U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women



# OVW Fiscal Year 2022 Measuring Effectiveness Initiative Solicitation

Assistance Listing Number # 16.526

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-OVW-2022-171384

Solicitation Release Date: September 08, 2022 2:00 PM

Version: 2

Grants.gov Deadline: November 07, 2022 11:59 PM
Application JustGrants Deadline: November 09, 2022 9:00 PM

# **Eligible Applicants:**

Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments), Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education, Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education, Private institutions of higher education, Public and State controlled institutions of higher education

# Letter of Intent

Applicants are encouraged to submit a non-binding letter of intent to virginia.baran@usdoj.gov by October 31, 2022. Potential applicants who do not submit a letter can still apply. For more information, see the *Application and Submission Information* section of this solicitation.

# **Pre-Application Information Sessions**

No pre-application information sessions will be held. All questions should be directed to Ginger Baran Lyons at virginia.baran@usdoj.gov, (202) 598-9445.

# **Contact Information**

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, email virginia.baran@usdoj.gov or call (202) 598-9445.

#### **Submission Information**

**Registration:** To submit an application, all applicants must register online with the System for Award Management (SAM) and with Grants.gov. To ensure sufficient time to complete the registration process, applicants must register online with SAM and with Grants.gov immediately, and no later than October 31, 2022.

**Submission:** 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 the SF-424 and SF-LLL as early as possible, but not later than 24-48 hours before the Grants.gov deadline. For technical assistance with Grants.gov, contact Grants.gov Applicant Support at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov. For technical assistance with JustGrants, contact OVW JustGrants Support at 1-866-655-4482 or OVW.JustGrantsSupport@usdoj.gov.

For more information about registration and submission, see the Application and Submission Information section of this

solicitation.

# Notification

OVW anticipates notifying applicants of funding decisions by January 1, 2023.

# Contents

Contact Information	1
Program Description	5
Overview of OVW	5
Statutory Authority	5
About this OVW Program	5
Program Scope	6
Purpose Areas	6
OVW Priority Areas	6
Activities that Compromise Victim Safety and Recovery or Undermine Offender Accountability	
	7
Out-of-Scope Activities	7
Activities Requiring Prior Approval	7
Federal Award Information	7
Awards, Amounts and Durations	7
Availability of Funds	7
Types of Awards	8
Award Period and Amounts	8
Types of Applications	8
Mandatory Program Requirements	8
Eligibility Information	8
Eligible Applicants	8
Cost Sharing or Matching	9
Other Program Eligibility Requirements	9
Application and Submission Information	9
Address to Request Application Package	9
Content and Form of Application Submission	9
Formatting and Technical Requirements	9
Application Contents	10
Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)	10
Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)	10
Proposal Abstract	10
Data Requested with Application	10
Proposal Narrative	10
Budget and Associated Documentation	12
Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)	12
Funding Restrictions	12
Budget clearance does not constitute prior approval to hold a conference. Recipients must seek	
approval of these costs through the conference approval process.	13
Pre-Agreement Cost	13
Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)	13
Financial Management Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)	13
Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation	14
Letter(s) of Commitment (if applicable)	14
Additional Application Components	14
Letters of Nonsupplanting	14
Confidentiality Notice Form	15
Disclosures and Assurances	15

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	15
DOJ Certified Standard Assurances	15
Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items	15
DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility	
Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements	15
How to Apply	15
Submission Dates and Time	16
Application Review Information	18
Review Criteria	18
Review and Selection Process	18
Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates	19
Federal Award Administration Information	19
Federal Award Notices	19
Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements	19
General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements	20
Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)	20
Other Information	20
Public Reporting Burden- Paper Work Reduction Act Notice	20
Application Checklist	20
Survey Questions	21

# **Program Description**

#### Overview of OVW

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

# **Statutory Authority**

34 U.S.C. 10238

34 U.S.C. 12291(b)(11)

34 U.S.C. 12291(b)(7)

# **About this OVW Program**

The Violence Against Women Act Measuring Effectiveness Initiative (VAWA MEI) is categorized under CFDA #16.526 (Technical Assistance) and is permitted under the following statutes: 34 U.S.C. 12291(b)(11); 34 U.S.C. § 10238; and 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(7).

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) of 2005 requires that grantees report on the effectiveness of their VAWA-funded programs to the Attorney General, who, in turn, must report to Congress every two years on the effectiveness of grant-funded activities (P.L. No. 106-386, section 1003, codified at 34 U.S.C. § 10238). Some OVW grant programs also have specific reporting requirements as outlined in their respective authorizing legislation. In response to these reporting requirements, OVW developed annual and semi-annual performance reporting forms for each OVW grant program that track grant-funded activities and incorporate measures tied to program objectives. Grantees funded by OVW report consistent, quantitative data that can be aggregated to reflect the accomplishments within and across grant programs. The reporting forms also collect qualitative information on grantees' goals, objectives, activities, accomplishments, and remaining areas of need. OVW uses the information collected through these performance reports in different ways, including: monitoring grant activities, spotting training and technical assistance needs, providing information to a range of stakeholders on what has been accomplished with grant funds, identifying promising practices, meeting reporting obligations under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) and subsequent legislation, responding to the Department of Justice's data requests related to performance and budget, reporting to Congress, and responding to ad hoc data requests from within and outside government.

This solicitation is to fund the first 12 to 18 months of a five-year project to continue and enhance the VAWA MEI. Project activities will include: reviewing, cleaning, and analyzing data collected from grantee performance reports; maintaining that information in a database; working in partnership with OVW to fulfill reporting requirements; responding to data requests; providing ongoing training and technical assistance to OVW grantees on collecting data to assess their own performance and accurately completing their performance reports; assisting OVW in the preparation of reports to Congress and additional materials and analyses related to VAWA-funded activities; keeping abreast of newly published research and data related to gender-based violence and incorporating that information into reports and other materials; and creating tools to facilitate performance data collection, reporting, and analysis by formula program grantees and subgrantees.

