



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

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**\*\*\* REVISED \*\*\***

(New application deadline and revisions made to Section B,  
Types of Applications.)

# **OVW Fiscal Year 2020 Grants to Tribal Governments to Exercise Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction Solicitation**

**Release Date: on or about November 26, 2019**

## **Eligibility**

Eligible applicants are limited to: **Governments of Indian tribes that have jurisdiction over Indian country.**

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

## **Deadlines**

**Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (E.T.) on February 26, 2020.**

(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 24, 2020.

(See "[Registration](#)")

**Letter of Intent:** Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a non-binding Letter of Intent to [OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov) by January 24, 2020. This letter confirms that the applicant has registered with SAM and [Grants.gov](https://www.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:** 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](#)”)

## Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, email OVW at [OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.TribalAffairs@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](https://www.grants.gov). For technical assistance with [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov), contact [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) Applicant Support at (800) 518-4726.

The [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) number assigned to this announcement is OVW-17677.

**Notification:** OVW anticipates notifying applicants of funding decisions by October 1, 2020.

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**Federal Award Information:**

Funding Type:	Grant
Estimated Total Funding:	\$4,000,000
Expected Number of Awards:	10
Award Ceiling:	New – \$450,000 Continuation – \$300,000
Award Floor:	N/A
Average Projected Award Amount:	\$400,000
Registration Due:	January 24, 2020
Letter of Intent Due:	January 24, 2020
Application Due:	February 26, 2020
Anticipated Start Date:	October 1, 2020
Length of Award Period:	New – 36 months Continuation – 24 months

## **OVW Grants to Tribal Governments to Exercise Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction (CFDA 16.025)**

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

#### **Overview of OVW**

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, sexual assault, and stalking. OVW grants support coordinated community responses to hold offenders accountable and serve victims.

#### **Statutory Authority**

This program is authorized by the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, 25 U.S.C. § 1304(f).

#### **About the OVW Grants to Tribal Governments to Exercise Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction Program**

Through this grant program, Indian tribes receive support to exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction (SDVCJ) and technical assistance (TA) for planning and implementing changes in their criminal justice systems necessary to exercise the jurisdiction. The program encourages collaborations among tribal leadership, courts, prosecutors, attorneys, defense counsel, law enforcement, probation, victim service providers<sup>1</sup>, and other partners to ensure that victims find safety and justice and that non-Indians who commit crimes of domestic violence,

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<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this program, a “Victim Service Provider” is a nonprofit, nongovernmental or tribal organization or rape crisis center, including a state or tribal domestic violence and/or sexual assault coalition, that assists or advocates for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking victims, including a domestic violence shelter, faith-based organization or other organization, with a documented history of effective work concerning domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(43). Victim service providers must provide direct services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking as one of their primary purposes and have a demonstrated history of effective work in this field.

dating violence, and violations of protection orders in the Indian country of the participating tribe<sup>2</sup> are held accountable. For additional information about this program, see <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>.

### **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 financial guide after an award is made, the section of the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#) on post-award requirements for all federal award recipients, and the conditions of the award.

### **Purpose Areas**

Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 1304(f), funds under this program must be used for one or more of the following purposes:

1. To strengthen tribal criminal justice systems to assist Indian tribes in exercising SDVCJ, including:
  - A. Law enforcement (including the capacity of law enforcement or court personnel to enter information into and obtain information from national crime information databases).
  - B. Prosecution.
  - C. Trial and appellate courts.
  - D. Probation systems.
  - E. Detention and correctional facilities.
  - F. Alternative rehabilitation centers.
  - G. Culturally appropriate services and assistance for victims and their families.
  - H. Criminal codes and rules of criminal procedure, appellate procedure, and evidence.
2. To provide indigent criminal defendants with the effective assistance of licensed defense counsel, at no cost to the defendant, in criminal proceedings in which a participating tribe prosecutes a crime of domestic violence or dating violence or a criminal violation of a protection order.
3. To ensure that, in criminal proceedings in which a participating tribe exercises SDVCJ, jurors are summoned, selected, and instructed in a manner consistent with all applicable requirements.
4. To accord victims of domestic violence, dating violence, and violations of protection orders rights that are similar to the rights of a crime victim described in [section 3771\(a\) of Title 18](#), consistent with tribal law and custom.

