in the following formats: Microsoft Word (.doc), PDF files (.pdf), or Text Documents (.txt).
8. Headings and sub-headings that correspond to the sections identified in this section of the solicitation.

### **Application Contents**

Applications must include the following required documents and demonstrate that the program eligibility requirements have been met. OVW will not contact applicants for missing items on the list below. Applications that do not include all of the following documents will be considered substantially incomplete and will not be considered for funding:

1. Project Narrative
2. Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative
3. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

### **Summary Data Sheet (5 Points Total)**

The Summary Data Sheet should be one to four pages and may be single or double spaced. The Summary Data Sheet does not count toward the 20 page limit for the Project Narrative. Provide the following information:

1. Name, title, address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the individual with authority to accept grants on behalf of the applicant.
2. Name, title, address, telephone number, and e-mail address for the grant point-of-contact. This person must be an employee of the applicant.
3. Statement as to whether the applicant (the organization whose DUNS number is being used for the application) will serve as a fiscal agent/sponsor for an entity or entities that will implement the project, and the applicant itself will not be involved with implementation of the project beyond issuing subaward(s) to these entities. If this is the case, the applicant also must list these subrecipients and include a statement acknowledging that, should an award be made, the applicant 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. In such situations, the fiscal agent/sponsor must be an eligible applicant for the program.
4. Statement as to whether the applicant has expended \$750,000 in federal funds in the applicant's past fiscal year. If so, specify the end date of the applicant's fiscal year.
5. Summary of current and pending OVW grants (if applicable). If the applicant has a current grant or cooperative agreement under any OVW grant program or an award that has been closed within the last 12 months from the date this solicitation closes, the information must be provided in a table using the sample format found on the OVW website at <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants>. Failure to provide the required table will result in a loss of points. The applicant should also provide the same information regarding any current OVW grants or pending applications on which the applicant is a subrecipient.
6. Statement as to whether the applicant is a nonprofit organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that Code.
7. A list of other federal grant programs from which the applicant currently receives funding or for which it has applied for funding in FY 2019 **to do similar work**. Provide this information in a table using the sample format found on the OVW website at <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants>.

8. Statement as to whether the applicant is a nonprofit organization that holds money in offshore accounts for the purpose of avoiding paying the tax described in section 511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.
9. Statement as to whether the applicant is a nonprofit organization that uses the Internal Revenue Service's three-step safe-harbor procedure to establish a rebuttable presumption that its executives' compensation is reasonable. If the applicant is not a nonprofit organization or is a nonprofit that does not use the safe-harbor procedure, provide a statement to that effect. For additional information about the safe-harbor procedure, see "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation" in the [Additional Required Information](#) section.
10. Crime focus
  - Domestic violence
  - Dating violence
  - Stalking
  - Sexual assault
11. Whether it is a new or continuation application.
11. Geographic focus (state or local).
12. Disability focus (general or specific type of disability).
13. List multidisciplinary collaborative team members. Specify if each organization is a sexual assault, domestic violence, dual program/coalition, or a disability organization.

**Proposal Abstract (not scored)**

The Proposal Abstract must provide a short summary (no more than two pages double-spaced) of the proposed project, including names of applicant and partners, primary activities, products and deliverables, the service area, and who will benefit. Applicants must not summarize past accomplishments in this section.

**Project Narrative for New Applicants (65 Points Total)**

The Project Narrative may not exceed 20 pages, double-spaced. The Project Narrative must include the following two sections:

**Purpose of Application (35 points)**

This section must:

1. Describe the service area including the geographic location where the project will be implemented;
2. Describe the type of disability the project will focus on (may be disability in general or a specific type of disability). Demographic information must be provided for the disability focus in the area;
3. Describe the rationale for the focus of the project;
4. Detail the current response to violence against individuals with disabilities and/or Deaf individuals within the proposed service area as it relates to the disability focus. This section must identify available services, and gaps and barriers in service provision;
5. Describe whether the project proposes to work at the intersection of disability and other identities such as race/ethnicity, religion, gender, etc. If yes, describe how the project will effectively address multiple identities.
6. State the challenges that the organizations that comprise the multidisciplinary collaborative team have experienced in providing services to individuals with

- disabilities and/or Deaf individuals who are victims of violence and abuse as they relate to the disability focus; and
7. Describe the need for project resources and how funding would alleviate that need. The need must directly relate to the stated gaps and barriers to providing services to individuals with disabilities and/or Deaf individuals who are victims of violence and abuse in the service area.