#### **Award Period**

The award period is for five years, or 60 months. The recipient will be awarded a cooperative agreement with a five-year project period; however, the initial award will support between 12 and 18 months of project activity. The recipient may then apply, noncompetitively, for an additional 42-48 months of funding, in FY 2023. Any subsequent noncompetitive award will be made at the discretion of the OVW Director and past performance will be taken into account in determining whether to grant a noncompetitive award. Budgets must reflect between 12 and 18 months of project activity, and the total "estimated funding" on the SF-424 must reflect between 12 and 18 months. The award period will start on January 1, 2023.

# **Award Amounts**

Applicants should not exceed the award amount listed in this solicitation and should carefully consider the resources needed to successfully implement the proposed project. The award will be made for up to \$2.6 million

for between 12 and 18 months of activity. Reasonableness of the proposed budget will be a factor evaluated during the review of applications.

#### **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 this solicitation, the <u>DOJ Financial Guide</u>, including updates to the financial guide after an award is made, the <u>Solicitation Companion Guide</u>, and the conditions of the award.

The recipient of this cooperative agreement will work in cooperation with and under the direction of OVW. Activities under this project may include but are not limited to:

- Using in-person meetings, web-based forums, and other methods of providing training and technical assistance for grantees and subgrantees on how to collect and report data and complete performance reports;
- Developing and/or revising/updating self-paced online training tools and products for OVW grant programs;
- Responding in a timely manner to all requests for information from OVW, including ad hoc data requests;
- Maintaining a website that includes aggregate information about OVW grant programs, materials to facilitate
  effective completion of performance reports (including online training modules), a calendar of trainings, and
  instructions and tips on how to complete performance reports;
- Producing and distributing email alerts to grantees and subgrantees on issues relating to performance reporting on grant-funded activities and trainings;
- Translating materials into Spanish and other languages as needed;
- Reviewing, cleaning, and analyzing data collected from OVW performance reporting forms (twice per year for discretionary programs and once annually for formula programs);
- Developing and revising performance reporting schema, data dictionaries, and instructions for grant programs, including new programs;
- Drafting, revising, and finalizing biennial Reports to Congress on the effectiveness of OVW's discretionary grant programs and on the STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program and the SASP Formula Grant Program (which includes integrating current research and data from a variety of sources);
- Producing six-month data workbooks for each program, twice per year, and annually for formula programs;
- Producing and annually updating data briefs for each OVW discretionary program, presenting quantitative and qualitative data in visually appealing formats that can be easily understood by the general public; and
- Developing and launching a web-based technical assistance tool for performance reporting for STOP and SASP Formula administrators and subgrantees to facilitate the collection, reporting, review, and analysis of performance data. The specifics of this component of the project will be planned and executed in close collaboration with OVW.

The project will address OVW's discretionary and formula grant programs and all special initiatives, which together account for about 3,500 active awards at any given time. If and when new grant programs are funded, the project will cover them, as well. For information on OVW's grant programs, see OVW's website at http://www.justice.gov/ovw, including the fact sheet at: https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/914131/download.

# **Purpose Areas**

This initiative does not have purpose areas.

# **OVW Priority Areas**

In FY 2022, OVW is interested in supporting the priority areas identified below.

- 1. Advance racial equity as an essential component of ending sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.
- 2. Increase access to justice for all survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, including through exploration of survivor-centered criminal justice system reform.
- Strengthen efforts to prevent and end sexual assault, including victim services and civil and criminal justice responses.
- 4. Expand economic justice and financial advocacy for survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, including as a tool for violence prevention.
- Improve outreach, services, civil and criminal justice responses, prevention, and support for survivors of sexual
  assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking from underserved communities, particularly LGBTQ and
  immigrant communities.

It is OVW's expectation that the VAWA MEI project will contribute to these priorities by supporting grantees in documenting and reporting their grant-funded accomplishments and challenges, highlighting promising practices and

areas of remaining need that emerge from grantees' reports, assisting OVW in analyzing grantee-reported data as it pertains to OVW's priorities, and--to the extent possible--simplifying the data collection and reporting process for grantees.

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

OVW does not fund activities that jeopardize victim safety, deter or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims, or allow offenders to escape responsibility for their actions. Applications that propose any such activities may receive a deduction in points during the review process or may be eliminated from consideration. Information on activities that compromise victim safety and recovery or undermine offender accountability may be found in the <a href="Solicitation Companion Guide">Solicitation Companion Guide</a>.

# **Out-of-Scope Activities**

The activity listed below is out of the program scope and will not be supported by this program's funding. See also the list of unallowable costs in the *Funding Restrictions* section of this solicitation.

Research projects. Funds under this program may not be used to conduct research, defined in 28 C.F.R. § 46.102 as a systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. Surveys and focus groups, depending on their design and purpose, may constitute research and therefore be out-of-scope. Prohibited research does not include assessments conducted for internal improvement purposes only (see Limited Use of Funds below). For information on distinguishing between research and assessments, see the Solicitation Companion Guide.

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

# **Activities Requiring Prior Approval**

The activity listed below will require prior approval in order to be supported by grant funds (see the <u>Solicitation Companion</u> Guide for more information on relevant requirements).

1. Surveys, whether conducted as part of a program or needs assessment, or for any other purpose. Prior approval is necessary to determine whether the activity is within the scope of the award and meets the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act.

# **Federal Award Information**

#### **Solicitation Categories**

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

# **Awards, Amounts and Durations**

**Anticipated Number of Awards** 

Ί

Period of Performance Start Date 1/1/23 12:00 AM

Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation

\$2,600,000.00

#### **Additional Information**

This funding is for the initial 12 to 18 months of a five-year/60-month project. Total project funding for the full five years will be a minimum of \$7 million.