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

OVW does not fund activities that jeopardize victim safety, deter or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims, or allow offenders to escape responsibility for their actions. Applications that propose any such activities may receive a deduction in points during the

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<sup>2</sup>The term “participating tribe” means an Indian tribe that elects to exercise SDVCJ over the Indian country of that tribe. 25 U.S.C. § 1304(a)(4).

review process or may be eliminated from consideration entirely. Information on activities that compromise victim safety and recovery or undermine offender accountability may be found in the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#).

### **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. See also the list of unallowable costs in the [Funding Restrictions](#) section of this solicitation.

1. Research projects. (This does not include assessments conducted only for internal improvement purposes. Applicants may budget up to three percent of the award for this activity. For information on distinguishing between research and assessments, see the heading on this topic in the [Funding Restrictions](#) section of this solicitation and the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#).)
2. Prosecuting cases of sexual assault that do not involve spouses, intimate partners, or dating partners.
3. Prosecuting cases that do not involve domestic violence, dating violence, and/or violations of a protection order.
4. Purchase or lease of vehicles.

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 (see the [Solicitation Companion Guide](#) for more information on relevant requirements).

1. Surveys, whether conducted as part of a program or needs assessment, or for any other purpose. Prior approval is necessary to determine whether the activity is within the scope of the award and meets the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act.
2. Renovations, including such minor things as painting, carpeting, or installing lighting (i.e., National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance).
3. Prosecution or incarceration of non-Indian defendants. See [SDVCJ Readiness Certification](#).

## ***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 2020 funding, depending on the merits of the applications and the availability of funding.

### **Award Period and Amounts**

The award period for new applicants is 36 months. Budgets must reflect 36 months of project activity, and the total "estimated funding" on the SF-424 must reflect 36 months. OVW anticipates that the award period will start on October 1, 2020.

The award period for continuation applicants is 24 months. Budgets must reflect 24 months of project activity, and the total “estimated funding” on the SF-424 must reflect 24 months. OVW anticipates that the award period will start on October 1, 2020.

This program typically makes awards in the range of \$300,000 - \$450,000. OVW estimates that it will make up to 10 awards for an estimated \$4,000,000.

Funding levels under this program for FY 2020 are typically:

1. New awards: \$450,000 for the entire 36 months.
2. Continuation awards: \$300,000 for the entire 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 grants.

### **Types of Applications**

In FY 2020, OVW will accept applications for this program from the following:

New: Applicants that have never received funding under this program.

Continuation: Applicants that have an existing award under this program. Continuation funding is not guaranteed.

Recipients of an FY 2018 or an FY 2019 award under this program are NOT eligible to apply.

Additionally, current grantees with a substantial amount of unobligated funds remaining (50 percent or more of the previous award) as of March 31, 2020 without adequate justification may not be considered for funding, or may receive a reduced award amount if selected for funding in FY 2020.

### **Mandatory Program Requirements**

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

1. OVW Training and TA Participation  
OVW-sponsored training and TA: This includes joining and actively participating in the Inter-tribal Technical Assistance Working Group (ITWG), in addition to other OVW training and TA opportunities. The ITWG is a working group of tribal representatives who exchange views, information, and advice about how tribes may best exercise SDVCJ and address responses to domestic violence, dating violence, and violations of protection orders.

**NOTE:** Recipients will be encouraged to ensure all Memorandum of Understanding/Internal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU/IMOU) partners have multiple opportunities to participate in OVW training and TA throughout the project period.