**Who Will Implement the Project (30 Points)**

This section must:

1. Identify the key individuals and organizations involved in the proposed project;
2. Demonstrate that the individuals and organizations identified have the capacity to address the stated need including the expertise necessary to appropriately serve any intersecting identities discussed in the Purpose of Application section.
3. Clearly demonstrate that the multidisciplinary collaborative team requirements outlined in this solicitation have been met;
4. Provide detailed information about the organizations and individuals (if known) that comprise the multidisciplinary collaborative team including the population with which each organization works and the services provided. Multidisciplinary collaborative team members must have experience directly related to the stated need and service area;
5. Describe in detail why each multidisciplinary collaborative team member was chosen. In doing so, the application must demonstrate a direct relationship to the stated need and detail the qualifications and capacity of each multidisciplinary collaborative team member (organizations and individuals (if known)) to achieve the project goals; and
6. Describe in detail the demonstrated ability of each multidisciplinary collaborative team member to build their organization's capacity to address the stated need. Examples must be provided.

**Project Narrative for Continuation Applicants (65 Points Total)**

Continuation applicants must propose projects that will either enhance the previously funded project or replicate the previously funded project in a different community. Specifically, proposed activities must build upon the successful initiatives funded during the previous award.

The Project Narrative may not exceed 20 pages in length, double-spaced. The Project Narrative is comprised of the following three sections:

**Purpose of Application (20 Points)**

This section must:

1. Describe the service area (state or local) in which the project will be implemented;
2. Describe the type of disability the project will focus on (may be disability in general or a specific type of disability). Demographic information must be provided for the disability focus in the service area;
3. Describe the rationale for the disability focus;
4. Describe the current response to violence against individuals with disabilities and/or Deaf individuals within the proposed service area as it relates to the disability focus. This section must identify available services, and gaps and barriers in service provision;

5. Describe whether the project proposes to work at the intersection of disability and other identities such as race/ethnicity, religion, gender, etc. If yes, describe how the project will effectively address multiple identities;
6. State the challenges that the organizations that comprise the multidisciplinary collaborative team have experienced in providing services to individuals with disabilities and/or Deaf individuals who are victims of violence and abuse as they relate to the disability focus; and
7. Describe the need for project resources and how funding would alleviate that need. The need must directly relate to the stated gaps and barriers to providing services to individuals with disabilities and/or Deaf individuals who are victims of violence and abuse in the service area.

**What Will Be Done (25 points)**

The application must provide a clear link between the proposed activities and the need identified in the “Purpose of Application” section above.

This section must:

1. Describe in detail the activities of the multidisciplinary collaborative team. Activities must correspond to the stated need;
2. Illustrate how the proposed activities and initiatives will build upon and/or enhance previously funded activities;
3. Describe in detail the responsibilities of each multidisciplinary collaborative team member, as they correspond to the proposed activities;
4. Describe the capacity of the multidisciplinary collaborative team to successfully implement project activities;
5. Detail expected outcomes; and
6. Describe how the proposed project will be accessible to individuals with disabilities, individuals who are Deaf or hard of hearing, and persons with limited English proficiency.

**Who Will Implement the Project (20 points)**

This section must:

1. Identify the key individuals and organizations involved in the proposed project;
2. Demonstrate that the individuals and organizations identified have the capacity to address the stated need including the expertise necessary to appropriately serve any intersecting identities discussed in the Purpose of Application section;
3. Clearly demonstrate that the multidisciplinary collaborative team requirements outlined in this solicitation have been met;
4. Provide detailed information about the organizations and individuals (if known) that comprise the multidisciplinary collaborative team. This section must include the population with which each organization works and the services provided. Multidisciplinary collaborative team members must have experience directly related to the stated need and service area;
5. Describe in detail why each multidisciplinary collaborative team member was chosen. In doing so, the application must demonstrate a direct relationship to the stated need and detail the qualifications and capacity of each multidisciplinary collaborative team member (organizations and individuals (if known) to achieve the project goals;



6. Detail activities or strategies the multidisciplinary collaborative team will engage in to strengthen the collaborative relationship and work; and
7. Describe in detail the demonstrated ability of each multidisciplinary collaborative team member to build their organization's capacity to address the stated need. Examples must be provided.

### **Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative (10 Points)**

All applications must include a detailed budget and budget narrative. A sample Budget Detail Worksheet is available on the OVW website at <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants>. Keep in mind that budgetary requirements vary among programs. Applicants must submit reasonable budgets based on the resources needed to implement their projects in their specific geographic location.

#### Award Period and Amount

1. New, local-focused project, 36 months, \$425,000
2. New, state-focused project, 36 months, \$500,000
3. Continuation, local-focused project, 24 months, \$325,000
4. Continuation, state-focused project, 24 months, \$400,000

The budget and budget narrative will be reviewed separately from the proposed project narrative. 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.