# **Availability of Funds**

OVW will award an initial 12 to 18 months of funding to one recipient, in an amount not to exceed \$2.6 million. OVW anticipates awarding funds to the recipient in future fiscal years, on a noncompetitive basis, to complete the full five-

**Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount of Awards** \$2,600,000.00

**Period of Performance Duration (Months)** 

18

year/60-month project, depending on availability of funds, any revisions to the expected activities and deliverables, and the recipient's performance and compliance. Anticipated funding for the initial 12 to 18 months of the project is higher than previous funding levels for the VAWA MEI to account for work related to developing and launching a reporting tool for formula program administrators and subgrantees. OVW anticipates that development of this reporting tool will account for between \$700,000 and \$1.1 million of the proposed budget for the initial 12 to 18 months of the project.

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 funding, depending on the merits of the applications and the availability of funding.

# **Types of Awards**

The award will be made as a cooperative agreement. Cooperative agreements are a type of award for which OVW expects to have ongoing, substantial involvement in project activities. Recipients must be willing to work closely with OVW on the implementation of the project and be willing to modify project activities at OVW's request in order to address the needs of grantees and/or emerging issues.

#### **Award Period and Amounts**

The award period is for five years, or 60 months. The recipient will be awarded a cooperative agreement with a five-year project period. However, the initial award will support 12 to 18 months of project activity. The recipient may then apply, noncompetitively, for an additional 42-48 months of funding. Any subsequent noncompetitive award will be made at the discretion of the OVW Director and past performance will be considered when determining whether to issue a noncompetitive award. Furthermore, any supplemental award issued noncompetitively will not extend the project beyond 60 total months of funding.

The Project Narrative and budget materials must reflect 12 to 18 months of project activity, and the total "estimated funding" on the SF-424 must reflect 12 to 18 months. Budgets must reflect the same number of months of project activity as delineated in the Project Narrative, and the total "estimated funding" on the SF-424 must reflect that same number of months. OVW anticipates that the award period will start January 1, 2023. Applicants should not exceed the award amounts listed in this solicitation and should carefully consider the resources needed to successfully implement the proposed project. The award will be made for up to \$2.6 million for 12 to 18 months of activity.

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.

# **Types of Applications**

OVW will accept applications for this solicitation from all eligible applicants, regardless whether they have ever received funding under an OVW TA initiative or have a current OVW TA Initiative award.

#### **Mandatory Program Requirements**

The recipient of funding under this program may be required to participate in:

- 1. OVW-sponsored training and technical assistance (TTA).
- 2. A program assessment necessitating the recipient's involvement. Therefore, recipients may be expected to dedicate some OVW-funded time and resources to participating in an assessment or evaluation.

# **Eligibility Information**

# **Eligible Applicants**

The following entities are eligible to apply:

- Native American tribal organizations (other than federally recognized tribal governments),
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education,
- Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education,
- · Private institutions of higher education, and
- Public and State controlled institutions of higher education.

#### Faith-Based and Community Organizations

Faith Based and community organizations, including culturally specific organizations, tribal organizations, and population specific organizations, that meet the eligibility requirements are eligible to receive awards under this solicitation (see "Faith-Based Organizations" on the OVW website for more information).

#### **Ineligible Entities and Disqualifying Factors**

Applications submitted by ineligible entities or that do not meet all program eligibility requirements will not be considered for funding. In addition, an application deemed deficient in one or more of the following categories may not be considered for funding: 1. activities that compromise victim safety, 2. out-of-scope activities, 3. unallowable costs, 4. pre-award risk assessment, 5. completeness of application contents, and 6. timeliness. Failure to comply fully with all applicable unique entity identifier and SAM requirements (see Application and Submission section for more information on these requirements) will result in removal from consideration. An applicant with past performance issues, long-standing open audits, or an open criminal investigation also may not be considered for funding.

**Note:** 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 matching or cost-sharing requirement.

#### Other Program Eligibility Requirements

Either directly or through partnerships, the recipient is required to have expertise in: a) providing training and technical assistance on a national scale related to data collection, reporting, and analysis under federal grant programs; and b) knowledge of the issues addressed by OVW's grant programs, meaning domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking, including an understanding of the dynamics of these crimes, their impact on victims, criminal justice system and victim services responses, and existing empirical knowledge about the effectiveness of approaches to addressing and preventing these crimes. This expertise must be demonstrated in the Project Narrative and, if applicable, letters of commitment.

# Limit on Number of Applications

OVW will consider only one application per organization. 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.

# **Application and Submission Information**

# **Address to Request Application Package**

The complete application package (this solicitation, including links to required forms) is available on Grants.gov and on the <a href="OVW website">OVW website</a>. Applicants wishing to request a paper copy of these materials should contact OVW.

# **Content and Form of Application Submission**

The information below (Letter of Intent through Submission Dates and Times) describes the full content and form of application submission.

# Letter of Intent

Applicants intending to apply for FY 2022 funding under this program are strongly encouraged to submit a letter of intent. The letter should state that the applicant is registered and current with SAM and with Grants.gov. The letter should be submitted to OVW at virginia.baran@usdoj.gov by October 31, 2022. This letter will not obligate the applicant to submit an application. See the <a href="https://ovw.ncbs.ncbs//ovw.ncbs/ncbs//ovw.ncbs//ov

# **Formatting and Technical Requirements**

Applications must follow the requirements below for all documents attached to the application, unless otherwise noted. Points may be deducted for applications that do not adhere to the following requirements:

• Double-spaced (charts may be single-spaced)

- 81/2 x 11 inch pages
- One-inch margins
- Type no smaller than 12 point, Times New Roman (TNR) or Arial font, except for footnotes, which may be in 10-point font
- · Correctly numbered pages
- · No more than 20 pages for the Project Narrative
- · Documents in the following formats: Microsoft Word (.doc), PDF files (.pdf), or Text Documents (.txt)
- · Headings and sub-headings that correspond to the sections identified in this section of the solicitation

#### **Application Contents**

Applications must include the required documents and demonstrate that the program eligibility requirements have been met. For a complete checklist of the application contents, see the Application Checklist in the Other Information section of this solicitation.