2. OVW-Sponsored Assessment or Program Evaluation  
An OVW-sponsored assessment or program evaluation, if applicable.

3. MOU/IMOU  
New and continuation recipients will develop and submit the MOU/IMOU during the planning stage of the grant project. **Applicants should not submit the MOU/IMOU at the time of application.**

Recipients must engage partners, representing various disciplines, to plan, implement, and exercise SDVCJ. Required partners for the Tribal Jurisdiction Program are:

- Tribal Leadership.
- Tribal Judge.
- Tribal Prosecutor's Office.
- Tribal Attorney/General Counsel.
- Law Enforcement.
- Victim Service Provider.

Tribes are encouraged to include a Tribal Domestic Violence and/or Sexual Assault Coalition as a partner if one is active in their area. Other partners could include indigent defense counsel/public defender's office, court administrator, court services (pre-trial/probation), jail administrator, or other programs and partners that will contribute to the successful planning and implementation of the proposed project in the tribal community.

4. Planning Period  
Recipients must engage in a planning period to further develop the project and corresponding budget. Recipients will participate in webinars and in-person planning sessions to develop additional grant documentation. A special condition will be attached to awards allowing limited funds to be expended for costs such as travel for training and TA and staff salary and fringe during the planning stage. This condition will be removed for full project implementation once all documentation has been reviewed and approved by OVW.

**Note:** Additional documentation required will include: revised project narrative and timeline (if necessary), revised budget detail worksheet and narrative (if necessary), MOU/IMOU, confidentiality notice form, letter of non-supplanting, and indirect cost rate agreement (if applicable).

5. SDVCJ Readiness Certification  
Some awards will include a special condition that requires certain tribal officials to certify they are familiar with the Indian Civil Rights Act, as amended, 25 U.S.C. §§ 1301–1304, including the amendments made by the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA 2013). The chief executive of the tribe and the chief legal officer also are required to certify that the tribe's criminal justice system has adequate safeguards in place to protect defendants' rights. The chief judicial officer is also required to certify to familiarity with tribal constitution, code, and rules provisions to implement SDVCJ, including provisions that safeguard defendant's rights. Certifications will be required prior to grant funds being used for the prosecution or incarceration of non-Indian defendants. Tribes designated a Pilot Project Tribe by the Department of Justice during the VAWA 2013 pilot period, and tribes that previously received OVW approval to use funds under

this program to exercise SDVCJ, will not have this special condition attached to their awards.

## ***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 of application contents](#), and 6. [timeliness](#). 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 only entities eligible to apply for this program are governments of Indian tribes<sup>3</sup> that have jurisdiction over Indian country.<sup>4</sup>

### **Cost Sharing or Matching**

This program has no match or cost sharing requirement.

### **Limit on Number of Applications**

OVW will consider only one application per organization for the same service area. 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.

## ***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](#) and on the [OVW website](#). Applicants wishing to request a paper copy of these materials should contact [OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov) or (202)307-6026.

### **Pre-Application Information Session**

OVW will conduct an optional 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:

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<sup>3</sup>"Indian tribe" means any tribe, band, or other group of Indians subject to the jurisdiction of the United States and recognized as possessing powers of self-government. 25 U.S.C. § 1301(1).

<sup>4</sup> "Indian country," means (a) all land within the limits of any Indian reservation under the jurisdiction of the United States Government, notwithstanding the issuance of any patent, and, including rights-of-way running through the reservation, (b) all dependent Indian communities within the borders of the United States whether within the original or subsequently acquired territory thereof, and whether within or without the limits of a state, and (c) all Indian allotments, the Indian titles to which have not been extinguished, including rights-of-way running through the same. 18 U.S.C. § 1151.

**Wednesday, December 18, 2019, at 12:00 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.

Participation in the pre-application information session is optional. Interested applicants that do not participate in the session are still eligible to apply.

To register, contact the Tribal Jurisdiction Program at [OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov) or at (202)307-6026. Registration must be received at least one day prior to the start of the session. Participants are not registered until they receive a confirmation email. Interested applicants needing language assistance should contact this program's POC at [OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov) or at (202)307-6026 as soon as possible, but no later than December 11, 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.

