



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

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## OVW Fiscal Year 2025 Restorative Practices Pilot Sites Program

### **Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number**

O-OVW-2025-SI-172290

### **Assistance Listing Number**

16.052

### **Application Due**

Deadline to submit Standard Form/SF-424 in Grants.gov: **October 14, 2025**, by 11:59 PM Eastern Time

Deadline to submit application in JustGrants: **October 16, 2025**, by 8:59 PM Eastern Time

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## Basic Information

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The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is accepting applications for funding in response to this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). 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 that provide services to victims and hold offenders accountable.

## Executive Summary

The Restorative Practices Pilot Sites Program is a 48-month funding opportunity seeking to support, strengthen, enhance, and expand existing restorative practice programs that prevent or address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, in accordance with the “restorative practices” definition at 34 U.S.C. § 12514(a)(3).

Funding Opportunity Details	
Federal Agency Name	U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women
Funding Opportunity Title	OVW FY 2025 Restorative Practices Pilot Sites Program
Announcement Type	Initial
Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number	O-OVW-2025-SI-172290
Assistance Listing Number	16.052
Statutory Authority	34 U.S.C. § 12514
Expected Total Amount of Funding	\$23,000,000
Anticipated Number of Awards	23
Expected Award Amount(s)	Up to \$1,000,000
Expected Award Period(s)	48 months

## Key Dates

This table contains deadlines and other important dates.

Key Dates	
<b>Funding Opportunity Release Date</b>	On or about <b>August 26, 2025</b>
<b>Pre-Recorded Pre-Application Information Session</b>	Expected to be available on <a href="#">OVW Website</a> on <b>September 18, 2025</b>
<a href="#">Sam.gov Registration/Renewal</a>	Recommend <a href="#">completing process</a> by <b>September 30, 2025</b>
<a href="#">Grants.gov Registration/Renewal</a>	Recommend <a href="#">completing process</a> by <b>September 30, 2025</b>
<a href="#">Letter of Intent</a> (Optional)	Submit to <a href="mailto:OVW.RestorativeJustice@usdoj.gov">OVW.RestorativeJustice@usdoj.gov</a> by <b>September 30, 2025</b>
<a href="#">Grants.gov</a> Deadline	<b>October 14, 2025</b> , by 11:59 PM Eastern Time (ET)
<a href="#">JustGrants</a> Deadline	<b>October 16, 2025</b> , by 8:59 PM ET
<b>Decision Notification Date</b>	OVW anticipates notifying applicants of funding decisions by <b>January 2, 2026</b> .

## Contact Information

For assistance with the application process or questions about this funding opportunity, contact the resources listed below.

Contact Information	
<b>OVW Contact</b>	Phone: 202-307-6026 Email: <a href="mailto:OVW.RestorativeJustice@usdoj.gov">OVW.RestorativeJustice@usdoj.gov</a>
<b>For assistance with SAM.gov</b>	Phone: 866-606-8220 Website: <a href="https://sam.gov/content/help">https://sam.gov/content/help</a> Hours of Operation: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET Monday-Friday
<b>For assistance with Grants.gov</b>	Phone: 800-518-4726 Email: <a href="mailto:support@grants.gov">support@grants.gov</a> Website: <a href="https://www.grants.gov/support">https://www.grants.gov/support</a> Hours of operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (closed federal holidays)
<b>For assistance with JustGrants</b>	Phone: 866-655-4482 Email: <a href="mailto:OVW.JustGrantsSupport@usdoj.gov">OVW.JustGrantsSupport@usdoj.gov</a>

## **Resources for Applying**

### **Pre-application Information Sessions**

OVW will post a recorded pre-application information session on the [OVW website](#). Viewing is optional. In this session, OVW staff will summarize the program's requirements, review the funding opportunity, and answer frequently asked questions. The session will be captioned in English.

### **Application Resources**

- [Application Companion Guide](#)
- [Sample Certification to Implement Statutorily Defined Restorative Practices](#)
- Budget Information on [OVW Website](#)
- [JustGrants Application Submission Training](#)

## **Eligibility**

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### **Eligible Applicants**

Entities that are eligible to apply are:

#### **Indian Tribal Governments**

- The governing body of an Indian Tribe, or
- 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 (34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(43)).