OVW will not contact applicants for missing items on the list below. Applications that do not include all the following documents will be considered substantially incomplete and will not be considered for funding:

- 1. Project Narrative
- 2. Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative

# Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

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

Applicants must complete the SF-424 in Grants.gov. The SF-424 is generated when the applicant begins the submission process in Grants.gov. For Type of Applicant (box 9), do not select "Other". The amount of federal funding requested in the "Estimated Funding" section of this form (box 18a) must match the amount of federal funding requested in the budget section of the application package. This program does not require a match; therefore, the value for the Applicant line (box 18b) should be zero. The individual who is listed as **Authorized Representative** (box 21) must be an individual who has the authority to apply for and accept grant awards on behalf of the organization or jurisdiction.

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

# Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)

All applicants must complete and submit the *Disclosure of Lobbying Activities* (SF-LLL) form in Grants.gov. Applicants that expend any funds for lobbying activities must provide the information requested on the SF-LLL. **Applicants that do not expend any funds for lobbying activities should enter "N/A" in the required highlighted fields.** 

# Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)

This section in the JustGrants application is pre-populated with the SF-424 data submitted in Grants.gov. Applicants are required to review the Standard Applicant Information and make edits as needed, confirm the Authorized Representative, verify the legal name and address, and enter the ZIP code(s) for the areas affected by the project.

# **Proposal Abstract**

The Project Abstract must provide a short summary (no more than two pages double-spaced) of the proposed project, including names of applicant and partners, project title, purpose of the project (including goal and intended outcome), primary activities for which funds are requested, who will benefit, products and deliverables, and how the applicant will measure progress in completing project goals and objectives. Applicants must not summarize past accomplishments in this section. The abstract, which is to be entered into a text box in JustGrants, will not be scored but is used throughout the review process.

# **Data Requested with Application**

The Data Requested with Application (DRA) includes two surveys that must be completed in JustGrants but are not scored: Pre-award Risk Assessment and Technical Assistance DRA. A list of the questions included in each survey appears at the end of this solicitation under the heading, Survey Questions. Applicants should click on the Survey Name to access and complete the survey.

# **Proposal Narrative**

The Project Narrative may not exceed 20 pages in length, double-spaced. The Project Narrative must include these three sections: What Will Be Done, Who Will Implement the Project, and Technical Assistance Delivery Methods. The total point value for the proposal narrative section is 80 points. Applicants must upload the Proposal Narrative as an attachment in JustGrants.

**NOTE**: In FY 2022 OVW anticipates funding the initial 12 to 18 months of a 60-month project for which OVW expects to issue noncompetitive, supplemental funding in future fiscal years. The Project Narrative should reflect between 12 and 18 months of project activity; it should NOT describe activities that will be undertaken in the 42 to 48 months of the project that will follow the initial funding period.

# What Will Be Done (30 points)

This section must:

- State the goals and objectives of the proposed project;
- Provide a summary of activities that will be undertaken during the first 12 to 18 months of the project to accomplish
  the project goals and objectives, as outlined in the Project Scope section of this solicitation, and provide a
  corresponding timeline for the completion of each activity;
- Provide a plan specific to the development and launch of a performance reporting technical assistance tool for formula program administrators and subgrantees; and
- Describe how the proposed project will be accessible to people with disabilities, people who are Deaf or hard of hearing, and people with limited English proficiency.

#### Who Will Implement the Project (35 points)

This section must demonstrate that the individuals and organization(s) involved in the proposed project have the capacity to address the needs outlined in this solicitation.

This section must:

- Identify organization(s) and individuals who will implement the project and describe the role of each. Provide an estimated percentage of time (or consultant hours) each individual will devote to the project.
- · Describe the capacity of the applicant and any partner organization(s) to undertake the project.
- Describe the proposed staffing (including consultants) for the project. Project staff should have experience the following areas:
  - Provision of training and technical assistance to recipients of federal grants, using various delivery methods and incorporating principles of adult learning;
  - Knowledge of the issues addressed by Violence Against Women Act grant programs, meaning domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking, including an understanding of the dynamics of these crimes, their impact on victims, criminal justice system and victim services responses, and existing empirical knowledge about the effectiveness of approaches to addressing and preventing these crimes.
  - Project management;
  - Management of large data sets;
  - Quantitative and qualitative data analysis (including experience using statistical and qualitative data analysis software); and
  - Writing and editing.
- If partnering with other entity(ies) on the proposed project, the application should include—separate from the Project Narrative and not counting against the 20-page limit—letter(s) of commitment from those entity(ies) (see Letter(s) of Commitment).

# **Technical Assistance Delivery Methods (15 points)**

This section must include the following:

- · Identify and describe how the proposed technical assistance will be delivered; and
- Explain how these methods match the needs of the target audience.

#### **Budget and Associated Documentation**

Applicants must complete the web-based budget form in JustGrants. Applicants also must upload the applicable associated documentation as described below under each heading. The budget worksheet and budget narrative are worth a total of **20 points** and will be reviewed separately from the proposal narrative. The associated documentation will not be scored, but failure to include it may result in removal from consideration or a delay in access to funding.

# **Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)**

Complete the web-based budget worksheet and narrative form for all applicable cost categories. 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. Each budget cost category includes a text box to enter the budget narrative for that section. See the sample budget and the Creating a Budget webinar available on the <a href="OVW website">OVW website</a>. 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 budget and budget narrative should reflect between 12 and 18 months of project activity and show align with the activities and timeline proposed in the Project Narrative. The award period is for five years, or 60 months. The recipient will be awarded a cooperative agreement with a five-year project period. However, the initial award will support between 12 and 18 months of project activity. The recipient may then apply, noncompetitively, for an additional 42-48 months of funding. Any subsequent noncompetitive award will be made at the discretion of the OVW Director.