#### Letter of Intent

Applicants intending to apply for FY 2020 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.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov) by January 24, 2020. 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 for all documents, unless otherwise noted. Points may be deducted for applications that do not adhere to the following requirements:

1. Double spaced (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 (TNR) or Arial font, except for footnotes, which may be in 10-point 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 required documents and demonstrate that the program eligibility requirements have been met. For a complete checklist of the application contents, see the [Other Information](#) section in this solicitation.

Applications that do not include all of the following documents will be considered substantially incomplete and may not be considered for funding:

1. Project Narrative.
2. Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative.
3. Tribal Resolution or Other Document(s) Demonstrating Authority to Apply.

In addition, the following two documents are required; failure to submit them will not result in removal from consideration but may result in a loss of points:

1. Summary Data Sheet.
2. Proposal Abstract.

### **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 and pass all funds through to an entity or entities that will implement the project. Such an applicant will not be involved with implementation of the project beyond issuing subaward(s) to these entities and conducting minimal administrative activities. A fiscal agent/sponsor applicant 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 all 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. A list of all other federal grant programs from which the applicant currently receives funding or for which it has applied for funding in FY 2020 **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>.
7. Statement as to whether the applicant is a recipient, or partner/subrecipient, on a current grant or pending application for this grant program. If a current grant, provide the year of the award and the role of the applicant on the award (recipient or project partner).
8. Statement as to whether any proposed project partner/subrecipient is a recipient, or partner/subrecipient, on a current grant or pending application for this grant program. If a

- current grant, provide the year of the award and the role of the partner(s) on the award (recipient or project partner/subrecipient).
9. Statement as to whether the applicant has already implemented SDVCJ in its jurisdiction. If so, provide the date of implementation and a statement as to whether the applicant was designated a Pilot Project Tribe by the Department of Justice or has otherwise received OVW approval to the SDVCJ questionnaire.
  10. List all purpose areas that the applicant's project will implement (see [Purpose Areas](#)).

**Proposal Abstract (not scored but used throughout the review process)**

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, project title, purpose of the project (including goal and intended outcome), primary activities for which funds are requested, who will benefit (including geographic area to be served), products and deliverables, and how the applicant will measure progress in completing project goals and objectives. Applicants must not summarize past accomplishments in this section.

**Project Narrative (75 Points Total)**

The Project Narrative may not exceed 20 pages, double-spaced. The Project Narrative must include the following three sections: 1) Initial Assessment; 2) What Will Be Done; and 3) Who Will Implement.

**Initial Assessment (35 points)**

This section must:

1. Briefly state the challenge or need faced by the community and how the goal/vision for the project will meet that need.
2. Describe the tribal community to be served, including:
  - a. The geographic area subject to the tribe's jurisdiction.
  - b. The demographic profile of the community (e.g., tribal and non-tribal residents, poverty rate, workforce profile), including any marginalized and/or underserved population(s) as data is available for the tribal jurisdiction.
  - c. The availability of services for victims of domestic and dating violence.
3. Provide the data requested below for the last two years for the tribal jurisdiction. The data should be presented in table format. If the data is not available, state why it is not available.

Number of:

  - a. Domestic violence incidents reported to law enforcement.
  - b. Domestic violence incidents reported involving non-Indian offenders.
  - c. Domestic violence cases referred to the tribal prosecutor's office.
  - d. Domestic violence cases accepted for prosecution by the tribal prosecutor's office.
  - e. Domestic violence cases declined for prosecution by the tribal prosecutor's office.
  - f. Tribal protection from abuse orders requested (civil and as part of conditions for release from custody in criminal matters combined).
  - g. Tribal protection from abuse orders granted (civil and as part of conditions for release from custody in criminal matters combined).
  - h. Tribal protection from abuse orders requested involving non-Indian offenders.
  - i. Tribal protection from abuse orders granted involving non-Indian offenders.