The budget must:

1. Display a clear link between the specific project activities and the proposed budget items and not contain items that are not supported by the project narrative.
2. Include funds to attend OVW-sponsored training and technical assistance in the amount of \$15,000 for proposals from organizations located within the 48 contiguous states and \$20,000 for organizations located within the territories, Hawaii, or Alaska. This amount is for the entire 36 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.
3. Include costs to support the needs assessment (if applicable).
4. Include costs to support pilot sites (if applicable).
5. Include funds or describe other resources available to the applicant to support activities to ensure access for individuals with disabilities, Deaf/hard of hearing individuals, and persons with limited English proficiency. See [Accessibility](#) under F. [Federal Award Administration Information](#) for more information.
6. Compensate all project partners as reflected in the MOU. For more information on compensating project partners, see the sample Budget Detail Worksheet on the OVW website at <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants>.
7. Distinguish clearly between subawards and contracts in allocating any grant funds to other entities. Pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.330, a subaward is for the purpose of carrying out a portion of the federal award, such as compensating an MOU partner, and a contract is for the purpose of obtaining goods and services for the grantee's own use. The substance of the relationship is more important than the form of the agreement in

determining whether the recipient of the pass-through funds is a subrecipient or a contractor. The awarding and monitoring of contracts must follow the recipient's documented procurement procedures, including full and open competition, pursuant to the procurement standards in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317-200.329. The issuance and monitoring of subawards must meet the requirements of 2 C.F.R. § 200.331, which includes oversight of subrecipient/partner spending and monitoring performance measures and outcomes attributable to grant funds. For more information, see the sample Budget Detail Worksheet and the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#) on the OVW website at <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants>.

OVW awards are governed by the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200 and the [DOJ Financial Guide](#), which include information on allowable costs, methods of payment, audit requirements, accounting systems, and financial records. For additional information on allowable and unallowable costs, go to the [Funding Restrictions](#) section of this solicitation and the sample Budget Detail Worksheet on the OVW website at <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants>.

### **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (20 Points Total)**

For purposes of this solicitation, the MOU is a document containing the terms of the partnership and the roles and responsibilities between two or more parties. The MOU **must** be a single document and **must** be signed and dated by the [Authorized Representative](#) of each proposed partner organization during the development of the application. If necessary, an MOU can include multiple signature pages so long as each page includes the names and titles of all signatories to the MOU.

The MOU must:

1. Clearly identify the partners and provide a brief history of the collaborative relationship among those partners, including when and under what circumstances the relationship began and when each partner entered into the relationship;
2. Clearly state the roles and responsibilities each partner will assume to ensure the success of the proposed project;
3. Clearly state that each project partner has reviewed the budget and is aware of the total amount being requested and the funding being requested for each project partner;
4. Clearly demonstrate the capacity of each multidisciplinary collaborative team member to work together to achieve stated project goals;
5. Clearly demonstrate the commitment of each multidisciplinary collaborative team member to work together to achieve stated project goals;
6. Clearly detail the resources each multidisciplinary collaborative team member will contribute to the project;
7. Clearly demonstrate the ability and willingness of each multidisciplinary, collaborative team member to engage in organizational capacity building and, if applicable, among their member programs or affiliated groups; and
8. Clearly demonstrate the participation of decision-makers from each of the organizations that comprise the multidisciplinary collaborative team.

### **Additional Required Information**

The following documents will not be scored during the review process but they must be included with the application. Failure to include any of the information may result in the application being removed from consideration for funding. Some documents will be generated during the

application submission process while other documents will be uploaded and attached to the application.

*The following documents will be generated and completed during the application submission process:*

Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

Applicants must complete the SF-424 online. For “Type of Applicant,” do not select “other.” The amount of federal funding requested in the “Estimated Funding” section of this form must match the amount of federal funding requested in the budget section of the application package. This program does not require a match; therefore, the values for the Applicant line should be zero. The individual who is listed in “**Authorized Representative**” must be an individual who has the authority to apply for and accept grant awards on behalf of the organization or jurisdiction.

Standard Assurances and Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (Form 4061/6)

Carefully review the assurances and certification forms online. Applicants will receive a request to compile these forms online during the application submission process. All applicants must complete the *Disclosure of Lobbying Activities* (SF-LLL) form. Applicants that expend any funds for lobbying activities must provide the detailed information requested on the form. Applicants that do not expend any funds for lobbying activities should enter “N/A” in the required highlighted fields.

*The following documents must be uploaded and attached **separately** to the application:*

Applicant 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. In addition, applicants may be required to submit their current year’s audit report at a later time. The questionnaire can be found at <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/file/866126/download>

Confidentiality Notice Form

All applicants are required to acknowledge that they have received notice that grantees and subgrantees must comply with the confidentiality and privacy requirements of VAWA, as amended. Applicants must submit the acknowledgement form available on the OVW website at [http://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/ovw/pages/attachments/2015/01/20/confidentiality\\_acknowledgement\\_form\\_42015.pdf](http://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/ovw/pages/attachments/2015/01/20/confidentiality_acknowledgement_form_42015.pdf). This form must be signed by the Authorized Representative.

Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation (if applicable)

An applicant that is a nonprofit organization may be required to make certain disclosures relating to the processes it uses to determine the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees, and key employees.

Under certain circumstances, a nonprofit organization that provides unreasonably high compensation to certain persons may subject both the organization’s managers and those who receive the compensation to additional federal taxes. A rebuttable presumption of the reasonableness of a nonprofit organization’s compensation arrangements, however, may be available if the nonprofit organization satisfies certain rules set out in Internal Revenue Service regulations with regard to its compensation decisions.