**NOTE**: The Project Narrative should reflect between 12 and 18 months of project activity; it should NOT describe activities that will be undertaken during the 42 to 48 months of the project that will follow the initial funding period.

# The budget must:

- 1. Display a clear link between project activities and budget items. The budget should not contain items that are not supported by the Project Narrative.
- Include funds or describe other resources available to the applicant to ensure access for people with disabilities, Deaf/hard of hearing people, and people with limited English proficiency. See Accessibility under Federal Award Administration Information for more information.
- 3. Compensate all project partners for their full level of effort, unless otherwise stated in a Letter of Commitment. For more information on compensating project partners, see the sample Budget Detail Worksheet on the <a href="OVW website">OVW website</a>.
- 4. Include travel funds to support project staff attendance at approximately 8 new grantee orientation meetings and one STOP administrators meeting, for which dates and locations are not yet determined. Travel funds may be reallocated for other budget items if orientations and other OVW-sponsored meetings largely remain virtual.
- 5. Allocate between \$700,000 and \$1.1 million of the \$2.6 million available for the initial funding period, for the purposes of developing and launching a performance reporting tool for OVW formula program administrators and subgrantees. If the amount held aside for this task is less than \$700,000 or greater than \$1.1 million, a specific justification should be provided.
- 6. Distinguish clearly between subawards and contracts in allocating any grant funds to other entities. Pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.331, 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 and monitoring requirements in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317-200.327 & 200.329. The issuance and monitoring of subawards must meet the requirements of 2 C.F.R. § 200.332, which includes oversight of subrecipient/partner spending and monitoring performance measures and outcomes attributable to grant funds. For more information, see the sample Budget Detail Worksheet and the Solicitation Companion Guide on the OVW website.

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, see the Funding Restrictions section below and the sample budget on the <u>OVW website</u>.

# **Funding Restrictions**

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

#### requirements.

#### **Unallowable Costs**

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

- 1. Lobbying.
- 2. Fundraising.
- 3. Purchase of real property.
- 4. Physical modifications to buildings, including minor renovations (such as painting or carpeting).
- 5. Construction.

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

Generally, food and beverage costs are **not** allowable. Recipients must receive prior approval to use grant funds to provide a working meal and/or refreshments at a meeting, conference, training, or other event; OVW may provide such approval 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.
- 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. For additional information on restrictions on food and beverage expenditures, see <a href="OVW conference cost planning">OVW conference cost planning</a>.

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

# Conference Planning and Expenditure Limitations

Applicants' budgets must be consistent with all requirements (including specific cost limits and prior approval and reporting requirements, where applicable) governing the use of federal funds for expenses related to conferences (which is defined to include meetings, retreats, seminars, symposiums, training, and other similar events), and costs of attendance at such events. Information on conference planning, minimization of costs, and conference reporting is available at OVW conference cost planning.

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

#### **Pre-Agreement Cost**

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 <a href="DOJ Financial Guide">DOJ Financial Guide</a> for more information on pre-award costs.

# **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 and must upload and attach a copy of the agreement to their application in JustGrants. Applicants (other than state, local, and tribal governments that receive more than \$35 million in direct federal funding per year) that do not have a current negotiated (including provisional) rate may elect to charge a de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct costs, which may be used indefinitely.

Organizations that wish to negotiate an indirect cost rate should contac

t OVW's Grants Financial Management Division at OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov or 1-888-514-8556 for more information.

# Financial Management Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)

# 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 and attach it to

their application in JustGrants. In addition, applicants may be required to submit their current year's audit report at a later time

#### Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation

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 and must upload and attach a document with these disclosures to its application in JustGrants.

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

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

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).

#### Letter(s) of Commitment (if applicable)

If an applicant is partnering with any other entity on this project, the application should include a letter of commitment from that entity, signed by the entity's Authorized Representative. Letters must:

- Provide a brief history of the collaborative relationship between the applicant and the partnering entity;
- · Provide brief information about the partnering entity's expertise and capacity;
- State the roles and responsibilities the partner will assume on the proposed project; and
- Indicate the partnering entity's approval of the proposed project budget.

#### **Additional Application Components**

The following components will not be scored but must be included with the application. Failure to supply this information may result in the application being removed from consideration. Some components will be generated during the application submission process while others will be uploaded and attached to the application in JustGrants.

# **Letters of Nonsupplanting**

Applicants must attach a letter to OVW's Director, signed by the Authorized Representative, certifying that federal funds will not be used to supplant non-federal funds should a grant award be made. A sample letter is available on the <a href="OVW">OVW</a>

#### website.

#### **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 upload and attach, under Additional Attachments in JustGrants, the completed acknowledgement form available on the <a href="OVW website">OVW website</a>. This form must be signed by the Authorized Representative.

#### **Disclosures and Assurances**

Review, complete, and submit all disclosures, assurances, and certifications as described below.

# **Disclosure of Lobbying Activities**

All applicants must complete and submit the *Disclosure of Lobbying Activities* (SF-LLL) form in Grants.gov before beginning the application process in JustGrants.

#### **DOJ Certified Standard Assurances**

Applicants must read and acknowledge the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants.

#### **Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items**

Applicants must disclose all current and recent OVW awards (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 <a href="OVW website">OVW website</a>. The applicant must also provide the same information regarding any current OVW awards, as well as any pending applications, on which the applicant is a subrecipient.

Applicants also must disclose all other federal grant programs from which the applicant currently receives funding or for which it has applied for funding in FY 2022 **to do similar work**. Provide this information in a table using the sample format found on the OVW website. Both tables, if applicable, should be uploaded as attachments in JustGrants.

# DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Applicants must read and acknowledge these DOJ certifications in JustGrants.

#### **How to Apply**

Applications must be submitted electronically via Grants.gov and JustGrants. Applicants that are unable to submit electronically must follow the instructions below under OVW Policy on Late Submissions. See **Submission Dates and Times** below for a list of steps for registering with all required systems and deadlines for completing each step.

# Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

Federal regulations require that an applicant for federal funding: (1) be registered in SAM before submitting its application; (2) provide a valid Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) 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 or plan under consideration by a federal awarding agency. In addition, OVW may not make an award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier and SAM requirements and, if an applicant has not fully complied with these requirements by the time OVW is ready to make an award, then OVW may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award. See 2 C.F.R. §§ 25.200, 25.205.

The Unique Entity ID (SAM) is a 12-character alpha-numeric value and once issued, will not change. Entities that are currently registered in SAM.gov already have a Unique Entity ID (SAM) which can be viewed in SAM.gov. SAM centralizes information about grant recipients and also provides a central location for grant recipients to change organizational information. Grants.gov uses SAM to establish roles and IDs for electronic submission of grant applications.

If the applicant already has an Employer Identification Number (EIN), the SAM registration will take up to two weeks to process. If the applicant does not have an EIN, then the applicant should allow two to five weeks for obtaining an EIN from

the Internal Revenue Service. There is no fee associated with these processes. These processes cannot be expedited. OVW strongly discourages applicants from paying a third party to apply or register on their behalf in an attempt to expedite these processes. To ensure all applicants are able to apply by the deadline for this solicitation, applicants must have registered online with the SAM and with Grants.gov no later than October 31, 2022.

#### **Submission Dates and Time**

After applicants register with SAM, they can begin the Grants.gov registration process. The applying organization must complete the Grants.gov registration process prior to beginning an application for a federal grant. The E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) must register the applicant organization with Grants.gov. The E-Biz POC oversees the applicant's Grants.gov transactions and assigns the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR). The AOR submits the SF-424 and SF-LLL to Grants.gov and must register with Grants.gov as well. In some cases the E-Biz POC is also the AOR for the applicant. Complete instructions can be found on the Grants.gov website.

In JustGrants, each applying entity will have an assigned Entity Administrator who is responsible for managing entity-level information and assigning roles in the system. The Entity Administrator is also the E-Biz POC designated in SAM.gov. See the JustGrants website for more information on registering with JustGrants.

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

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

Applicant Actions with Required Dates/Deadlines

- Register directly with SAM by October 31, 2022, and be assigned a Unique Entity ID (SAM) upon registration. Access the SAM online registration through the SAM homepage and follow the online instructions for new SAM users. Entities must update or renew their SAM registration at least once a year to maintain an active status.
- 2. **Register with Grants.gov by October 31, 2022.** Once the SAM registration is active, the applicant will be able to complete the Grants.gov registration.
- 3. Submit Letter of Intent by October 31, 2022, to virginia.baran@usdoj.gov.
- 4. If necessary, request hardcopy submission by September 30, 2022. Applicants that cannot submit an application electronically due to lack of internet access must contact OVW at (202) 598-9445 and/or virginia.baran@usdoj.gov to request permission to submit a hardcopy application.
- 5. **Download updated version of Adobe Acrobat at least 48 hours before the Grants.gov deadline.** 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 solicitation and to submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL on Grants.gov. Go to the <u>Adobe Software Compatibility page</u> to verify that the Adobe software version is compatible with Grants.gov.
- 6. Submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL in Grants.gov as early as possible, but no later than 24 hours prior to the Grants.gov deadline. Applicants may find this funding opportunity on Grants.gov by using the CFDA/Assistance Listing number, Grants.gov opportunity number, or the title of this solicitation, all of which can be found on the cover page. Submitting the SF-424 and SF-LLL well ahead of the Grants.gov deadline provides time to correct any rejections. The Grants.gov Workspace Status will change from "In Progress" to "Submitted" once the application has been successfully submitted in Grants.gov. Within 48 hours after submitting the application in Grants.gov, the applicant should receive four notifications from Grants.gov (i.e., submission receipt, validation receipt, grantor agency retrieval receipt, and agency tracking number assignment). Note: It is possible to receive the submission receipt and then receive a rejection notice a few minutes or hours later.
- 7. Register the Entity Administrator and the Application Submitter with JustGrants as early as possible but no later than 48 hours before the JustGrants deadline. Within 24 hours AFTER receiving a confirmation email from Grants.gov, the applicant will receive an email from <a href="DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov">DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov</a> with instructions on how to create a JustGrants account. Once registered in JustGrants, the Application Submitter will receive an emailed link to complete the rest of the application in JustGrants. The Entity Administrator also will need to log into JustGrants to review and invite the applicant's Authorized Representative(s) before an application can be submitted. More information on JustGrants roles is available on the <a href="JustGrants website">JustGrants website</a>.
  - Submit the complete application package at least 24 hours prior to the JustGrants deadline. Some of the application components will be entered directly into JustGrants, and others will require uploading attached documents. Therefore, applicants will need to allow ample time before the JustGrants deadline to prepare each component. Applicants may save their progress in the system and revise the application as needed prior to hitting the Submit button at the end of the application in JustGrants. The Application Submitter, Entity Administrator, and

Authorized Representative(s) will receive an email from JustGrants confirming submission of the application.

9. Confirm application receipt: Applicants should closely monitor their email and JustGrants accounts for any notifications from Grants.gov or JustGrants about a possible failed submission. The user who is authorized to submit applications on behalf of the organization is the one who will receive these notifications. OVW does not send out these notifications, nor does OVW receive a copy of these notifications. It is the applicant's responsibility to notify OVW of any problems with the application submission process. Submitting the application components at least 48 hours before each deadline (Grants.gov or JustGrants, as applicable) will enable the applicant to receive notice of a failed submission and provide an opportunity to correct the error before the applicable deadline.

#### **OVW Policy on Late Submissions/Other Submission Requirements**

Applications not submitted by **9:00 p.m. E.T.** on **November 9, 2022** 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 deadline. The lists below provide a description of the circumstances under which OVW will consider such requests. Approval of a late submission request is not an indication of the application's final disposition. Applications approved for late submission are still subject to the review process and criteria described in this solicitation.