- j. Tribal protection order violation incidents reported to law enforcement.
  - k. Protection order violation incidents reported to law enforcement involving non-Indian offenders.
  - l. Protection order violation cases referred to the tribal prosecutor's office.
  - m. Protection order violation cases accepted for prosecution by the tribal prosecutor's office.
  - n. Protection order violation cases declined for prosecution by the tribal prosecutor's office.
4. Describe the tribe's existing criminal justice system **in the context of readiness to exercise SDVCJ while protecting defendants' rights**, consistent with 25 U.S.C. § 1304. Discuss each of the following elements of the tribe's criminal justice system identifying strengths and gaps where relevant.
- a. Tribal constitution: Specifically discuss whether amendments are necessary in order to exercise SDVCJ.
  - b. Tribal law and order code: Specifically state whether current domestic violence and protection order violation offenses need to be amended.
  - c. Law enforcement services: Discuss how law enforcement services are provided in the tribal community (e.g. under a 638 self-determination contract; by cross-deputization agreement; through the Bureau of Indian Affairs; Office of Justice Services; or other arrangement).
  - d. Tribal prosecution: Specifically state if the tribe has any Special Assistant U.S. Attorneys ("SAUSAs") and/or experienced or specialized domestic violence prosecutors.
  - e. Tribal court processes and practices: Specifically discuss whether the tribe has a trial and an appellate court; domestic violence court or docket; publicly available laws and rules; judges who are licensed attorneys with sufficient training to preside over criminal proceedings; a jury pool that does not exclude non-members of the tribe and non-Indians; and availability of records of criminal proceedings.
  - f. Availability of counsel for indigent defendants: Specifically discuss whether the tribe uses a public defender system; contract system; or assigned counsel system and how defendants are screened for indigence.
  - g. Availability of medical care for non-Indian defendants.
  - h. Role of victim advocates within the criminal justice system.
  - i. Pre-trial supervision and probation systems.
  - j. The tribe's formal or informal policies for coordinating with federal and/or state criminal investigators and prosecutors in cases where the tribe may have concurrent criminal jurisdiction.
  - k. The need for training: TA; data collection; evaluation of the tribe's criminal justice system in order to plan for and exercise SDVCJ.

#### What Will Be Done (30 points)

The application must provide a clear link between the proposed activities and the need identified in the "Initial Assessment" section above. The application must not include any of the activities listed as unallowable costs in the [Funding Restrictions](#) section of this solicitation.

This section must:

1. Clearly state the project's measurable goals, objectives, activities, and timeline (by month or quarter) that will enhance or enable the exercise of SDVCJ in the tribe's jurisdiction.
2. Performance measurement: Describe how the applicant will measure progress in achieving the project's goal(s)/vision. Identify targeted outcome(s) and describe any tool(s) the applicant will use to track those outcomes and report them to OVW. Tools may include OVW performance progress reports and logic model templates (both available at [www.vawamei.org](http://www.vawamei.org)).
3. If applicable, detail the tangible products to be purchased, developed, or revised with grant funds (e.g., data collection systems, audio or video recording systems, law and order codes, administrative rules, or curricula). Describe how the tangible products will enhance and/or enable the tribe's ability to exercise SDVCJ.
4. If applicants are proposing to use any technology (including, but not limited to, security systems, audio recording systems, GPS monitoring, or computer software systems), the applicant must describe the plan to address victim safety concerns that may arise from the use of the technology, such as confidentiality, safety planning, and informed consent.
5. Describe how the applicant will move to project sustainability.
6. Discuss 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 (10 points)

This section must:

1. Identify the key individuals and organizations, involved in implementing the proposed project including:
  - a. Required project partners (tribal leader, judge, prosecutor, general counsel/tribal attorney, law enforcement, and victim service provider).
  - b. Optional project partners (e.g., tribal coalition, jail administrator, court services officer), if applicable.
  - c. Positions created or paid with grant funds, if not previously identified as a project partner.
2. Demonstrate that the individuals and organizations identified have the capacity to address the stated need and can successfully implement the proposed project activities; attach resumes or job descriptions of all key individuals.