#### **Tribal Organizations**

- The governing body of any Indian Tribe,
- 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, or
- Any Tribal nonprofit organization (34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(45)).

#### **Tribal Nonprofit Organizations**

- A victim services provider that has as its primary purpose to assist Native victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and 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 (34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(44)).

## Units of Local Government

- Any city, county, township, town, borough, parish, village, or other general purpose political subdivision of a State (or territory) (34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(47)).
- The following are not considered units of local government: (1) Police departments; (2) Pre-trial service agencies; (3) District or city attorneys' offices; (4) Sheriffs' departments; (5) Probation and parole departments; (6) Shelters; (7) Nonprofit, nongovernmental victim service agencies including faith-based or community-based organizations; and (8) Universities. (28 C.F.R. § 90.2(g)).

## Institutions of Higher Education

- An educational institution in any state that **(1)** admits as regular students only persons having a certificate of graduation from a school providing secondary education, or the recognized equivalent of such a certificate, or persons who meet the requirements of section 1091(d) of this title; **(2)** is legally authorized within such state to provide a program of education beyond secondary education; **(3)** provides an educational program for which the institution awards a bachelor's degree or provides not less than a 2-year program that is acceptable for full credit toward such a degree, or awards a degree that is acceptable for admission to a graduate or professional degree program, subject to review and approval by the Secretary of Education; **(4)** is a public or other nonprofit institution; and **(5)** is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association, or if not so accredited, is an institution that has been granted pre-accreditation status by such an agency or association that has been recognized by the Secretary for the granting of pre-accreditation status, and the Secretary has determined that there is satisfactory assurance that the institution will meet the accreditation standards of such an agency or association within a reasonable time (20 U.S.C. § 1001(a)).

## Victim Service Providers

- A nonprofit, nongovernmental or Tribal organization or rape crisis center, including a state or territorial coalition, that assists or advocates for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking victims, including domestic violence shelters, faith-based organizations, and other organizations, with a documented history of effective work concerning domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking (34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(50)).

## Private or Public Nonprofit Organizations

- 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)(15)(B)(i).
- Faith-Based organizations that meet the eligibility requirements for this program are eligible to apply (more information for faith-based organizations is available in the [Application Companion Guide](#) and [here](#)).

## Other Program Eligibility Requirements

In addition to being an eligible entity, applicants also must meet the requirements below. All certification and other eligibility-related documents must be current to reflect a date after the NOFO is published and developed in accordance with this NOFO.

Certifications must take the form of a letter, on letterhead, signed, and dated by the authorized representative. Each one must be uploaded as a separate attachment under the **Additional Application Components** section in JustGrants. Failure to provide required certifications **will** disqualify an application.

### Certification to Implement Statutorily Defined Restorative Practices

All applicants must include the Certification Letter to Implement Statutorily Defined Restorative Practices at the time of application submission. This certification letter must be submitted as a separate attachment in JustGrants.

A sample [Certification to Implement Statutorily Defined Restorative Practices](#) can be found on the OVW website.

### Required Expertise

All applications must demonstrate the following required expertise, as evidenced in either a signed Memorandum of Understanding or Letter of Experience submitted with the application:

1. Direct victim services and advocacy  
Expertise in providing direct victim services and advocacy with survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking including a history of comprehensive training on these crimes; and
2. Restorative practices  
Expertise in implementing restorative practices.

Failure to meet the required expertise will disqualify an application. Review the following guidance to submit the appropriate document that reflects the expertise of the lead applicant and/or partner organization.

### *Memorandum of Understanding*

Applicants who are victim service providers or private or public nonprofit organizations, including Tribal nonprofit organizations and faith-based nonprofit organizations, must submit a Memorandum of Understanding.

Applicants who are Tribal governments, Tribal organizations, units of local governments, or institutions of higher education (20 U.S.C. § 1001(a)), that **cannot demonstrate that they have both the expertise of:** 1) direct victim services and advocacy in working with survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and 2) implementing restorative practices, must submit a Memorandum of Understanding.



