

Office on Violence Against Women Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking Program

FY 2023 Pre-Application Information Session

Presented by Ni'Cora Gray, Charlotte Turpin, and Aisha Battle

Pre- Application Webinar Overview

What's new with the Rural Program

Rural program scope

Rural program eligibility

Application Information

Helpful hints and answer questions

About the Rural Program

The Rural Program supports efforts to enhance the safety of rural victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and supports projects uniquely designed to address and prevent these crimes in rural areas.

What's New with the Rural Program

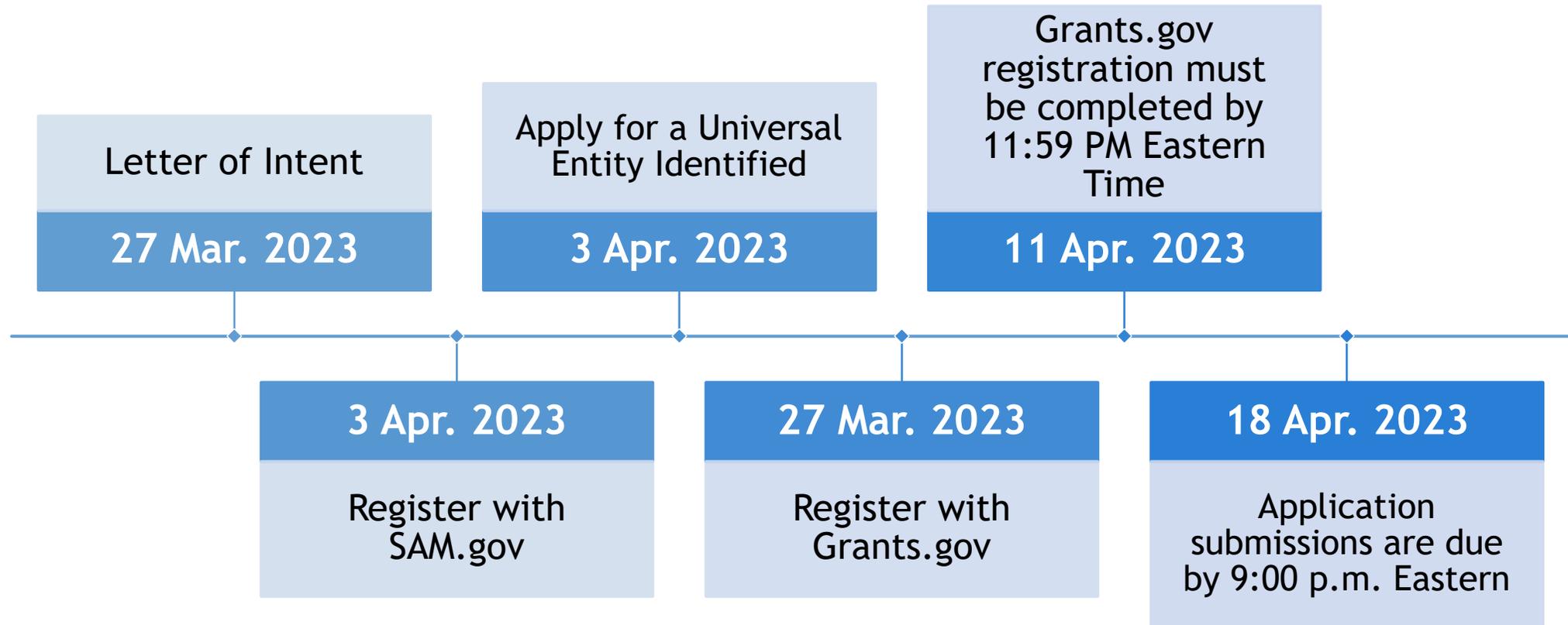
VAWA 2022:

- Added Purpose Area #4
- Added language to Strategy #5

Application Submission

- Application Budget Submission

Registration and Submission Dates



Submission Process

Applications for this program will be submitted through a **two-step** process:

