

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

## OVW Fiscal Year 2019 Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program

## **Solicitation**

## Release Date: on or about January 16, 2019

## Eligibility

Eligible applicants are limited to: Indian tribes, tribal consortiums, tribal organizations, and nonprofit tribal organizations. (See "Eligibility Information")

## Deadlines

Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (E.T.) on March 5, 2019. (See "<u>Submission Dates and Times</u>")

**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 <u>Grants.gov</u>. To ensure sufficient time to complete the registration process, applicants must obtain a DUNS Number and register online with SAM and with <u>Grants.gov</u> immediately, but no later than February 19, 2019.

(See "<u>Registration</u>")

**Letter of Intent**: Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a Letter of Intent to <u>OVW.Tribal.SASP@usdoj.gov</u> by February 19, 2019. This letter confirms that the applicant has registered with SAM and <u>Grants.gov</u>. 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 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 <u>OVW.Tribal.SASP@usdoj.gov</u>. Alternatively, interested parties may call OVW at (202) 307-6026.

### **Submission and Notification Information**

**Submission:** Applications for this program will be submitted through <u>Grants.gov</u>. For technical assistance with <u>Grants.gov</u>, contact the <u>Grants.gov</u> Customer Support Line at 1-800-518-4726.

The Grants.gov number assigned to this announcement is OVW-2019-15603.

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

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## OVW Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program (CFDA 16.024)

## A. Program Description

#### Overview

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is a component of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ). Created in 1995, OVW administers grant programs authorized by the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and subsequent legislation and provides national leadership on issues of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. OVW grants support coordinated community responses to hold offenders accountable and serve victims.

#### About the OVW Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program

This program is authorized by 34 U.S.C. § 12511(e). The Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program (TSASP) supports projects to create, maintain, and expand sustainable sexual assault services provided by Tribes, tribal organizations, and nonprofit tribal organizations within Indian country and Alaska Native villages.

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

#### **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 <u>DOJ Financial Guide</u>, including updates to the guide after an award is made, the section of the <u>Solicitation Companion Guide</u> entitled "Post-Award Requirements for All Federal Award Recipients," and the conditions of the award.

#### **Purpose Areas**

Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 12511(e), funds under this program must be used to support the establishment, maintenance, and expansion of programs and projects within Indian country and Alaska Native villages to provide direct intervention and related assistance to those victimized by sexual assault.

By statute (34 U.S.C. § 12511(a)(2)(C), direct intervention and related assistance includes:

- 1) 24-hour hotline services providing crisis intervention services and referral.
- 2) Accompaniment and advocacy through medical, criminal justice, and social support systems, including medical facilities, police, and court proceedings.
- 3) Crisis intervention, short-term individual and group support services, and comprehensive service coordination and supervision to assist sexual assault victims and family or household members.
- 4) Information and referral to assist the sexual assault victim and family or household members.
- 5) Community-based, culturally specific services and support mechanisms, including outreach activities for underserved communities.
- 6) The development and distribution of materials on issues related to the services described in (1) (5).

#### **OVW Priority Areas**

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

Improve services for and/or the response to victims of sex trafficking and other severe forms of trafficking in persons who have also experienced sexual assault (hereinafter referred to as "victims of trafficking").

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

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

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

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

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

- 1. Research projects (This does not include program assessments conducted only for internal improvement purposes. For information about DOJ regulations on research involving human subjects, see "Research and Protection of Human Subjects" in the <u>Solicitation Companion Guide</u>).
- 2. Activities focused on prevention efforts and public education (e.g., bystander intervention, social norms campaigns, presentations on healthy relationships).
- 3. Criminal justice-related projects, including law enforcement, prosecution, courts, and forensic interviews.
- 4. Providing domestic violence or dating violence victim services unrelated to intimate partner sexual violence.
- 5. Sexual Assault Forensic Medical Examiner programs.
- 6. Sexual Assault Response Team coordination.
- 7. Providing training to allied professionals and the community (e.g., law enforcement, child protection services, prosecution, other community based organizations or tribal agencies).

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**

Grantees must receive prior approval before using grant funds to support surveys.

### B. Federal Award Information

#### Availability of Funds

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

#### Award Period and Amounts

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

This program typically makes awards in the range of \$275,000 - \$325,000. OVW estimates that it will make up to 10 awards for an estimated \$3,000,000.

Awards under this program for FY 2019 will be made for up to \$325,000 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.

Awards will be made as grants.

#### **Types of Applications**

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

<u>New</u>: applicants that have never received funding under this program or whose previous funding expired more than 12 months ago.

<u>Continuation</u>: applicants that have an existing or recently closed (within the last 12 months) award under this program. Continuation funding is not guaranteed.

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

Additionally, current grantees with 50% or more of funds remaining in their current award, as of March 31, 2019, will not be considered for funding or may receive a reduced award amount if selected for funding in FY 2019.