#### **Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative (15 Points)**

All applications must include a detailed budget and budget narrative. See the sample Budget Detail Worksheet and the Creating a Budget webinar 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

- New: Applicants may submit budgets up to \$450,000 for a project period of 36 months.
- Continuation: Applicants may submit budgets up to \$300,000 for a project period of 24 months.

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. The budget should not contain items that are not supported by the project narrative.
2. New applicants: Include funds to attend OVW-sponsored training and TA in the amount of \$30,000. 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.  
Continuation applicants: Include funds to attend OVW-sponsored training and TA in the amount of \$15,000. This amount is for the entire 24 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. Limit costs for **medical care of non-Indian SDVCJ defendants** to a maximum of 20% of the total project budget.
4. Include funds or describe other resources available to the applicant to ensure access for individuals with disabilities, Deaf/hard of hearing individuals, and persons with limited English proficiency. See [Accessibility](#) under [Federal Award Administration Information](#) in this solicitation for more information.
5. 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>.

### **Document Demonstrating Authority to Apply (5 Points Total)**

The applicant must provide a valid tribal resolution or letter on tribal letterhead, signed by the chief executive officer of the governing body of the tribe (e.g., the tribal chairperson, president, governor, principal chief, or other equivalent official), providing the following assurances:

1. Affirm the tribe is a federally-recognized tribe appearing in the most recently published list of [Indian Entities Recognized and Eligible To Receive Services From the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs](#).
2. Affirm the tribe has jurisdiction over lands that meet the definition of Indian country.
3. Define the tribe's Indian country.
4. Affirm the governing body's determination to plan, develop, implement, and exercise SDVCJ within its Indian country.
5. Direct internal partners, identified in the IMOU, to participate in and cooperate with the planning, development, implementation, and exercise of SDVCJ and, if necessary, authorize the identified internal partners to enter into/sign the MOU/IMOU.
6. If necessary, authorize the applicant tribe's [Authorized Representative](#) to enter into/sign the MOU with external MOU partners.

### **Additional Required Information**

The following documents will not be scored but must be included with the application. Failure to supply this information may result in the application being removed from consideration. 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. The SF-424 is generated when the applicant begins the submission process. 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 as "**Authorized Representative**" must be an individual who has the authority to apply for and accept grant awards on behalf of the organization or jurisdiction.

*Intergovernmental Review:* This solicitation ("funding opportunity") **is not** subject to Executive Order (E.O.) 12372. (In completing the SF-424, an applicant is to answer question 19 by selecting the response that the "Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.")

#### Assurances and Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Review the assurances and disclosure forms online. Applicants will be prompted to compile these forms online during the application submission process. All applicants must complete both the *Assurances – Non-Construction Programs* (SF-424B) form and the *Disclosure of Lobbying Activities* (SF-LLL) form. Applicants that expend any funds for lobbying activities must provide the information requested on the SF-LLL. 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:*

#### 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 (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.

*The following documents must be **submitted by Grant Adjustment Notice (GAN) after an award is made:***

#### 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](#).

#### 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 (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>.

#### **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 Dun & 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. See 2 C.F.R. §§ 25.200, 25.205.

SAM centralizes information about grant recipients and also provides a central location for grant recipients to change organizational information. [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. 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](https://www.grants.gov) no later than January 24, 2020.

**Submission Dates and Times**

It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that the application is complete and submitted by the deadline. Failure to meet the submission deadline will result in an application not being considered for funding. Applicants should refer to the chart below to ensure that all required steps and deadlines are met.

