

Apply for Funding under the Grants to Tribal Governments to Exercise Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction Solicitation

The Office on Violence Against Women provides national leadership on issues of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. These crimes can happen to anyone regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, religion, or gender. They affect people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels, and they occur regardless of whether the victim and perpetrator are currently or formerly married, living together, dating, friends, or strangers. Learn more at www.Justice.gov/OVW.

OVW's Tribal Jurisdiction Program

Through OVW's Grants to Tribal Governments to Exercise Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdictions Program (Tribal Jurisdiction Program), tribes receive support and technical assistance for planning, developing, and implementing changes in their criminal justice systems necessary to exercise Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction (SDVCJ), which was authorized by the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013.

SDVCJ is an historic provision that recognizes the authority of participating tribes to exercise "special criminal jurisdiction" over certain defendants, regardless of their Indian or non-Indian status, who commit crimes of domestic violence or dating violence or violate certain protection orders in Indian Country.

The Tribal Jurisdiction Program is one of several OVW programs, and like all OVW programs, it supports a multifaceted approach to responding to violence against women. The Tribal Jurisdiction Program forges partnerships between leaders at all levels of government and professionals in law enforcement, victim advocacy, health care, and other organizations who work to ensure safety and health.

Learn more about OVW's tribal work at www.justice.gov/ovw/tribal-communities.

Purpose Areas

Eligible tribes can apply for funds to support the following:

- Strengthen the tribal criminal justice systems to assist the tribes in exercising special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction.

Deadlines!

OVW will hold two identical Pre-Application Webinars. Register by sending an email to **OVW.TribalJurisdiction@usdoj.gov**

Dec 12	Register to attend the Dec 14 Pre-Application Webinar
Dec 14	Attend Webinar, 4:00-5:00 pm EST
Dec 19	Register to Attend the Dec 21 Pre-Application Webinar
Dec 21	Attend Webinar, 4:00-5:00 pm EST
Jan 11	Register for DUNS/SAM/Grants.gov
Jan 25	Applications are due!

Quick Facts About the Solicitation

Eligible applicants	Indian tribal governments with jurisdiction over Indian Country
Where to apply	www.Grants.gov Announcement #OVW-2017-11906
Award Period & Funding	36 months, up to \$450,000
Number of Awards	5 to 7

- Provide indigent criminal defendants with defense counsel.
- Ensure that jurors are summoned, selected, and instructed in a manner consistent with applicable requirements.
- Ensure that victims' rights are similar to the rights of crime victims in other jurisdictions and consistent with tribal culture.

Questionnaire and Supporting Certifications

OVW is NOT limiting eligibility for the Tribal Jurisdiction Program to tribes that are currently exercising or prepared to exercise their special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction. Instead, OVW anticipates that it may make awards to tribes that are at various stages of preparedness with regard to exercising SDVCJ. At the beginning of the grant project period, all grantees will have access to funding for planning and preparation activities related to implementing SDVCJ in their jurisdiction.

However, prior to authorizing the use of grant funds to prosecute non-Indian offenders, OVW will assess the tribe's readiness to exercise SDVCJ. To do so, grantees must submit a completed questionnaire and supporting certifications. The background for the requirement is explained in the Federal Register (www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-11-29/pdf/2013-28653.pdf) and the Questionnaire can be found in the Tribal Jurisdiction solicitation, Appendix D. **Read the Tribal Jurisdiction solicitation for all the details.**

Get Technical Assistance

Organizations that can assist OVW grantees and potential grantees:

- National Congress of American Indians
www.ncai.org
- Tribal Law and Policy Institute
www.tlpi.org
- National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges www.ncjfcj.org

OVW staff who can answer questions:

- Rebekah Jones, Grant Program Specialist,
Rebekah.Jones@usdoj.gov
- Nicole Ashley, Program Assistant,
Nicole.Ashley@usdoj.gov, (202) 616-0039

Resources

Tribal Implementation of VAWA: Resource Center for Implementing Tribal Provisions of VAWA
www.ncai.org/tribal-ava

Intertribal Technical-Assistance Working Group on Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction (ITWG)
www.ncai.org/tribal-ava/pilot-project-itwg/about-itwg

Office on Violence Against Women

- Open Solicitations
www.justice.gov/ovw/open-solicitations
- How to Apply
<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/how-apply>
- Solicitation Companion Guide
www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/ovw/legacy/2013/12/16/companion-guide-fy2014.pdf
- Technical Assistance Providers <https://ta2ta.org/>
- Grant Management Webinars
<https://ta2ta.org/ta-updates/48-ovw-webinars.html>

Department of Justice Financial Guide, 2015
www.justice.gov/ovw/file/892031/download

National Institute of Justice

- Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women Program of Research
<http://www.nij.gov/topics/tribal-justice/vaw-research/pages/welcome.aspx>
- NIJ study, "Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women and Men" by Andre Rosay
<http://www.nij.gov/journals/277/Pages/violence-against-american-indians-alaska-natives.aspx>

Definitions

- "Indian tribal government"
www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/01/29/2016-01769/indian-entities-recognized-and-eligible-to-receive-services-from-the-united-states-bureau-of-indian
- "Indian Country"
[http://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=\(title:18%20section:1151%20edition:prelim\)](http://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?req=(title:18%20section:1151%20edition:prelim))