#### **Mandatory Program Requirements**

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

- 1. OVW-sponsored training and technical assistance, which may include, but is not necessarily limited to: New Grantee Orientation; Annual Tribal Governments Summit; and biennial National Conference on Sex Trafficking in Indian Country.
- 2. Providing direct sexual assault victim services

- a. Core sexual assault victim services must include: crisis intervention; advocacy and accompaniment; information and referral; counseling; support groups; and support for those collaterally affected by the victimization including the victim's non-offending family or household members; **and**
- b. Services for survivors of sexual assault perpetrated by persons other than intimate partners. Proposed projects must serve a broad range of survivors.

Applications failing to address **both** of the above requirements may receive a deduction in points during the review process and/or be required to revise project goals and objectives to include a planning phase prior to receiving an award.

## 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. Applicants are responsible for demonstrating eligibility to apply by providing documentation to demonstrate the organization meets all of the elements of the definition relevant to their organization type. In addition, an application that is deemed deficient in one or more of the following categories may not be considered for funding: 1. activities that compromise victim safety, 2. out-of-scope activities, 3. unallowable costs, 4. Pre-Award Risk Assessment, 5. completeness, and 6. timeliness. Further, an applicant with past performance issues, long-standing open audits, or an open criminal investigation also may not be considered for funding.

#### **Eligible Applicants**

The following entities are eligible to apply for this program:

- Indian Tribes;
- Tribal Consortiums;
- Tribal Organizations; and
- Nonprofit Tribal Organizations.

For the purposes of this solicitation, the following definitions apply:

#### Indian Tribe<sup>1</sup>

A tribe, band, pueblo, nation, or other organized group or community of Indians, including any Alaska Native village or regional or village corporation (as defined in, or established pursuant to, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. § 1601 et seq.)), that is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians.

#### Tribal Consortium

A coalition of two or more separate Indian Tribes that join together for the purpose of participating in self-governance.

#### Nonprofit Tribal Organization<sup>2</sup>

(A) A victim services provider that has as its primary purpose to assist Native victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 12291(36).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 12291(37) (definition of "tribal nonprofit organization.")

(B) Staff and leadership of the organization must include persons with a demonstrated history of assisting American Indian or Alaska Native victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

#### Tribal Organization<sup>3</sup>

(A) The governing body of any Indian Tribe; or

(B) Any legally established organization of Indians which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body of a Tribe or Tribes to be served, or which is democratically elected by the adult members of the Indian community to be served by such organization and which includes the maximum participation of Indians in all phases of its activities.

Note: Without evidence of eligibility under one of the above categories, tribal health consortiums and Alaska Native health corporations are not eligible based simply on the fact they are incorporated as a consortium or corporation. For applicants applying as a tribal consortium, the applicant must submit documentation of authority to apply from each tribal consortium member, unless existing consortium bylaws or other tribal governance documents allow action without explicit authorization from the member tribes in the consortium. In that case, a copy of the bylaws or other governance documents that allow the tribal consortium's action, without explicit support from all consortium members, must be included with the application. This documentation must be current, must be sufficient to demonstrate authority for the application, must contain authorized signature(s), and must be submitted by the application due date.

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

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

#### Nonprofit Organization Requirement – Offshore Accounts

Any nonprofit organization that holds money in offshore accounts for the purpose of avoiding paying the tax described in section 511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code is not eligible for a grant from this program. See 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(16)(B)(ii).

#### **Cost Sharing or Matching**

This program has no match or cost sharing requirement.

#### **Other Program Eligibility Requirements**

In addition to meeting the eligible entity requirements outlined above, applications for this program must also meet the requirements below. All certification and other eligibility related documents must be current and developed in accordance with the FY 2019 solicitation. Applications that do not meet all of the program eligibility requirements below will not be considered for funding under TSASP.

#### Eligible Service Area

Eligibility is limited to Indian tribes, tribal consortiums, tribal organizations, and nonprofit tribal organizations with programs and activities within Indian country and Alaska Native villages.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 12291(38).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The term "Alaska Native village" has the same meaning given such term in the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. §§ 1601 et seq.).

Under 18 U.S.C. § 1151, the term "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."

#### Limit on Number of Applications

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

### D. Application and Submission Information

#### Address to Request Application Package

The complete application package (this solicitation, including links to required forms) is available on <u>Grants.gov</u> or the <u>OVW website</u>. Applicants wishing to request a paper copy of these materials should contact <u>OVW.Tribal.SASP@usdoj.gov</u> or at (202) 616-0039.

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

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

#### Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 3:00 pm E.T.

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

To register, contact the OVW Tribal Affairs Division at <u>OVW.Tribal.SASP@usdoj.gov</u> or at (202) 616-0039. 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 OVW Tribal Affairs Division Program Assistant at <u>OVW.Tribal.SASP@usdoj.gov</u> or at (202) 616-0039 as soon as possible, but no later than four weeks prior to the application deadline.

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

The information below ("**Letter of Intent**" through "**Additional Required Information**") describes the full content and form of application submission. For a complete checklist of required contents, see the "<u>Other Information</u>" section in this solicitation.