Each applicant must state at the time of its application (in the Summary Data Sheet mentioned earlier) whether the applicant is a nonprofit organization that uses the Internal Revenue Service's three-step safe-harbor procedure to establish a rebuttable presumption that its executives' compensation is reasonable. If the applicant states that it uses the safe-harbor procedure, then it must disclose, in an attachment to its application (to be titled "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation"), the process it uses to determine the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees, and key employees (together, "covered persons"). See 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(16)(B)(iii).

At a minimum, the disclosure must describe in pertinent detail: (1) the composition of the body that reviews and approves compensation arrangements for covered persons; (2) the methods and practices used by the applicant nonprofit organization to ensure that no individual with a conflict of interest participates as a member of the body that reviews and approves a compensation arrangement for a covered person; (3) the appropriate data as to comparability of compensation that is obtained in advance and relied upon by the body that reviews and approves compensation arrangements for covered persons; and (4) the written or electronic records that the applicant maintains as concurrent documentation of the decisions with respect to compensation of covered persons made by the body that reviews and approves such compensation arrangements, including records of deliberations and of the basis for decisions. For a sample letter, see the OVW website at <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants>.

For purposes of the required disclosure, the following terms and phrases have the meanings set out by the Internal Revenue Service for use in connection with 26 C.F.R. § 53.4958-6: officers, directors, trustees, key employees, compensation, conflict of interest, appropriate data as to comparability, adequate documentation, and concurrent documentation.

Following receipt of an appropriate request, OVW may be authorized or required by law to make information submitted to satisfy this requirement available for public inspection. Also, a recipient may be required to make a prompt supplemental disclosure after the award in certain circumstances (e.g., changes in the way the organization determines compensation).

#### Pre-Award Risk Assessment

Each applicant must respond to the questions below. 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 applicant being removed from consideration or a delay in access to funds. Provide complete responses that address all questions included for each numbered item. This section of the application should be no more than four pages.

1. Will all funds awarded under this program be maintained in a manner that they will be accounted for separately and distinctly from other sources of revenue/funding? Provide a brief description of the applicant's policies and procedures that ensure funds will be tracked appropriately.
2. Does the applicant have written accounting policies and procedures? How often are these policies and procedures updated? Provide a brief list of the topics covered in the applicant's policies and procedures. OVW may request a copy for review during the application/award process or as part of the grant monitoring process.
3. Is the applicant's financial management system able to track actual expenditures and outlays with budgeted amounts for each grant or subgrant? Provide a brief summary of the organization's process for tracking expenditures, including tracking budgeted versus actual amounts.

4. Does the applicant have procedures in place for minimizing the time between transfer of funds from the United States Treasury and disbursement for project activities? Provide a short summary of the applicant's policy for requesting payments for grant awards.
5. Does the applicant have effective internal controls in place to ensure that federal funds are used solely for authorized purposes? Provide a brief description of the applicant's internal controls that will provide reasonable assurance that the award funds will be managed properly.
6. Does the applicant have a documented records retention policy? If so, briefly describe the policy and confirm that the policy complies with federal regulations. Information on Record Retention and Access can be found at 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.333-200.337.
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](mailto: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. §§ 200.330-200.332)? 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.

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. Applicants that have never received a federally-approved indirect cost rate may elect to charge a de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct costs, which may be used indefinitely. This includes state, local, and tribal governments that have never negotiated an indirect cost rate with the federal government and receive less than \$35 million in direct federal funding per year.

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

Letter of Nonsupplanting

Applicants must submit a letter to OVW's Director, signed by the [Authorized Representative](#), certifying that federal funds will not be used to supplant non-federal funds should a grant award be made. A sample letter is available at <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants>.

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

As noted under Eligible Applicants, an entity that is eligible for the Disability Grant 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 submit a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service recognizing their tax-exempt status. OVW cannot make an award to any nonprofit organization that does not submit a 501(c)(3) determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service.

### **Unique Entity Identifier (DUNS Number), System for Award Management (SAM), and Grants.gov Registration**

Applicants for federal grants and cooperative agreements are required to have a Data Universal Number System (DUNS) Number to submit an application. A DUNS Number is a unique, nine-character identification number provided by the commercial company **Duns & Bradstreet (D&B)**. Once an applicant has applied for a DUNS number through D&B, its DUNS Number should be available within two business days.

Federal regulations require that an applicant (1) be registered in SAM.gov prior to submitting an application; (2) provide a valid DUNS number in its application; and (3) continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active federal award or an application under consideration by a federal awarding agency. Also, federal agencies may not make an award to an applicant until that applicant has complied with all applicable DUNS and SAM requirements. If an applicant has not fully complied with these requirements by the time that OVW is ready to make an award, then OVW may make the determination that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award and use that determination as a basis for making the award to another applicant.