**Failure to begin the registration or application submission by the deadlines stated in the chart below is not an acceptable reason for late submission.**

Applicant Action and Information	Dates/Deadlines
<b>Apply for a DUNS number</b>	
Obtain a DUNS number at <a href="https://www.dnb.com/">https://www.dnb.com/</a> or call (866)705-5711.	January 24, 2020.
<b>Register with SAM</b>	
Access the SAM online registration through the SAM homepage at <a href="https://www.sam.gov/SAM/">https://www.sam.gov/SAM/</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 24, 2020.
<b>Register with Grants.gov</b>	
Once the SAM registration is 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 24, 2020.
<b>Submit Letter of Intent</b>	
<a href="mailto:OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov">OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov</a> or (202)307-6026.	January 24, 2020.
<b>Download Updated Version of Adobe</b>	
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="https://www.grants.gov">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 application deadline.
<b>Request Hardcopy Submission (if necessary)</b>	
Applicants that cannot submit an application electronically due to lack of internet access must contact the POC at (202)307-6026 or <a href="mailto:OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov">OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov</a> to request permission to submit a hardcopy application.	February 5, 2020.
<b>Begin Application Submission Process</b>	
Applications must be submitted electronically via <a href="https://www.grants.gov">Grants.gov</a> .	Begin 24 – 48 hours prior to the application deadline.
<b>Confirm Application Receipt</b>	

<p>Authorized Organization Representatives (AORs) should closely monitor their email for any notification from <a href="https://www.grants.gov">Grants.gov</a> about a possible failed submission. <b>The AOR is a user role within Grants.gov for a user who is authorized to submit applications on behalf of the organization.</b></p> <p>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 applicant's responsibility to notify OVW of any problems with the application submission process.</p>	<p>Submitting the application at least 48 hours before February 26, 2020 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 26, 2020** 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. 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.

To ensure fairness for all applicants, OVW requires that applicants requesting late submission adhere to the following:

**Experiencing Technical Difficulties Beyond the Applicant's Reasonable Control**

Issue	Applicant Action	OVW Policy
<p>Issue with SAM or <a href="https://www.grants.gov">Grants.gov</a> Registration.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Register and/or confirm existing registration at least three weeks prior to the application due date to ensure that the individual who will be submitting the application has SAM and <a href="https://www.grants.gov">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 <a href="https://www.grants.gov">Grants.gov</a> Applicant 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="https://www.grants.gov">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>

Issue	Applicant Action	OVW Policy
<p>Unforeseeable Technical Difficulties During the Application Submission Process.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Contact <a href="https://www.grants.gov">Grants.gov</a> for technical support at least 24 hours prior to the application deadline.</li> <li>2. Maintain documentation of all communication with <a href="https://www.grants.gov">Grants.gov</a> Applicant Support.</li> <li>3. Prior to the application deadline, contact the POC for this program, via email at <a href="mailto:OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov">OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov</a> indicating that the applicant is experiencing technical difficulties and</li> </ol>	<p>Common foreseeable technical difficulties for which OVW will not approve a late submission request include:</p>

	<p>would like permission to submit a late application. The email must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A detailed description of the difficulty that the applicant is experiencing.</li> <li>• The contact information (name, telephone, and email) for the individual making the late submission request.</li> <li>• The complete application packet (Summary Data Sheet, Project Narrative, Budget and Budget Narrative, Tribal Resolution or Other Document(s) Demonstrating Authority to Apply, Abstract, and Pre-Award Risk Assessment).</li> </ul> <p>4. Within 24 hours after the application deadline, the applicant must email the POC for this program at <a href="mailto:OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov">OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov</a> the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant’s DUNS number.</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.grants.gov">Grants.gov</a> Applicant Support tracking numbers.</li> <li>• Other relevant documentation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Using an outdated version of Adobe Acrobat.</li> <li>b. Attachment rejection. (To ensure that attachments are not rejected, attachment names should only include allowable characters. See <a href="#">“Other Submission Requirements”</a>).</li> </ul> <p>Through <a href="https://www.grants.gov">Grants.gov</a>, OVW can confirm when submission began. Applicants that start the submission process less than 24 hours before the deadline will not be considered for late submission. 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.</p>
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<b>Issue</b>	<b>Applicant Action</b>	<b>OVW Policy</b>
Severe Inclement Weather or Natural Disaster.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Contact the POC for this program at <a href="mailto:OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov">OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov</a> as soon as the applicant is aware of severe weather or a natural or manmade disaster that may impede the submission of an application by the deadline. The email should include a detailed description of the weather event or natural or manmade disaster. A detailed description includes when the event occurred, or is likely to occur, the impacted area, and the specific impact on the applicant and/or partners’ ability to submit the application by the deadline (e.g., without power for “x” days, office closed for “x” days). If the application is complete and ready for submission at the time the applicant notifies the POC, it should be included with the email.</li> <li>2. Applicants impacted by severe weather or a natural or manmade disaster occurring on the deadline must</li> </ol>	OVW may not be able to accommodate all requests resulting from severe inclement weather or a natural disaster.