#### Letter of Intent

Applicants intending to apply for FY 2019 funding under this program are strongly encouraged to submit a Letter of Intent. The letter should state that the applicant is registered and current with SAM and with <u>Grants.gov</u>. The letter should be submitted to OVW at <u>OVW.Tribal.SASP@usdoj.gov</u> by February 19, 2019. This letter will not obligate the applicant to

submit an application. See <u>https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants</u> for a sample Letter of Intent.

#### Formatting and Technical Requirements

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

- 1. Double spaced (Project Abstract, Summary Data Sheet and charts may be single spaced)
- 2.  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 11$  inch paper
- 3. One-inch margins
- 4. Type no smaller than 12 point, Times New Roman font
- 5. Page numbers
- 6. No more than 15 pages for the Project Narrative
- 7. Word documents in the following formats: Microsoft Word (.doc), PDF files (.pdf), or Text Documents (.txt).
- 8. Headings and sub-headings that correspond to the sections identified in this section of the solicitation.

#### **Application Contents**

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

- 1. Project Narrative
- 2. Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative
- 3. Documents demonstrating authority to apply

#### 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 15 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-ofcontact. This person must be an employee of the applicant.
- 3. Statement as to whether the applicant (the organization whose DUNS number is being used for the application) will serve as a fiscal agent/sponsor for an entity or entities that will implement the project, and the applicant itself will not be involved with implementation of the project beyond issuing subaward(s) to these entities. If this is the case, the applicant also must list these subrecipients and include a statement acknowledging that, should an award be made, the applicant will be responsible for all applicable statutory, fiscal, and programmatic requirements, including those of <u>2 C.F.R.</u> Part 200, as well as all project deliverables. In such situations, the fiscal agent/sponsor must be an eligible applicant for the program.
- 4. Statement as to whether the applicant has expended \$750,000 in federal funds in the applicant's past fiscal year. If so, specify the end date of the applicant's fiscal year.
- 5. Summary of current and pending OVW grants (if applicable). If the applicant has a current grant or cooperative agreement under any OVW grant program or an award that

has been closed within the last 12 months from the date this solicitation closes, the information must be provided in a table using the sample format found on the OVW website <u>https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants</u>. 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.

- Statement as to whether the applicant is a nonprofit organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that Code.
- A list of other federal grant programs from which the applicant currently receives funding or for which it has applied for funding in FY 2019 to do similar work. Provide this information in a table using the sample format found on the OVW website <u>https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants</u>.
- 8. Statement as to whether the applicant is a nonprofit organization that holds money in offshore accounts for the purpose of avoiding paying the tax described in section 511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- 9. Statement as to whether the applicant is a nonprofit organization that uses the Internal Revenue Service's three-step safe-harbor procedure to establish a rebuttable presumption that its executives' compensation is reasonable. If the applicant is not a nonprofit organization or is a nonprofit that does not use the safe-harbor procedure, provide a statement to that effect. For additional information about the safe-harbor procedure, see "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation" in the <u>Additional Required Information</u> section.
- 10. Statement as to whether the application addresses the trafficking priority area.
- 11. Geographic area to be served by the project.
- 12. Based on the definitions contained at <u>Eligibility Information</u>, provide a statement identifying the applicant as a(n):
  - a) Indian tribe;
  - b) tribal consortium;
  - c) tribal organization; or
  - d) nonprofit tribal organization.

#### Proposal Abstract (not scored)

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

#### **Project Narrative (70 Points Total)**

The Project Narrative may not exceed 15 pages, double-spaced. The Project Narrative must include the following three sections:

#### Purpose of Application (20 points)

This section must:

- 1. Describe the tribal community(ies) to be served.
  - o Geographic location;

- Demographic profile of the populations in the service area (e.g., tribal and nontribal residents, poverty rate, workforce profile, or other relevant information).<sup>5</sup>
- 2. Using local statistics and narrative accounts (reference the data source), describe the problem of sexual assault within the tribal community.
- 3. Specifically detail and discuss data regarding the target population(s) to be served by the proposed project.
- 4. For each of the following community resources, describe services currently available as they pertain to sexual assault victims and their household and non-offending family members. Include both tribal and non-tribal resources. Specifically discuss gaps and/or barriers to accessing the services for American Indian/Alaska Native sexual assault survivors and their family or household members. If the resource does not exist in the service area, specifically state such.
  - Victim advocacy program(s);
  - Law enforcement;
  - Civil and Criminal Courts;
  - Sexual assault forensic exams and follow-up health care services; and
  - Mental health services adult and child.
- 5. Clearly state the need for the project.