## *Letter of Experience*

Applicants who are Tribal governments, Tribal organizations, units of local governments, or institutions of higher education (20 U.S.C. § 1001(a)), can elect to submit a Letter of Experience **if they can demonstrate that they have both the expertise** of: 1) direct victim services and advocacy in working with survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and 2) implementing restorative practices.

See [Memorandum of Understanding and Supporting Documents](#) for more information.

## **Eligibility Note for Current Grantees**

Applicants that have never received funding under this program may apply. Recipients of an FY 2024 award under this program, including the pilot sites, training and technical assistance providers, and evaluator, are not eligible to apply as a lead applicant or as a partner/subrecipient for an FY 2025 award under this NOFO).

## **Ineligible Entities and Disqualifying Factors**

Applications submitted by ineligible entities or that do not meet all other program eligibility requirements will not be considered for funding. In addition, an application deemed deficient in one or more of the following areas may not be considered for funding:

1. [Program-specific unallowable costs](#)
2. [Risk review](#)
3. [Completeness of application contents](#)
4. [Meeting deadlines](#)

An application will be removed from consideration if the applicant does not comply fully with all applicable unique entity identifier and SAM.gov requirements (see [Submission Requirements and Deadlines](#) section for more information on these requirements).

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)(15)(B)(ii).

## **Limit on Number of Applications**

OVW will consider only one application for this program per organization for the same service area (i.e., the geographic area to be served). If an applicant submits multiple versions of the same application, OVW will review only the most recent system-validated version submitted before the deadline.

## Cost-Sharing

This program has no matching or cost-sharing requirement.

## **Program Description**

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This program is authorized by 34 U.S.C. § 12514. For a brief description of this program, see the [Executive Summary](#).

For more information about OVW programs, including how recipients of OVW grant funding achieve program goals, see:

- OVW grant program information: [OVW Grants and Programs webpage](#).
- Data that recipients collect and report: [VAWA Measuring Effectiveness Initiative webpage](#).
- What recipients have achieved and some of the evidence-based approaches they may have used: OVW's [most recent report to Congress](#) on the effectiveness of VAWA grant programs.

## **Purpose Areas**

Funds under this program must be used to implement a program for restorative practices focused on preventing or addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

## **Statutory Consideration**

By statute (34 U.S.C. § 12514(c)), OVW must give priority to eligible entities that submit proposals that meaningfully address the needs of culturally specific or underserved populations.

To receive consideration under this statutory priority area, an applicant must describe in the Proposal Narrative how its proposed restorative practices project will be tailored to address the needs of culturally specific or underserved populations in the proposed service area.

## **Priorities**

Applications that fare well in merit review and substantively address one or more of the priorities listed below, to the extent consistent with the program's authorizing statute, may receive priority consideration for funding:

1. Measures to combat human trafficking and transnational crime, particularly crimes linked to illegal immigration and cartel operations, that support safety and justice for trafficking victims who have also suffered domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and/or stalking.
2. Projects to provide victim services, especially housing, and improve law enforcement response in rural and remote areas, Tribal nations, and small towns that often lack resources to effectively combat domestic violence and sexual assault.

## **Program Requirements**

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

1. Participate in OVW-sponsored training and technical assistance (TTA) throughout the duration of the project period. In addition to participating in a New Grantee Orientation, grantees will work with OVW and TTA providers to:
  - a. Identify additional training and technical assistance needs;
  - b. Participate in customized training and technical assistance; and
  - c. Identify community resources, including community-based organizations that the grantee can partner with to enhance collaborations and project implementation.
2. Collect and report performance indicators. Forms, instructions, training, and related tools for each OVW program are available on the [VAWA Measuring Effectiveness Initiative webpage](#).
3. Participate in an assessment or evaluation, if OVW conducts one that requires recipient involvement.
4. Engage in a planning period to work with OVW and TTA Providers. Prior to implementing restorative practices, grantees will be required to engage in a planning period to assess current organizational structure, capacity, and practices; determine which restorative practices they want to enhance; identify additional training and technical assistance they may need; and hire or designate a full-time Site Coordinator. It is anticipated that the planning period will be for 12 months, but the timeframe may vary by site and will depend on the site's ability to meet the project activities determined by OVW. During the planning period, the pilot sites will have limited access to funding until all planning activities have been completed and OVW approves required deliverables. At that time, pilot sites can access the remaining funding for the implementation period.
5. Upon successful completion and approval to proceed from the planning period to the implementation period, implement the provision of restorative practices using OVW funds only within the definition of restorative practice found at 34 U.S.C. § 12514(a)(3):