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

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

Issue with SAM, Grants.gov, or JustGrants Registration

- Register and/or confirm existing registration at least three weeks prior to the application deadline to ensure that the individual who will be submitting the application has <u>SAM</u>, Grants.gov, and JustGrants access and is the person registered to submit on behalf of the applicant.
- 2. Maintain documentation of when registration began, any issues related to registration, and all communication with technical support.

<u>Note:</u> Failure to begin the SAM, Grants.gov, or JustGrants registration process in sufficient time (i.e., by the date identified in this solicitation) is not an acceptable reason for late submission.

Unforeseeable Technical Difficulties During the Submission Process

- 1. Contact Grants.gov or OVW JustGrants, as applicable, for Applicant/User Support at least 24 hours prior to the applicable deadline.
- 2. Maintain documentation of all communication with Grants.gov or JustGrants Applicant/User Support.
- 3. Prior to the applicable deadline, contact virginia.baran@usdoj.gov to indicate that the applicant is experiencing technical difficulties, including issues with SAM.gov. Grants.Gov, or JustGrants, and would like permission to submit a late application. The email must include the following:
- A detailed description of the difficulty that the applicant is experiencing.
- The contact information (name, telephone, and email) for the individual making the late submission request.
- The applicant's DUNS/UEI number.
- Grants.gov or JustGrants application numbers and User Support tracking numbers
- In the case of technical difficulties, the complete set of required application files (Abstract, Budget and Budget Narrative, Project Narrative)

Common foreseeable technical difficulties for which OVW will not approve a late submission: (1) Using an outdated version of Adobe Acrobat; and (2) Attachment rejection (Grants.gov will reject attachments with names that contain certain unallowable characters).

**Note:** Through Grants.gov and JustGrants, OVW can confirm when submission began. Applicants that attempt final submission less than 24 hours before the deadline will not be considered for late submission. By beginning the final submission process 24 hours before the deadline, applicants should have sufficient time to receive notice of problems with their submissions and make necessary corrections.

Severe Inclement Weather or Natural or Human-made Disaster

Contact 202.598.9445 or virginia.baran@usdoj.gov as soon as the applicant is aware of severe weather or a natural or man-made disaster that may impede the submission of an application by the deadline. The email should include a detailed description of the weather event or natural or man-made disaster. A detailed description includes when

the event occurred, or is likely to occur, the impacted area, and the specific impact on the applicant and/or partners' ability to submit the application by the deadline (e.g., without power for "x" days, office closed for "x" days). If the application is complete and ready for the submission at the time the applicant notifies OVW, the application should be included with the email.

2. Applicants impacted by severe weather or a natural or man-made disaster occurring on the deadline must contact OVW within 48 hours after the due date or as soon as communications are restored.

Note: OVW may not be able to accommodate all requests resulting from severe inclement weather or a natural or man-made disaster.

OVW will review the request for late submission and required documents and notify the applicant whether the request has been approved or denied within 30 days of the submitted request.

# **Application Review Information**

#### **Review Criteria**

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

- 1. Project Narrative: 80 points, of which:
  - A. What Will Be Done: 30 points
  - B. Who Will Implement: 35 points
  - C. Technical Assistance Delivery Methods: 15 points
- 2. Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative: 20 points

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

#### **Review and Selection Process**

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

#### Peer Review

OVW will subject all eligible, complete, and timely applications to a peer review process that is 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 15 points)
- 2. Out-of-scope and unallowable activities (deduct up to 30 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.

# Past Performance Review

As a part of the programmatic review process described above, applicants with current or recently closed OVW awards will be reviewed for past performance and risk based on the elements listed below.

- 1. Adherence to the grant program's statutory purpose and requirements.
- 2. Implementation of the project according to plan, without significant obstacles and/or challenges.
- 3. Implementation of the project within the original period of performance.
- 4. Drawdown of funds commensurate with the level of program activities completed.
- 5. Management of award such that applicant has had uninterrupted access to funds.
- 6. Attendance at/participation in all required OVW-sponsored training and technical assistance events.
- 7. Timely resolution of issues identified during programmatic monitoring.
- 8. Completion of close-out of prior awards within 120 days of the project end date.
- 9. Timely resolution of issues necessary to close out prior awards.
- 10. Timely resolution of issues identified during financial monitoring.
- 11. Timely response to OVW requests.
- 12. Development of deliverables that support the project goals and objectives and are of acceptable quality.
- 13. Implementation of the project as designed without unjustified modification.
- 14. Timely submission of federal financial reports (FFR).
- 15. Timely submission of performance reports.
- 16. Submission of complete and accurate performance reports.
- 17. Adherence to the terms and conditions of existing grant award(s) from OVW.
- 18. Adherence to the requirements of the conference request process.

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 the Federal Award Performance and Integrity Information System or 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. § 200.206.

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

#### High-Risk Grantees

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

# **Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates**

It is anticipated that all applicants will be notified of the outcome of their applications by November 1, 2022.

# **Federal Award Administration Information**

# **Federal Award Notices**

The successful applicant will receive an OVW award notification electronically from JustGrants (not Grants.gov). The recipient will be required to log into JustGrants to review and accept the award. The Authorized Representative must acknowledge having read and understood all sections of the award instrument and submit the required declaration and certification to accept the award; these steps will be completed electronically in JustGrants.

# Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements

# Information for All Federal Award Recipients

Applicants selected for awards must agree to comply with additional legal, administrative, and national policy requirements. OVW strongly encourages applicants to review the information pertaining to these additional requirements prior to submitting an application. This information can be found in the section of the Solicitation Companion Guide entitled "Post-Award Requirements for All Federal Award Recipients."

Terms and conditions for OVW awards are available on the OVW website. These terms are subject to change prior to the

issuance of the awards.