#### What Will Be Done (35 points)

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

This section must:

- 1. Clearly define the measurable goals, objectives, activities, timeline for implementation (by project month or quarter), and person responsible for each task of the proposed project.
- 2. Clearly describe how the proposed project has considered, and will meet, the unique cultural concerns and needs of sexual assault survivors, and their families, within the tribal community(ies) to be served.
- 3. Clearly describe how the proposed project has considered, and will ensure, outreach and response to a broad range of survivors of sexual violence.
- 4. Applicants who state that their funded project(s) will provide direct services specifically tailored to victims of trafficking should demonstrate how outreach and services will address the unique needs of these victims.
- 5. Discuss, in detail, how victim safety and recovery will be enhanced through the proposed project.
- 6. Describe how the proposed project will be accessible to individuals with disabilities, individuals who are Deaf or hard of hearing, and persons with limited English proficiency.
- 7. Describe how the community will benefit from the project.

**NOTE:** Activities must be directly related to the provision of direct intervention and related assistance for sexual assault victims, family and household members of such victims, and those collaterally affected by the victimization, except for the perpetrator of such victimization. Core victim services must include, at minimum: <u>crisis intervention; advocacy and</u> <u>accompaniment; information and referral; counseling; support groups; and support for</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Applicants should use U.S. Census and other government data, as well as the Limited English Proficient Mapping Tool, available at <u>www.lep.gov/maps/</u>, to obtain this information.

## those collaterally affected by the victimization, including non-offending family and household members.

Goals, objectives, and activities **must also** include responses to survivors beyond intimate partner sexual violence and include a range of survivors. In consideration of funding limitations and community needs, applicants may choose to focus on a specific age range.

#### <u>Who Will Implement the Project</u> (15 points)

For an applicant applying as an <u>Indian Tribe:</u>

- 1. Describe where the victim services program responsible for implementing the grant project is situated within the Tribe's governmental structure (e.g. independent sexual assault response program, dual services domestic violence/sexual assault program, a component of a social services or behavioral health department).
- 2. Describe the overall services provided by the tribal government component where the proposed project will be situated.
- 3. Identify the key individuals involved in the proposed project.
- 4. Demonstrate that the individuals identified have the capacity to address the stated need, including the expertise necessary to appropriately serve any marginalized and/or underserved populations identified in the Purpose of the Application section, and can successfully implement the proposed project activities.

For an applicant applying as a <u>tribal consortium</u>, <u>tribal organization</u>, or <u>nonprofit tribal</u> <u>organization</u>:

- 1. Describe the overall services provided by the agency/organization responsible for implementing the grant project.
- 2. Describe how the organization partners with the federally recognized Indian Tribe(s) within its service area to provide sexual assault direct victim services to victims and their families.
- 3. Identify the key individuals involved in the proposed project.
- 4. Demonstrate that the individuals and organizations identified have the capacity to address the stated need, including the expertise necessary to appropriately serve any marginalized and/or underserved populations identified in the Purpose of the Application section, and can successfully implement the proposed project activities.

#### Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative (20 Points)

All applications must include a detailed budget and budget narrative. A sample Budget Detail Worksheet is available on the OVW website at <u>https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants</u>. 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

- The grant award period is 36 months. Budgets must reflect 36 months of project activity.
- Awards for FY 2019 will be made for up to \$325,000.

The budget and budget narrative will be reviewed separately from the proposed project narrative. The budget narrative must describe each line item requested in the budget and explain all costs included in the budget, including how the costs of goods and services are determined and how they will fulfill the objectives of the project.

The budget must:

- 1. Display a clear link between the specific project activities and the proposed budget items and not contain items that are not supported by the project narrative.
- 2. Include funds to attend OVW-sponsored training and technical assistance in the amount of \$15,000 for tribes and organizations located in the lower 48 states and \$17,000 for those in Alaska. This amount is for the entire 36 month project period 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.
- Include funds or describe other resources available to the applicant to support activities to ensure access for individuals with disabilities, Deaf/hard of hearing individuals, and persons with limited English proficiency. See <u>Accessibility</u> under F. <u>Federal Award</u> <u>Administration Information</u> for more information.
- 4. Compensate all project partners as reflected in the Letters of Support. For more information on compensating project partners, see the sample Budget Detail Worksheet on the OVW website at <u>https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants</u>.
- 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 <u>Solicitation Companion Guide</u> on the OVW website at <u>https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants</u>.

In addition, by statute, no more than 5% of funds received under this program may be used for administrative costs.

OVW awards are governed by the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200 and the <u>DOJ Financial Guide</u>, 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 <u>Funding Restrictions</u> section of this solicitation and the sample Budget Detail Worksheet on the OVW website at https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants.

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

• For an applicant applying as an <u>Indian Tribe</u>:

Submit a document demonstrating eligibility (see "<u>Eligible Entities</u>" and "<u>Eligible Service</u> <u>Area</u>"), authority to apply, and support for the application. This document could be a tribal resolution or letter on tribal letterhead signed by the <u>Authorized Representative</u>.

- For an applicant applying as a <u>tribal consortium</u>, <u>tribal organization</u>, or <u>nonprofit tribal</u> <u>organization</u>:
  - Submit documents demonstrating eligibility (see "<u>Eligible Entities</u>" and "<u>Eligible Service Area</u>") and authority to apply; and
  - Submit a letter of support from one or more of the Tribes to be served through the proposed project. For purposes of this application, a letter of support is a document, from a federally-recognized Tribe, demonstrating its support for the applicant agency's proposed project. The letter of support must be dated and signed by the <u>Authorized Representative</u> of the Tribe during the development of the application.