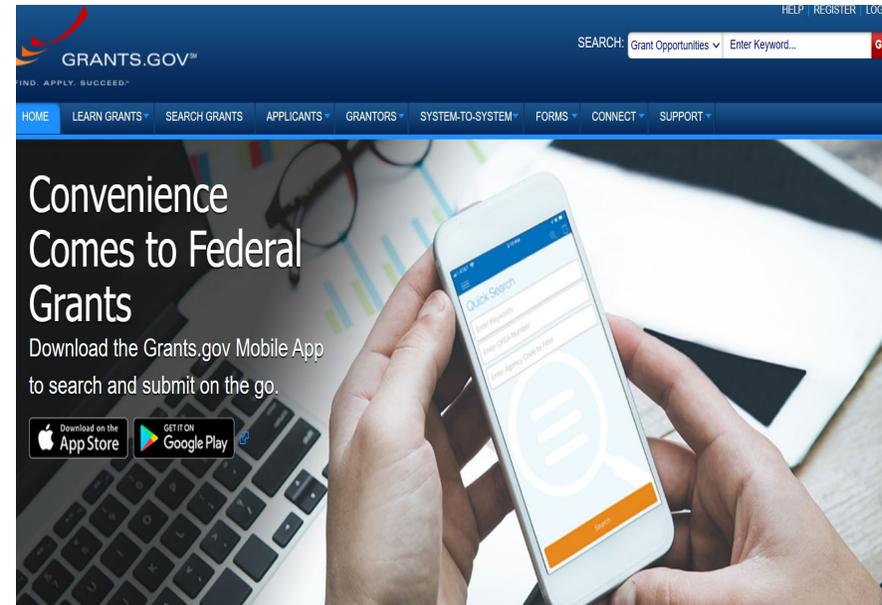
- (1) submission of the **SF-424 and SF-LLL** in Grants.gov and
- (2) submission of the **full application** including attachments in the Justice Grants System (JustGrants).

- ▶ Submit your **SF-424 and SF-LLL** in Grants.gov
- ▶ Grants.gov Applicant Support Hotline at **1-800-518-4726**.
- ▶ Submit your completed application in the Justice Grants System (JustGrants)
- ▶ JustGrants Support at **1-833-872-5175**

Websites to Know



The screenshot shows the SAM.GOV website. At the top left is the SAM.GOV logo. To the right, a badge says "Official U.S. Government Website 100% Free". The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column is titled "The Official U.S. Government System for:" and lists several categories with links: Contract Opportunities (was fbo.gov), Contract Data (Reports ONLY from fpds.gov), Wage Determinations (was wdol.gov), and Federal Hierarchy (Departments and Subtiers). The right column is titled "Register Your Entity or Get a Unique Entity ID" and includes a sub-header "Register your entity or get a Unique Entity ID to get started doing business with the federal government." Below this are three buttons: "Get Started", "Renew Entity", and "Check Entity Status".



The screenshot shows the GRANTS.GOV website. At the top right, there are links for "HELP", "REGISTER", and "LOGIN". Below these is a search bar with the text "SEARCH: Grant Opportunities Enter Keyword..." and a "GO" button. A navigation menu includes "HOME", "LEARN GRANTS", "SEARCH GRANTS", "APPLICANTS", "GRANTORS", "SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM", "FORMS", "CONNECT", and "SUPPORT". The main banner features the text "Convenience Comes to Federal Grants" and "Download the Grants.gov Mobile App to search and submit on the go." Below the banner are two buttons: "Download on the App Store" and "GET IT ON Google Play". The background image shows a person's hands holding a smartphone displaying the Grants.gov mobile app interface.



The screenshot shows the JUSTgrants website. On the left is the Department of Justice seal. Next to it is the "JUSTgrants" logo with "JUSTICE GRANTS SYSTEM" underneath. On the right, there are links for "JustGrants Login", "FAQs", "COPS Office", "OJP", and "OVW". Below these links is a search bar with the text "Search" and a magnifying glass icon. At the bottom, there is a navigation menu with the following items: "About", "Training", "Resources", "User Support", "Library", and "News & Updates".

Rural Program Eligibility

Purpose Areas

Strategies

OVW Priority Areas

Funding Restrictions

Purpose Areas (pg. 6-7)

1. Encourages collaboration of services
2. To establish and expand victim services
3. To increase safety and well- being
- 4. To develop, expand, implement, and improve the quality of sexual assault forensic medical examination of sexual assault nurse examiner programs.**

Strategies (pg. 7-8)

1. Implementing, expanding, and establishing cooperative efforts and projects among law enforcement officers, prosecutors, victim service providers, and other related parties to investigate and prosecute
2. Providing treatment, counseling, advocacy, legal assistance, and other long-term and short-term victim and population specific services
3. Working in cooperation with the community to develop education and prevention strategies directed toward such issues
4. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing sexual assault

Strategies (cont.)

5. Developing programs and strategies that focus on the specific needs of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking who reside in remote rural and geographically isolated areas, including addressing the challenges posed by the lack of access to **quality sexual assault examinations by trained health care providers**, shelters and victims services, and limited law enforcement resources and training, and providing training and resources to Community Health Aides involved in the delivery of Indian Health Service programs.

OVW Priority Areas (pg. 8-9)

In FY 2023, OVW is interested in supporting the two priority areas identified below. Applications proposing activities in the following areas **will be given special consideration.**

- ▶ 1. Advance racial equity as an essential component of ending sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.
- ▶ 2. Strengthen efforts to prevent and end sexual assault, including victim services and civil and criminal justice responses.