	contact OVW within 48 hours after the due date or as soon as communications are restored.	
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Submission of the required documents to the POC is not an approval of a late application submission request. OVW will review the information provided, consider the request, and inform the applicant of its decision within 30 days of the request.

### **Funding Restrictions**

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

#### Unallowable Costs

The costs associated with the activities listed below are unallowable and must not be included in applicants' budgets.

1. Lobbying.
2. Fundraising.
3. Purchase of real property.
4. Physical modifications to buildings, including minor renovations (such as painting or carpeting) without prior approval by OVW through the submission of a detailed Grant Adjustment Notice.
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>.

#### 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.

#### Research and Assessments

Grantees under this program are prohibited from using OVW funds to conduct research, which is defined in 28 C.F.R. § 46.102 as a systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. Surveys and focus groups, depending on their design and purpose, may constitute research and therefore be out of scope.

However, grantees may use funds (up to three percent of the award) to assess their work for internal improvement purposes only, such as by convening a listening session to identify service gaps in the community, or surveying training participants about the quality of training content and delivery. Applicants considering such assessments must refer to the OVW research decision tree in the Solicitation Companion Guide to ensure that the activity does not qualify as human subjects research. The [Solicitation Companion Guide](#) also provides additional information on federal requirements related to research, assessments, and surveys.

#### 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](#). The E-Biz POC oversees the applicant's [Grants.gov](#) transactions and assigns the AOR. The AOR submits the application to [Grants.gov](#) and must register with [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](#).

**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](#).** 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 [Grants.gov](#) Applicant Support at **(800)518-4726**.

**Note:** [Grants.gov](https://www.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](https://www.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 “&” format.		
Period ( . )			

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

### Submitting a Grant Application

In 2017, Grants.gov 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>.

[Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) Applicant Support can be reached at (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, capacity of the applicant and any partners, and the level of detail provided. Each element **must** be addressed in the section in which it is requested. Points may be deducted if the applicant does not include the information in the appropriate section even if it is included elsewhere within the application. Each section will be reviewed as a separate document and will be scored as such. Specifically, for the Grants to Tribal Governments to Exercise Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction, scoring will be as follows:

1. Summary data sheet: (5) points.
2. Project narrative: (75) points, of which:
  - A. Initial Assessment: (35) points.
  - B. What will be done: (30) points.
  - C. Who will implement: (10) points.

3. Budget detail worksheet and narrative: (15) points.
4. Tribal resolution or other document(s) demonstrating authority to apply: (5) 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 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 25 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 with current or recently closed OVW awards 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 TA 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](#).

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 down 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, 2020.

## ***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 Recipients

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 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. 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)616-0039 or [OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.TribalAffairs@usdoj.gov), for financial questions, contact (888)514-8556 or [OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov), and for technical support, contact Grants.gov Applicant Support at (800)518-4726.

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

#### **Application Checklist**

Applicants must submit a fully executed application to OVW, including all required supporting documentation. 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).

<b>Application Document</b>	<b>Date Completed</b>
1. Letter of Intent	
2. Summary Data Sheet	
3. Project Narrative: a) Initial Assessment. b) What Will Be Done. c) Who Will Implement.	
4. Proposal Abstract	
5. Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative	
6. Document Demonstrating Authority to Apply	
7. Application for Federal Assistance: SF 424	
8. Assurances (SF 424B) and Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)	
9. Pre-Award Risk Assessment	

**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.