The Letter(s) of Support must:

- 1. Address whether the Tribe is familiar with the types of services provided by the applicant AND whether these services are available and provided to tribal members;
- 2. Describe whether the Tribe has previously worked or partnered with the applicant organization, and if so, under what circumstances; and
- 3. Clearly explain why the Tribe supports the applicant's proposed project.

#### Additional Required Information

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

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

#### Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

Applicants must complete the SF-424 on Grants.gov. 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 requires a match; therefore, the values for the Applicant line should be zero. The individual who is listed in "**Authorized Representative**" must be an individual who has the authority to apply for and accept grant awards on behalf of the organization or jurisdiction.

<u>Standard Assurances and Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension, and</u> <u>Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (Form 4061/6)</u> Carefully review the assurances and certification forms online. Applicants will receive a request to compile these forms online during the application submission process. All applicants must complete the *Disclosure of Lobbying Activities* (SF-LLL) form. Applicants that expend any funds for lobbying activities must provide the detailed information requested on the form. Applicants that do not expend any funds for lobbying activities should enter "N/A" in the required highlighted fields.

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

#### Applicant Financial Capability Questionnaire (if applicable)

All nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations that apply for funding from OVW and have not previously (or within the last three years) received funding from OVW must complete an Applicant Financial Capability Questionnaire. In addition, applicants may be required to submit their current year's audit report at a later time. The questionnaire can be found at <a href="https://www.justice.gov/ovw/file/866126/download">https://www.justice.gov/ovw/file/866126/download</a>.

#### **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 <a href="http://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/ovw/pages/attachments/2015/01/20/confidentiality">http://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/ovw/pages/attachments/2015/01/20/confidentiality</a> acknowledgement form 42015.pdf. This form must be signed by the <a href="http://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/ovw/pages/attachments/2015/01/20/confidentiality">http://www.justice.gov/sites/default/files/ovw/pages/attachments/2015/01/20/confidentiality</a> acknowledgement form 42015.pdf.

<u>Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation (if applicable)</u> An applicant that is a nonprofit organization may be required to make certain disclosures relating to the processes it uses to determine the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees, and key employees.

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

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

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

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

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

#### Pre-Award Risk Assessment

Each applicant must respond to the questions below. This information will be used for a mandatory pre-award risk assessment. Failure to provide this information or to respond to questions from OVW regarding this information in a timely manner could result in the applicant being removed from consideration or a delay in access to funds. Provide complete responses that address all questions included for each numbered item. This section of the application should be no more than four pages.

- 1. Will all funds awarded under this program be maintained in a manner that they will be accounted for separately and distinctly from other sources of revenue/funding? Provide a brief description of the applicant's policies and procedures that ensure funds will be tracked appropriately.
- 2. Does the applicant have written accounting policies and procedures? How often are these policies and procedures updated? Provide a brief list of the topics covered in the applicant's policies and procedures. OVW may request a copy for review during the application/award process or as part of the grant monitoring process.
- 3. Is the applicant's financial management system able to track actual expenditures and outlays with budgeted amounts for each grant or subgrant? Provide a brief summary of the organization's process for tracking expenditures, including tracking budgeted versus actual amounts.
- 4. Does the applicant have procedures in place for minimizing the time between transfer of funds from the United States Treasury and disbursement for project activities? Provide a short summary of the applicant's policy for requesting payments for grant awards.
- 5. Does the applicant have effective internal controls in place to ensure that federal funds are used solely for authorized purposes? Provide a brief description of the applicant's internal controls that will provide reasonable assurance that the award funds will be managed properly.
- 6. Does the applicant have a documented records retention policy? If so, briefly describe the policy and confirm that the policy complies with federal regulations. Information on Record Retention and Access can be found at 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.333-200.337.
- 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 <u>DOJ</u> <u>Financial Guide</u> 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 <u>OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov</u> or 1-888-514-8556 immediately after the applicant is notified of its award to coordinate training.

- 9. Does the applicant have policies and procedures in place to manage subawards and monitor activities of subrecipients as necessary to ensure that subawards are used for authorized purposes, in compliance with laws, regulations, and terms and conditions of the award, and that established subaward performance goals are achieved (2 C.F.R. §§ 200.330-200.332)? Provide a brief description of the organization's policies and procedures on subrecipient management and monitoring.
- 10. Does the applicant currently require employees to maintain time distribution records that accurately reflect the work performed on specific activities or cost objectives in order to support the distribution of employees' salaries among federal awards or other activities (2 C.F.R. § 200.430)? Budget estimates do not qualify as support for charges to federal awards. Provide a brief description of the organization's established timekeeping policies and procedures.

#### Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

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

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

#### Letter of Nonsupplanting

Applicants must submit a letter to OVW's Director, signed by the <u>Authorized Representative</u>, 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 <u>https://www.justice.gov/ovw/resources-applicants</u>.