Applicants are not required to address OVW Priority Areas, but both priority areas fall in line with our Rural statutory requirements.

Funding Restrictions

- ▶ Activities that Compromise Victim Safety and Recovery (pg. 9)
- ▶ Out-Of-Scope and Unallowable Activities (pg. 10)

Applications including out-of-scope or unallowable activities may receive a deduction in points during the review process or may be removed from consideration. Also, information about these activities can be found in the Solicitation Companion Guide.

Rural Program Eligibility

Eligible Applicants

Service Area Eligibility Requirements

Required Partnerships

Legal Assistance Certification

Eligible Applicants

- ▶ States and territories
- ▶ Indian tribes
- ▶ Local governments
- ▶ Nonprofit (public or private) entities, including state, Indian tribe, local government, tribal nonprofit organizations, faith-based and community organizations.

For definitions of entities, please refer to page 13-14 of the solicitation.

Service Area Eligibility Requirements

- ▶ Applicants must demonstrate that it proposes to serve a rural area or rural community.
- ▶ Applications (other than those submitted by federally recognized Indian tribes, which are statutorily defined as “rural”) must include the proper printed documentation demonstrating that the proposed service area meets this eligibility requirement.
- ▶ Instructions to complete the (“Rural Eligibility Documentation Process”) can be accessed through the link on page 16 of the solicitation.

Service Area Eligibility Documentation

The top screen shot reflects the Rural Eligibility analyzer.

The Bottom screenshot reflects the Census Tract Spreadsheet.



	A	BF	BG	BH	BI	BJ
1 Label		Census Tract 7126.01, Stark County, Ohio	Census Tract 7126.02, Stark County, Ohio	Census Tract 7127, Stark County, Ohio	Census Tract 7128, Stark County, Ohio	Census Tract 7129, Stark County, Ohio
2 Total:		1,165	2,150	2,021	1,936	1,810
3 Urban:		1,165	2,150	597	463	936
4 Inside urbanized areas		1,165	2,150	597	0	0
5 Inside urban clusters		0	0	0	463	936
6 Rural		0	0	1,424	1,473	874
7 Not defined for this file		0	0	0	0	0

Partnership Eligibility Requirements

- ▶ Applications must include at least one partner and must include a victim service provider as a formal project partner and/or the lead applicant, as demonstrated through a required Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or Letters of Support (LOS) for court applicants that cannot sign an MOU. All required partnerships must be demonstrated through a required MOU or LOS.
- ▶ Applications must include agencies and organizations necessary to implement the proposed project. These partners may include victim service providers addressing sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking; law enforcement agencies; prosecutors; courts; other criminal justice service providers; human and community service providers; educational institutions; and/or health care providers, including sexual assault forensic examiners

Legal Assistance Certification Eligibility Requirements

To Provide Legal Assistance for Victims

- ▶ Applicants must certify in writing that they have expertise in providing legal assistance.
- ▶ Partner with an entity or person that has the same expertise, and
- ▶ Complete domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking training and related legal issues.
- ▶ The grantee's organizational policies do not require mediation or counseling involving offenders and victims physically together, in cases where sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or child sexual abuse is an issue.
- ▶ The certification should be made in the form of a letter, on letterhead and signed and dated by the authorized representative.

Application Information

Types of Application

Grant Award Period and Budget Caps

Application Contents

Common Application Challenges

Types of Applications

- ▶ **New:**

- ▶ Applicants that have never received funding under this program or whose previous funding under this program expired on or before March 8, 2022.

- ▶ **Continuation:**

- ▶ Applicants that have an existing or recently closed (after March 8, 2022) award under this program.
- ▶ Recipients of FY 2021 and FY 2022 Rural Program awards are not eligible to apply. Continuation funding is not guaranteed.
- ▶ Grantees with a substantial amount of unobligated funds remaining (50 percent or more of the previous award) as of March 31, 2023 without adequate justification may not be considered for funding or may receive a reduced award amount if selected for funding in FY 2023.

Grant Award Period and Budget Caps

- ▶ Grant award period is **36** months.
- ▶ Generally, the award period will start on October 1, 2023.
- ▶ Continuation applications are limited to **\$750,000** for the entire 36 months.
- ▶ Continuation applications with 75% or more focus on sexual assault are limited to **\$950,000** for the entire 36 months.
- ▶ New applicants are limited to **\$500,000** for the entire 36 months.
- ▶ New applicants with 75% or more focus on sexual assault are limited to **\$700,000** for the entire 36 months.

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

Application Content

- ▶ Proposal Narrative
- ▶ Budget Detail Worksheet and narrative
- ▶ Memorandum of Understanding/Letters of Support
- ▶ Rural Eligibility Documentation (except for Indian tribes)

Applications missing one or more of these components may be removed from further consideration.