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

The Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act prohibits OVW grantees from excluding, denying benefits to, or discriminating against any person on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability in any program or activity funded in whole or in part by OVW. Recipients may provide sex-segregated or sex-specific programming if doing so is necessary for the essential operation of a program, so long as the recipient provides comparable services to those who cannot be provided with the sex-segregated or sex-specific programming. Additional information on the civil rights obligations of OVW funding recipients can be found in the Solicitation Companion Guide under "Civil Rights Compliance."

#### Accessibility

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

# **General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements**

OVW grantees are required to submit semi-annual performance reports and quarterly Federal Financial Reports (SF-425). Appropriate performance report forms will be provided to all applicants selected for an award. Forms will be submitted electronically. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent. For more information on post award reporting requirements, including requirements for certain recipients to report information on civil, criminal, and administrative proceedings in FAPIIS, see the <a href="Solicitation Companion Guide">Solicitation Companion Guide</a> and the award condition on recipient integrity and performance matters available on the <a href="OVW website">OVW website</a>.

# Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation:

- Programmatic questions, contact virginia.baran@usdoj.gov, or (202) 598-9445
- Financial questions, contact 888-514-8556 or ovw.gfmd@usdoi.gov
- Technical questions:
  - Grants.gov Applicant Support at 800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov
  - OVW JustGrants Support at 1-866-655-4482 or OVW.JustGrantsSupport@usdoj.gov

# Other Information

# **Public Reporting Burden- Paper Work 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.

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

#### **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 for Federal Assistance (SF-424) (auto-populates)

- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)
- Project Abstract
- Project Narrative
- Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative
- Surveys: Pre-award Risk Assessment and Technical Assistance DRA
- Letters of commitment (if applicable)
- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)
- Standard Assurances and Certifications
- Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation (if applicable)
- Confidentiality Notice Form
- Letter of Nonsupplanting
- Application Disclosure(s) of Duplication in Cost Items
- Financial Capability Questionnaire (nonprofits only)

# **Survey Questions**

#### Pre-Award Risk Assessment 2

Pre-Award Risk Assessment 3

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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. 200.334-200.338.

Does the applicant or any of its employees have any potential personal or organizational conflicts of interest related to the possible receipt of OVW award funds? Applicants are required to disclose in writing any potential conflicts of interest to their awarding agency. See 2 C.F.R. 200.112 and Chapter 3.20, Grant Fraud, Waste and Abuse, of the DOJ Financial Guide for additional information.

Is the individual primarily responsible for fiscal and administrative oversight of grant awards familiar with the applicable grants management rules, principles, and regulations including the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 C.F.R. Part 200)? Provide a short list of the individual's qualifications/experience. If the individual is not familiar with the applicable rules and regulations, the applicant must contact OVW's Grants Financial Management Division at OVW.GFMDusdoj.gov or 1-888-514-8556 immediately after the applicant is notified of its award to coordinate training.

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. 200.331-200.333)? Provide a brief description of the organization's policies and procedures on subrecipient management and monitoring.

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.

Is the applicant designated as high risk by a federal agency outside of DOJ? ("High risk" includes any status under which a federal awarding agency provides additional oversight due to the applicant entity's past performance, or other programmatic or financial concerns with the applicant entity.) If so, provide the names(s) of the federal awarding agency, the date(s) the agency notified the applicant entity of the high risk designation, contact information for the high risk point of contact at the federal agency, and the reason for the high risk status, as set out by the federal agency.

# **TA DRA**

TA - Data Requested with Application

Applicants must respond to each question. The Data Requested with Application questionnaire is a required element and must be fully completed and submitted to successfully apply for this program.

**Grant Point of Contact Information** 

1. Provide the following information for the grant point-of-contact. This person must be an employee of the applicant.

Name

Title

Address

Telephone number

Email address

**Organizational Questions** 

2. Is the applicant (the organization whose unique entity identifier/DUNS number is being used for the application) serving as a fiscal agent? A fiscal agent is an entity that does not participate in implementation of the project and passes all funds through to subrecipients, conducting minimal administrative activities. Note: The fiscal agent must be an eligible applicant for the program.

List all subrecipients

The applicant must check the box to acknowledge that the applicant will be responsible for all applicable statutory, fiscal, and programmatic requirements, including those of 2 C.F.R. Part 200, as well as all project deliverables.

3. Has the applicant expended \$750,000 or more in federal funds in the applicant's past fiscal year?

Specify the end date of the applicant's fiscal year.

- 4. Is the applicant 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?
- 5. Is the applicant 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? For additional information about the safe-harbor procedure, see "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation" in the Budget and Associated Documentation section of this solicitation.

Note: Applicant must upload the required Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation in the Budget/Financial Attachments section of JustGrants.

- 6. Is the applicant one of the following (check all that apply). Note: Checking any of these categories will not determine eligibility for funding; eligibility criteria, including related documentation requirements, are set forth in the Eligibility section of the solicitation.
- 7. Does the application propose to focus on a rural community or area (as defined by 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(26))?
- 8. Is the applicant a federally recognized tribe?
- 9. Is the applicant a tribal organization as defined by 34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(38)?
- 10. Is the applicant a partner/subrecipient on a current grant or pending application for this grant program?

If a partner/subrecipient on a current award, provide the year of the award and the role of the applicant on the award.

If a partner/subrecipient on another pending application, provide the name of the applicant organization.

11. Are any proposed project partner(s)/subrecipient(s) on this application also a recipient, or project partner/subrecipient, on a current grant or another pending application for this grant program? If yes, the applicant is required to provide information on the relevant project partner(s)/subrecipient(s). The questionnaire allows for three project partner(s)/subrecipient(s). If the proposed project includes additional project partner (s)/subrecipient(s) that are on current grants or pending applications, contact the Program Unit at the email provided in this solicitation.

Provide the following information for the partner/subrecipient.

Provide the following information for the partner/subrecipient.

Provide the following information for the partner/subrecipient.

- 12. State the title of the proposed project
- 13. List all project partners (organization names and/or individual consultants) and the funding amount requested for each partner.