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

As noted under Eligible Applicants, an entity that is eligible for the TSASP based on its status as a nonprofit organization must be an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of the Code. All such applicants are required to submit a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service recognizing their tax-exempt status. OVW cannot make an award to any nonprofit organization that does not submit a 501(c)(3) determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service.

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

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

Federal regulations require that an applicant (1) be registered in SAM.gov prior to submitting an application; (2) provide a valid DUNS number in its application; and (3) continue to maintain an

active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active federal award or an application under consideration by a federal awarding agency. Also, federal agencies may not make an award to an applicant until that applicant has complied with all applicable DUNS and SAM requirements. If an applicant has not fully complied with these requirements by the time that OVW is ready to make an award, then OVW may make the determination that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award and use that determination as a basis for making the award to another applicant.

SAM centralizes information about grant recipients and also provides a central location for grant recipients to change organizational information. <u>Grants.gov</u> uses SAM to establish roles and IDs for electronic grant applicants.

If the applicant already has an Employer Identification Number (EIN), the SAM registration will take **up to two weeks to process**. If the applicant does not have an EIN, then **the applicant should allow two to five weeks for obtaining an EIN from the Internal Revenue Service. There is no fee associated with these processes. Additionally, these processes cannot be expedited.** OVW strongly discourages applicants from paying a third party to apply or register on their behalf in an attempt to expedite these processes. To ensure all applicants are able to apply by the deadline for this solicitation, applicants must have obtained a DUNS number and registered online with the SAM and with <u>Grants.gov</u> no later than February 19, 2019.

#### Submission Dates and Times

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

<b>Applicant Action</b>	Information	Dates/Deadline
Apply for a DUNS number	Obtain a DUNS number at the following website http://www.dnb.com/us/ or call (866) 705-5711.	February 19, 2019
Register with SAM	Access the SAM online registration through the <u>SAM</u> homepage at <u>https://www.sam.gov/portal/SAM/#1#1</u> 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</b> <b>registration at least once a year to maintain an</b> <b>active status.</b>	February 19, 2019
Register with <u>Grants.gov</u>	Once the SAM registration becomes active, the applicant will be able to complete the Grants.gov registration (see <u>Other Submission Requirements</u> for more information on registering for and using Grants.gov).	February 19, 2019
Submit Letter of Intent	Contact the POC at <u>OVW.Tribal.SASP@usdoj.gov</u> and (202) 616-0039.	February 19, 2019

Download Updated Version of Adobe Request	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 <u>Grants.gov</u> , visit the following link: <u>http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/adobe- software-compatibility.html</u> . Applicants that cannot submit an application	At least 48 hours before application deadline of 11:59 p.m. E.T. on March 5, 2019 February 19, 2019
Hardcopy Submission (If Needed)	electronically due to lack of internet access must contact the POC at <u>OVW.Tribal.SASP@usdoj.gov</u> or (202) 616-0039 to request permission to submit a hardcopy application.	1 coldary 13, 2013
Begin Application Submission Process	Applications must be submitted electronically via <u>Grants.gov.</u>	Begin by 11:59 p.m. E.T. on March 3, 2019
Complete Application Submission Process	<u>Grants.gov</u>	11:59p.m. E.T. on March 5, 2019
Confirmation of Application Receipt	<ol> <li>Authorized Organization Representatives (AORs) should closely monitor their email for any notification from <u>Grants.gov</u> about a possible failed submission. The AOR is a user role within Grants.gov for a user who is authorized to submit applications on behalf of the organization.</li> </ol>	Submitting the application at least 48 hours before the application deadline of 11:59 p.m. E.T. on March 5, 2019 will enable the applicant to
	2. The AOR should receive a minimum of two emails from <u>Grants.gov</u> . 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.	receive notice of a failed submission and provide an opportunity to correct the error before the deadline.
	OVW does not send out these notifications, nor does OVW receive a copy of these notifications. It is the responsibility of the applicant to notify OVW of any problems with the application submission process.	

#### OVW Policy on Late Submissions

Applications submitted after **11:59 p.m. E.T.** on **March 5, 2019** will not be considered for funding, unless the applicant receives OVW permission to submit a late application. In limited circumstances, OVW will approve a request to submit an application after the due date. The charts below provide a description of the circumstances under which OVW will consider such

requests. OVW's approval of a late submission request is not an indication of the application's final disposition. Applications approved for late submission are still subject to all of the review process and criteria described in this solicitation.