SAM centralizes information about grant recipients and also provides a central location for grant recipients to change organizational information. [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov) uses SAM to establish roles and IDs for electronic grant applicants.

If the applicant already has an Employer Identification Number (EIN), the SAM registration will take **up to two weeks to process**. If the applicant does not have an EIN, then **the applicant should allow two to five weeks for obtaining an EIN from the Internal Revenue Service. There is no fee associated with these processes. Additionally, these processes cannot be expedited.** OVW strongly discourages applicants from paying a third party to apply or register on their behalf in an attempt to expedite these processes. To ensure all applicants are able to apply by the deadline for this solicitation, applicants must have obtained a DUNS number and registered online with the SAM and with [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov) no later than [insert date from the MIT calendar].

### **Submission Dates and Times**

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the application is complete and submitted by the deadline. Failure to meet the submission deadline will result in an application being removed from consideration. Applicants should refer to the chart below to ensure that all required steps and deadlines are met.

Applicant Action	Information	Dates/Deadline
Apply for a DUNS number	Obtain a DUNS number at the following website <a href="http://www.dnb.com/us/">http://www.dnb.com/us/</a> or call (866) 705-5711.	January 11, 2019
Register with SAM	Access the SAM online registration through the <a href="#">SAM</a> homepage at <a href="https://www.sam.gov/portal/SAM/#1#1">https://www.sam.gov/portal/SAM/#1#1</a> and follow the online instructions for new SAM users. If the applicant already has the necessary information on hand, the online registration takes approximately 30 minutes to complete, depending upon the size and complexity of the business or organization. <b>Organizations must update or renew their SAM registration at least once a year to maintain an active status.</b>	January 11, 2019
Register with <a href="#">Grants.gov</a>	Once the SAM registration becomes active, the applicant will be able to complete the Grants.gov registration (see <a href="#">Other Submission Requirements</a> for more information on registering for and using Grants.gov).	January 11, 2019
Submit Letter of Intent	Disability Grant Program, <a href="mailto:OVW.Disability@usdoj.gov">OVW.Disability@usdoj.gov</a> or 202-307-6026	January 11, 2019
Download Updated Version of Adobe	Applicants are responsible for ensuring that the most up-to-date version of Adobe Acrobat is installed on all computers that may be used to download the grant application package and submit the proposal. To verify if the Adobe software version is compatible with <a href="#">Grants.gov</a> , visit the following link: <a href="http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/adobe-software-compatibility.html">http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/adobe-software-compatibility.html</a> .	At least 48 hours before the application deadline
Request Hardcopy Submission (If Needed)	Applicants that cannot submit an application electronically due to lack of internet access must contact the POC at <a href="tel:202-307-6026">202-307-6026</a> or <a href="mailto:OVW.Disability@usdoj.gov">OVW.Disability@usdoj.gov</a> to request permission to submit a hardcopy application.	January 11, 2019
Begin Application Submission Process	Applications must be submitted electronically via <a href="#">Grants.gov</a>	February 5, 2019, 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (E.T.)
Complete Application Submission Process	<a href="#">Grants.gov</a>	February 7, 2019, 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (E.T.)
Confirmation of Application Receipt	1. Authorized Organization Representatives (AORs) should closely monitor their email for any notification from <a href="#">Grants.gov</a> about a possible failed submission. <b>The AOR is a user role within Grants.gov for a user</b>	Submitting the application at least 48 hours before February 7, 2019, 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time

	<p><b>who is authorized to submit applications on behalf of the organization.</b></p> <p>2. The AOR should receive a minimum of two emails from <a href="https://www.Grants.gov">Grants.gov</a>. One will confirm receipt of the application package. The other will contain either a notice that the application was successfully submitted or a notice that there was an error with the application submission.</p> <p>OVW does not send out these notifications, nor does OVW receive a copy of these notifications. It is the responsibility of the applicant to notify OVW of any problems with the application submission process.</p>	<p>(E.T.) will enable the applicant to receive notice of a failed submission and provide an opportunity to correct the error before the deadline.</p>
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**OVW Policy on Late Submissions**

Applications submitted after **11:59 p.m. E.T.** on February 7, 2019 will not be considered for funding, unless the applicant receives OVW permission to submit a late application. In limited circumstances, OVW will approve a request to submit an application after the due date. The charts below provide a description of the circumstances under which OVW will consider such requests. OVW’s approval of a late submission request is not an indication of the application’s final disposition. Applications approved for late submission are still subject to all of the review process and criteria described in this solicitation.