The Proposal Narrative, Budget worksheet and narrative, and MOU are scored during peer review out of **100** points total.

Proposal Narrative (65 points)

- ▶ Purpose of the proposal (15 points)
- ▶ What will be done (35 points)
- ▶ Who will implement (15 points)

Budget Worksheet and Narrative (15 points)

- ▶ This year OVW is requiring that budgets and budget narratives be submitted as attachments.
- ▶ All budgets should include the required OVW TTA set aside:
 - ▶ \$10,000 for applicants from the 48 contiguous states
 - ▶ \$15,000 for applicants from the territories, Hawaii, and Alaska
- ▶ All budgets should include adequate funds set aside to address language access and accessibility needs.
- ▶ All project partners should be fairly compensated for their contributions

Memorandum of Understanding/Letter of Support (20 points)

- ▶ The MOU is a document containing the terms of the partnership and the roles and responsibilities between two or more parties, and it must be included as an attachment to the application in JustGrants.
- ▶ 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. OVW will accept electronic signatures.
- ▶ MOU's missing signatures may result in a point deduction or removal from consideration, particularly if the MOU is missing the signature of a required partner.
- ▶ The MOU can include multiple signature pages so long as each page includes the names, titles, and date signed of all signatories to the MOU.

Grants Financial Management Division

Data Requested with Application (attachment)

- Upload the Summary Data Sheet answers as an attachment in the Proposal Narrative Section
- Single Audit (threshold and fiscal year)
- IRS three-step safe-harbor procedure- Executive Compensation -
 - Sample Disclosure Letter
 - Address all four parts

Pre-Award Risk Assessment (attachment)

- Upload as an attachment in the Proposal Narrative Section
- Eleven questions; Multiple parts to each question
- Most Common issues:
 - Brief list of policies and procedures not provided
 - Budgeted vs. Actual process not provided
 - Record Retention policy not provided
 - Knowledge of rules and regulations

GFMD Resources

Training for OVW Applicants

<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants>

JustGrants Training for Web-based Budgets

<https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh296/files/media/document/jarg-appln-submission.pdf> (page 30)

Uniform Guidance - 2 CFR Part 200

DOJ Financial Guide

<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/1298396/download>

Program Specific Solicitation <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/open-solicitations>

Common Application Challenges

- ▶ Make sure you meet the solicitation requirements before you spend valuable time completing the application.
- ▶ Registering in Grants.gov and SAM. Start this process early to mitigate problems before time of submission.
- ▶ Submit the correct rural eligibility documentation.
- ▶ Each partner must include a signature, title, and date on the MOU.
- ▶ Make sure letters of support (if applicable) include the same level of required information as the MOU.
- ▶ Submit only one MOU for the project with all partner signatures included.
- ▶ Pay attention to correct formatting of the application.
- ▶ Provide a budget that reflects the 36-month grant cycle.
- ▶ Keep the project narrative at 20 pages.

Screenshots of Resources

This screenshot shows the top portion of the Department of Justice website. The header includes the DOJ seal and the text 'THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE'. A navigation menu contains links for ABOUT, OUR AGENCY, OUR WORK, NEWS, RESOURCES, CAREERS, and CONTACT. The main content area is titled 'RESOURCES FOR APPLICANTS' and features a sub-header 'SOLICITATION COMPANION GUIDE'. The text explains that the guide is for the FY 2023 solicitation and provides general assistance. A tweet from @OVWJustice is visible on the right side of the page.

This screenshot shows a detailed view of the 'RESOURCES FOR APPLICANTS' page. The left sidebar lists various categories such as 'After Receiving OVV Funds', 'OVV Grants and Programs', and 'Tribal Affairs'. The main content area is organized into sections: 'Memorandum of Understanding', 'Budget Information', and 'Samples'. Each section contains a list of downloadable PDF documents. A 'QUICK LINKS' box on the right provides shortcuts for finding help, applying for grants, and working for OVV. A map of the United States is also visible at the bottom right.

Contact Information

OVW Rural Program Solicitation Point of Contact

Ni'Cora Gray
Grant Specialist Email: nicora.gray@usdoj.gov
Program Email: ovw.rural@usdoj.gov
Phone: (202)307-6026

Charlotte Turpin
Program Email: ovw.rural@usdoj.gov
Phone: (202) 532-4629

OVW GFMD Helpdesk
Email: ovw.gfmd@usdoj.gov
Phone: 1-888-514-8556

Grants.gov Applicant Support
Email: support@grants.gov
Phone: 1-800-518-4726

OVW JustGrants Support
Email: OVW.JustGrantsSupport@usdoj.gov
Phone: 1-866-655-4482

Questions

- ▶ Please write your questions in the chat box, or
- ▶ Raise your virtual hand

Thanks so much for attending the Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Program Pre-Application Webinar.