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

Severe Inclement Weather or Natural Disaster			
<ol> <li>Documennatural disspecific in without poper display the specific in without poper display the specific display the specifi</li></ol>	<ol> <li>Document when the severe inclement weather or natural disaster occurred, the impacted area, and the specific impact on the applicant/partners (e.g., without power for "x" days, office closed for "x" days).</li> <li>Contact OVW at the earliest possible date and provide the information described in #1.</li> <li>Contact OVW at least 24 hours prior to the application deadline to request a late submission. Applicants impacted by severe inclement weather or a natural disaster occurring on the deadline must contact OVW within 72 hours after the due date or as soon as communications are restored.</li> </ol>		
Exportionating To	obnical Difficultion Boyond the Applicant'	s Reasonable Control	
Issue	chnical Difficulties Beyond the Applicant' Applicant Action	OVW Policy	
Issue with <u>SAM</u> or <u>Grants.gov</u> Registration	<ol> <li>Register and/or confirm existing registration at least 3 weeks prior to the application due date to ensure that the individual who will be submitting the application has <u>SAM</u> and <u>Grants.gov</u> access and is the person registered to submit on behalf of the applicant.</li> <li>Maintain documentation of when registration began, any issues related to registration, and all communication with technical support.</li> <li>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>	Failure to begin the SAM or <u>Grants.gov</u> registration process in sufficient time (i.e., by the date identified in this solicitation) is not an acceptable reason for late submission.	
Experiencing Unforeseeable Technical Difficulties During the Application Submission Process	<ol> <li>Document when the applicant began the submission process.</li> <li>Contact <u>Grants.gov</u> for technical support at least 24 hours prior to the application deadline.</li> <li>Maintain documentation of all communication with <u>Grants.gov</u> support.</li> </ol>	Common foreseeable technical difficulties for which OVW will not approve a late submission requests include: a. Using an outdated version of Adobe Acrobat; and	

<ol> <li>Contact the POC for this program at <u>OVW.Tribal.SASP@usdoj.gov</u> or (202) 616-0039 indicating that the applicant is experiencing technical difficulties and would like permission to submit a late application. Provide a telephone number and/or email address at which someone with the authority to submit the application and required documentation can be reached for the first 3 business days immediately following the application deadline.</li> <li>Respond promptly to communication from OVW requesting the complete application package, applicant DUNS Number, <u>Grants.gov</u> helpdesk tracking numbers, and any other relevant documentation.</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>b. Attachment rejection.</li> <li>Through <u>Grants.gov</u>, OVW can confirm when submission began.</li> <li>Applicants who start the submission process less than 24 hours before the deadline will not be considered for late submission.</li> <li>1. By beginning the application submission process 24-48 hours before the deadline, applicants should have sufficient time to receive notice of problems with their submissions and make necessary corrections.</li> <li>2. To ensure that attachments are not rejected, attachment attachment attachment attachment names should only include allowable characters. (See "Other Submission Requirements").</li> </ul>

#### Intergovernmental Review - Single Point of Contact Review

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

#### **Funding Restrictions**

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

#### Unallowable Costs

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

#### 1. Lobbying

- 2. Fundraising
- 3. Purchase of real property
- 4. Physical modifications to buildings, including minor renovations (such as painting or carpeting)
- 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 <a href="https://www.justice.gov/ovw/conference-planning">https://www.justice.gov/ovw/conference-planning</a>.

#### 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 <a href="https://www.justice.gov/ovw/conference-planning">https://www.justice.gov/ovw/conference-planning</a>. 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

#### Program Assessments

Grantees under this program are prohibited from using OVW funds to conduct research. They may use funds to assess their work for quality assurance and program improvement purposes only, such as by surveying training participants about the quality of training content and delivery or convening discussion forums with key stakeholders. Applicants considering such assessments must refer to the DOJ/OJP decision tree to ensure that the activity does not qualify

as human subjects research. For additional information on federal requirements related to assessments or surveys, see the <u>Solicitation Companion Guide</u>.

#### 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 <u>DOJ Financial Guide</u> for more information on pre-award costs.

#### **Other Submission Requirements**

As discussed in the <u>Submission Dates and Times</u> section above, applications must be submitted electronically via <u>Grants.gov</u>. 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 <u>Grants.gov</u> registration process. The applying organization must complete the <u>Grants.gov</u> registration process <u>prior to beginning an application for a federal grant</u>. The E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) must register the applicant organization with <u>Grants.gov</u>. The E-Biz POC oversees the applicant's <u>Grants.gov</u> transactions and assigns the AOR. The AOR submits the application to <u>Grants.gov</u> and must register with <u>Grants.gov</u> as well. In some cases the E-Biz POC is also the AOR for the applicant. Complete instructions can be found at <u>Grants.gov</u>.

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 <u>Grants.gov</u>. Grants.gov is <u>not</u> the Office of Justice Programs' (OJP) Grants Management System (GMS). If applicants experience difficulties at any point during this process, they should call the <u>Grants.gov</u> Customer Support Hotline at **1-800-518-4726**.

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

Characters Special Characters			
Upper case (A –	Parentheses ()	Curly braces { }	Square brackets []
Z)			
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 ampe	rsand (&) in XML, applic	ants must use the
Period (.)	"&" format.		

# Use simple titles for all documents, such as "FY 2019 OVW Project Narrative." Visit the Grants.gov website to review the most up-to-date guidelines about the use of specific characters.