**Failure to begin registration or application submission by the deadlines stated in the chart above is not an acceptable reason for late submission.** To ensure fairness for all applicants, OVW requires that applicants requesting late submission adhere to the following:

Severe Inclement Weather or Natural Disaster	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Document when the severe inclement weather or natural disaster occurred, the impacted area, and the specific impact on the applicant/partners (e.g., without power for “x” days, office closed for “x” days).</li> <li>2. Contact OVW at the earliest possible date and provide the information described in #1.</li> <li>3. Contact OVW at least 24 hours prior to the application deadline to request a late submission. Applicants impacted by severe inclement weather or a natural disaster occurring on the deadline must contact OVW within 72 hours after the due date or as soon as communications are restored.</li> </ol>	<p>OVW may not be able to accommodate all requests resulting from severe inclement weather or a natural disaster.</p>



Experiencing Technical Difficulties Beyond the Applicant's Reasonable Control		
Issue	Applicant Action	OVW Policy
Issue with <a href="#">SAM</a> or <a href="#">Grants.gov</a> Registration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Register and/or confirm existing registration at least 3 weeks prior to the application due date to ensure that the individual who will be submitting the application has <a href="#">SAM</a> and <a href="#">Grants.gov</a> access and is the person registered to submit on behalf of the applicant.</li> <li>2. Maintain documentation of when registration began, any issues related to registration, and all communication with technical support.</li> <li>3. Notify OVW as soon as the applicant becomes aware of a problem with registration but no later than 14 days before the application due date.</li> </ol>	<p>Failure to begin the SAM or <a href="#">Grants.gov</a> registration process in sufficient time (i.e., by the date identified in this solicitation) is not an acceptable reason for late submission.</p>
Experiencing Unforeseeable Technical Difficulties During the Application Submission Process	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Document when the applicant began the submission process.</li> <li>2. Contact <a href="#">Grants.gov</a> for technical support at least 24 hours prior to the application deadline.</li> <li>3. Maintain documentation of all communication with <a href="#">Grants.gov</a> support.</li> <li>4. Contact the POC for this program at <a href="mailto:OVW.Disability@usdoj.gov">OVW.Disability@usdoj.gov</a> indicating that the applicant is experiencing technical difficulties and would like permission to submit a late application. Provide a telephone number and/or email address at which someone with the authority to submit the application and required documentation can be reached for the first 3 business days immediately following the application deadline.</li> </ol>	<p>Common foreseeable technical difficulties for which OVW will not approve a late submission requests include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Using an outdated version of Adobe Acrobat; and</li> <li>b. Attachment rejection.</li> </ol> <p>Through <a href="#">Grants.gov</a>, OVW can confirm when submission began. Applicants who start the submission process less than 24 hours before the deadline will not be considered for late submission.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. By beginning the application submission process 24-48 hours before the deadline, applicants should have sufficient time to receive notice of problems with their submissions and make necessary corrections.</li> </ol>

	5. Respond promptly to communication from OVW requesting the complete application package, applicant DUNS Number, <a href="https://www.grants.gov">Grants.gov</a> helpdesk tracking numbers, and any other relevant documentation.	2. To ensure that attachments are not rejected, attachment names should only include allowable characters. (See “ <a href="#">Other Submission Requirements</a> ”).
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### Intergovernmental Review - Single Point of Contact Review

Executive Order 12372 requires applicants from state and local units of government or other organizations providing services within a state to submit a copy of the application to the state Single Point of Contact (SPOC) if one exists and if the program has been selected for review. Applicants must contact their state SPOCs to determine whether their programs have been selected for state review. The applicant must enter the date that the application was sent to the SPOC or the reason such submission is not required in the section of the SF 424 that refers to EO 12372. Applicants can find a list of SPOCs on the Office of Management and Budget website at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/SPOC-Feb.-2018.pdf>

### Funding Restrictions

The following information is provided to allow applicants to develop an application and budget consistent with program requirements.

#### Unallowable Costs

The activities listed below are unallowable, and costs for them must not be included in applicants' budgets.

1. Lobbying
2. Fundraising
3. Purchase of real property
4. Physical modifications to buildings, including minor renovations, except as allowed under purpose area 6; and
5. Construction

#### Food and Beverage/Costs for Refreshments and Meals

Generally, food and beverage costs are **not** allowable. OVW may approve the use of grant funds to provide a working meal at a meeting, conference, training, or other event, if one of the following applies:

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. Not serving 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, and grantees may only use funds to purchase food and/or beverages if OVW approves the specific expenditures in advance. For additional information on restrictions on food and beverage expenditures go to <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/conference-planning>.

Budget clearance does not constitute prior approval of food and beverage costs. Recipients must seek approval of these costs through the OVW conference approval process.

#### 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 <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/conference-planning>. This includes requirements pertaining to:

1. Cost of Logistical Conference Planning
2. Cost of Programmatic Conference Planning
3. Conference Space and Audio-Visual Equipment and Services
4. Prohibition on Trinkets at Conferences
5. Prohibition on Entertainment at Conferences
6. Food and Beverages at Conferences
7. Prior Approval Required Before Entering Into Contracts or Expending Funds for Conferences
8. Conference Reporting

Budget clearance does not constitute prior approval to hold a conference. Recipients must seek approval of these costs through the conference approval process.