#### Submitting a Grant Application

Grants.gov has updated its application tool. The legacy PDF application package was phased out and retired as of December 31, 2017. Grants.gov Workspace is now the standard

application method for applying for grants. Applicants should familiarize themselves with the Workspace format. For complete information and instructions on using Workspace (and other changes), go to the Workspace Overview page at <a href="https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/workspace-overview.html">https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/workspace-overview.html</a>.

The <u>Grants.gov</u> Help Desk can be reached at 1-800-518-4726 and is available 24/7, except federal holidays.

## E. Application Review Information

#### Criteria

Applications will be scored based on the degree to which the application responds to each section and addresses each element in the section. Furthermore, applications will be scored based upon the quality of the response and the level of detail provided. Each element **must** be addressed in the section in which it is requested. Points may be deducted if the applicant does not include the information in the appropriate section even if it is included elsewhere within the application. Each section will be reviewed as a separate document and will be scored as such. Specifically, for the [insert program], scoring will be as follows:

- 1. Summary data sheet: (5) points
- 2. Project narrative: (70) points, of which
  - A. Purpose of the project: (20) points
  - B. What will be done: (35) points
  - C. Who will implement: (15) points
- 3. Budget narrative and detail worksheet: (20) points
- 4. 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 fair and based on the criteria outlined in this solicitation. OVW may use internal reviewers, external reviewers, or a combination of both.

#### Programmatic Review

All applications that are considered for funding will be subject to a programmatic review. The programmatic review consists of assessing the application for compliance with the program's scope, activities that compromise victim safety, and, if applicable, past performance and priority area review. OVW reserves the right to deduct points from applications for the following reasons:

- 1. Activities that compromise victim safety and recovery and undermine offender accountability (deduct up to 25 points.)
- 2. Out-of-scope and unallowable activities (deduct up to 25 points)
- 3. Past performance (deduct up to 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 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;
- Appropriate use of and active participation in OVW-sponsored workshops and other technical assistance events as required by a special condition of the current or recent award;
- 7. Receipt of financial clearances on all current or recent grants from OVW;
- 8. Timely resolution of issues identified in any audit or on-site financial or programmatic monitoring visit;
- 9. Adherence to the Office of Management and Budget single-audit requirement
- 10. Timely expenditure of grant funds; and
- 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 funds until certain requirements are met. High-risk grantees with substantial or persistent performance or compliance issues, long-standing open audits, or open criminal investigations will likely not receive an additional OVW award until all issues are resolved.

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

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

### F. Federal Award Administration Information

#### **Federal Award Notices**

Successful applications will receive OVW award notifications electronically from the OJP Grants Management System (GMS) (not Grants.gov). This award notification will be sent to the individuals listed as the <u>Authorized Representative</u> 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 <u>Authorized Representative</u>, 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 <u>Solicitation Companion Guide</u> entitled "Post-Award Requirements for All Federal Award Recipients."

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

#### Violence Against Women Act Non-Discrimination Provision

The Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 added a civil rights provision that applies to all FY 2019 OVW grants. This provision prohibits OVW grantees from excluding, denying benefits to, or discriminating against any person on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability in any program or activity funded in whole or in part by OVW. For more information on this prohibition, see <a href="http://www.justice.gov/ovw/docs/faqs-ngc-vawa.pdf">http://www.justice.gov/ovw/docs/faqs-ngc-vawa.pdf</a>. Additional information on the civil rights obligations of OVW funding recipients can be found in the <a href="http://www.justice.gov/ovw/docs/faqs-ngc-vawa.pdf">Solicitation Companion Guide</a> 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 <u>Solicitation Companion Guide</u> 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 <u>OVW.Tribal.SASP@usdoj.gov</u> or (202) 616-0039; for financial questions, contact <u>OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov</u> or 1-888-514-8556; and for technical support, contact the <u>Grants.gov</u> Customer Support Line at 1-800-518-4726.

## 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).

Application Document	Date Completed
1. Letter of Intent	
2. Summary Data Sheet	
3. Project Narrative	
a) Purpose of the Application	
b) What Will Be Done	
c) Who Will Implement	
4. Proposal Abstract	
5. Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative	
6. Document(s) Demonstrating Authority to Apply	
7. Application for Federal Assistance: SF 424	
8. Standard Assurances and Certifications	
9. Applicant Financial Capability Questionnaire (if applicable)	
10. Confidentiality Notice Form	
11. Disclosures of Process Related to Executive	
Compensation	
12. Pre-Award Risk Assessment	
13. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)	

 14. Letter of Nonsupplanting

 15. Proof of 501(c)(3) Status (Nonprofit Organizations Only)

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

#### Public Reporting Burden - Paperwork Reduction Act Notice

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. OVW tries to create forms and instructions that are accurate, can be easily understood, and impose the least possible burden on applicants. The estimated average time to complete and file this form is 30 hours. Comments regarding the accuracy of this estimate or suggestions for simplifying this form can be submitted to the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice, 145 N Street, NE, Washington, DC 20530.