#### Program Assessments

Grantees under this program are prohibited from using OVW funds to conduct research. They may use funds to assess their work for quality assurance and program improvement purposes only, such as by surveying training participants about the quality of training content and delivery or convening discussion forums with key stakeholders. Applicants considering such assessments must refer to the [DOJ/OJP decision tree](#) to ensure that the activity does not qualify as human subjects research. For additional information on federal requirements related to assessments or surveys, see the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#).

#### Pre-Agreement Cost Approval

OVW generally does not allow pre-award costs. Costs incurred prior to the start date of the award may not be charged to the project unless the recipient receives prior approval from OVW. See the [DOJ Financial Guide](#) for more information on pre-award costs.

#### **Other Submission Requirements**

As discussed in the [Submission Dates and Times](#) section above, applications must be submitted electronically via [Grants.gov](#). Applicants that are unable to submit electronically must follow the instructions in that section.

After applicants obtain their DUNS number and register with SAM, they can begin the [Grants.gov](#) registration process. The applying organization must complete the [Grants.gov](#)

registration process prior to beginning an application for a federal grant. The E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) must register the applicant organization with [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov). The E-Biz POC oversees the applicant's [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov) transactions and assigns the AOR. The AOR submits the application to [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov) and must register with [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov) as well. In some cases the E-Biz POC is also the AOR for the applicant. Complete instructions can be found at [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov).

**This registration process generally takes between three and five business days and may take as long as four weeks if all steps are not completed in a timely manner. The application process can move forward once the applicant successfully registers with [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov).** Grants.gov is not the Office of Justice Programs' (OJP) Grants Management System (GMS). If applicants experience difficulties at any point during this process, they should call the [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov) Customer Support Hotline at **1-800-518-4726**.

**Note: [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov) limits the use of specific characters in names of attachment files.** Valid file names include only the characters shown in the table below. [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov) is designed to reject any application that includes an attachment(s) with a file name that contains any characters not shown in the table below.

Characters	Special Characters		
Upper case (A – Z)	Parentheses ( )	Curly braces { }	Square brackets [ ]
Lower case (a – z)	Ampersand (&)	Tilde (~)	Exclamation point (!)
Numbers (0-9)	Comma ( , )	Semicolon ( ; )	Apostrophe ( ' )
Underscore ( _ )	At sign (@)	Number sign (#)	Dollar sign (\$)
Hyphen ( - )	Percent sign (%)	Plus sign (+)	Equal sign (=)
Space	When using the ampersand (&) in XML, applicants must use the “&#amp;” format.		
Period ( . )			

**Use simple titles for all documents, such as “FY 2018 OVW Project Narrative.” Visit the [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov) website to review the most up-to-date guidelines about the use of specific characters.**

### Submitting a Grant Application

Grants.gov has updated its application tool. The legacy PDF application package was phased out and retired as of December 31, 2017. Grants.gov Workspace is now the standard application method for applying for grants. Applicants should familiarize themselves with the Workspace format. For complete information and instructions on using Workspace (and other changes), go to the Workspace Overview page at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/workspace-overview.html>.

The [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov) Help Desk can be reached at 1-800-518-4726 and is available 24/7, except federal holidays.

## ***E. Application Review Information***

### **Criteria**

Applications will be scored based on the degree to which the application responds to each section and addresses each element in the section. Furthermore, applications will be scored based upon the quality of the response 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. Specifically, for this program, scoring will be as follows:

1. Summary data sheet: (5) points
2. Project narrative: (65) points
3. Budget narrative and detail worksheet: (10) points
4. MOU: (20) points

Voluntary match or other cost sharing methods will not be considered in the evaluation of the application.

### **Review and Selection Process**

Applications will be subject to a peer review and a programmatic review.

#### Peer Review

OVW will subject all eligible, complete, and timely applications to a peer review process that is fair and based on the criteria outlined in this solicitation. OVW may use internal reviewers, external reviewers, or a combination of both.

#### 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 deduct points from applications for the following reasons:

1. Activities that compromise victim safety and recovery and undermine offender accountability (deduct up to 25 points.)
2. Out-of-scope and unallowable activities (deduct up to 25 points)
3. Past performance (deduct up to 50 points)
4. Formatting and Technical Requirements (deduct up to 5 points)

An application that is deemed to be substantially out of scope, proposes a substantial number of activities that are unallowable, or proposes activities that pose a significant threat to victim safety or a serious breach of confidentiality will not be considered for funding. An applicant with considerable past performance issues may receive a deduction in points as described above or be removed from consideration entirely regardless of the application's peer review score.

As a part of the programmatic review process described above, applicants will be reviewed for past performance and risk based on the elements listed below.

1. Demonstrated effectiveness of the current project indicated by timely progress toward meeting project goals and objectives.
2. Demonstration that past activities supported with OVW grant funds have been limited to program purpose areas
3. Adherence to all special conditions of existing grant award(s) from OVW
4. Adherence to programmatic and financial reporting requirements, including timely submission of required reports
5. Completion of close-out of prior awards in a timely manner

6. Appropriate use of and active participation in OVW-sponsored workshops and other technical assistance events as required by a special condition of the current or recent award
7. Receipt of financial clearances on all current or recent grants from OVW
8. Timely resolution of issues identified in any audit or on-site financial or programmatic monitoring visit
9. Adherence to the Office of Management and Budget single-audit requirement
10. Timely expenditure of grant funds
11. Adherence to the requirements of the [DOJ Financial Guide](#)
12. Timely completion of the planning and development phase

Prior to making an award, OVW is required to review and consider any information about applicants included in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently FAPIIS). Applicants may review and comment on information in FAPIIS about themselves that another Federal awarding agency has previously entered. OVW will consider the applicant's comments as well as other information available in FAPIIS in making its judgment about the risk posed by making an award to the applicant as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.205.

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

#### High-Risk Grantees

Based on DOJ's assessment of each grantee with regard to current or previous funding, unresolved audit issues, delinquent programmatic and fiscal reporting, and prior performance, a grantee may be designated "high risk." Awards to high-risk grantees may carry special conditions such as increased monitoring and/or prohibitions on drawing funds until certain requirements are met. High-risk grantees with substantial or persistent performance or compliance issues, long-standing open audits, or open criminal investigations will likely not receive an additional OVW award until all issues are resolved.

#### **Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates**

It is anticipated that all applicants will be notified of the outcome of their applications by October 1, 2019.

## ***F. Federal Award Administration Information***

### **Federal Award Notices**

Successful applications will receive OVW award notifications electronically from the OJP Grants Management System (GMS) (not Grants.gov). This award notification will be sent to the individuals listed as the [Authorized Representative](#) and the Point of Contact on the SF-424 for the application that was selected for funding and will include instructions on accepting the award. Recipients will be required to log in; accept any outstanding assurances and certifications on the award; designate financial points of contact; and review, sign, and accept the award. The award acceptance process involves physical signature of the award document and terms and conditions by the [Authorized Representative](#), scanning the fully executed award document, and returning the scanned document to OVW via facsimile or email.

## **Administrative and National Policy Requirements**

### Information for All Federal Award Grantees

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 [Solicitation Companion Guide](#) entitled “Post-Award Requirements for All Federal Award Recipients.”

Terms and conditions for OVW awards are available at <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/award-conditions>. These terms are subject to change prior to the issuance of the awards.

### Violence Against Women Act Non-Discrimination Provision

The Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 added a civil rights provision that applies to all FY 2019 OVW grants. This provision prohibits OVW grantees from excluding, denying benefits to, or discriminating against any person on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability in any program or activity funded in whole or in part by OVW. For more information on this prohibition, see <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/docs/faqs-ngc-vawa.pdf>. Additional information on the civil rights obligations of OVW funding recipients can be found in the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#) under “Civil Rights Compliance.”

### Accessibility

Recipients of OVW funds must comply with applicable federal civil rights laws, which, among other things, prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability and national origin. Compliance with these laws includes taking reasonable steps to ensure that persons with limited English proficiency have meaningful access to recipients’ programs and activities and that these programs and activities are readily accessible to individuals with disabilities. More information on these obligations is available in the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#) under “Civil Rights Compliance.”

## **Reporting**

OVW grantees are required to submit semi-annual progress reports and quarterly Federal Financial Reports (SF-425). Appropriate progress report forms will be provided to all applicants selected for an award. Forms will be submitted electronically via GMS. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent.

## ***G. Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)***

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation contact the following: for programmatic questions, contact the POC for this program at 202-307-6026 or [OVW.Disabilities@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.Disabilities@usdoj.gov), for financial questions, contact 1-888-514-8556 or [OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov) and for technical support, contact 1-800-518-4726 for [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov).

## ***H. Other Information***

### **Application Checklist**

Applicants must submit a fully executed application to OVW, including all required supporting documentation. Prior to peer review, OVW will not contact applicants for missing items. Additionally, if an applicant plans to submit an application under any other OVW grant program this fiscal year, it is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that only documents pertinent to this

solicitation are included with this application. OVW will not redirect documents that are inadvertently 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 Document	Date Completed
1. Letter of Intent	
2. Summary Data Sheet	
3. Project Narrative a) Purpose of the Application b) What Will Be Done (Continuation Only) c) Who Will Implement	
4. Proposal Abstract	
5. Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative	
6. Memorandum of Understanding	
7. Application for Federal Assistance: SF 424	
8. Standard Assurances and Certifications	
9. Applicant Financial Capability Questionnaire (if applicable)	
10. Confidentiality Notice Form	
11. Disclosures of Process Related to Executive Compensation	
12. Pre-award Risk Assessment	
13. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)	
14. Letter of Nonsupplanting	
15. Proof of 501(c)(3) Status (Nonprofit Organizations Only)	

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

**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, can be easily understood, and impose the least possible burden on applicants. 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.