The term “restorative practice” means a practice relating to a specific harm that—

(A) is community-based and unaffiliated with any civil or criminal legal process;

(B) is initiated by a victim of the harm;

(C) involves, on a voluntary basis and without any evidence of coercion or intimidation of any victim of the harm by any individual who committed the harm or anyone associated with any such individual—

(i) one or more individuals who committed the harm;

(ii) one or more victims of the harm; and

(iii) the community affected by the harm through one or more representatives of the community;

(D) shall include and has the goal of—

- (i) collectively seeking accountability from one or more individuals who committed the harm;
- (ii) developing a written process whereby one or more individuals who committed the harm will take responsibility for the actions that caused harm to one or more victims of the harm; and
- (iii) developing a written course of action plan—
  - (I) that is responsive to the needs of one or more victims of the harm; and
  - (II) upon which one or more victims, one or more individuals who committed the harm, and the community can agree; and

(E) is conducted in a victim services framework that protects the safety and supports the autonomy of one or more victims of the harm and the community.

Proposed restorative practices to be funded through this program must be unaffiliated with any civil or criminal legal process, meaning that they cannot be housed within or administrated by a court, prosecutor's office, law enforcement agency, or any component of the civil or criminal justice system, and the decision to participate in such a program is initiated voluntarily by the person harmed and is solely determined by that individual.

6. As required by statute, 34 U.S.C. § 12514(e)(1), ensure that any restorative practices program funded under this NOFO:

(A) includes set practices and procedures for screening the suitability of any individual who committed a harm based on—

- (i) the history of civil and criminal complaints against the individual involving domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking;
- (ii) parole or probation violations of the individual or whether active parole or probation supervision of the individual is being conducted for prior offenses involving domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking;
- (iii) the risk to the safety of any victim of the harm based on an evidence-based risk assessment;
- (iv) the risk to public safety, including an evidence-based risk assessment of the danger to the public; and
- (v) past participation of any individual who committed the harm in restorative practice programing; and

(B) denies eligibility to participate in the program for any individual who committed a harm against whom there is—

- (i) a pending felony or misdemeanor prosecution for an offense against any victim of the harm or a dependent of any such victim;

- (ii) a restraining order or a protection order (as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 2266) that protects any victim of the harm or a dependent of any such victim, unless there is an exception in the restraining order or protective order allowing for participation in a restorative practices program;
  - (iii) a pending criminal charge involving or relating to sexual assault, including rape, human trafficking, or child abuse, including child sexual abuse; or
  - (iv) a conviction for child sexual abuse against the victim or a sibling of the victim if the victim or sibling of the victim is currently a minor.
7. Ensure that any restorative practices program funded under this NOFO includes individuals with knowledge and experience in conducting risk assessments and referring victims to additional services and resources.
  8. Designate a full-time Site Coordinator to oversee and implement project activities.
  9. Participate in at least one grantee meeting per year with 3-4 people from each of the pilot program sites (dates and locations to be determined).

## **Program-Specific Unallowable Costs**

Applications proposing activities described below may have points deducted during the review process or may be removed from consideration.

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

OVW will not fund activities that compromise victim safety and recovery, deter healing for victims, and/or undermine offender accountability. See the [Application Companion Guide](#) for more details about these activities, including program-specific information.

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

**\*\*\* This list of out-of-scope activities is the subject of federal litigation. For the most up-to-date information about out-of-scope activities, please see the OVW website at: <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/open-notice-of-funding-opportunity>.\*\*\***

The activities listed below are out of the program scope.

1. Research projects. Funds under this program may not be used to conduct research, defined by 28 C.F.R. § 46.102(d) as a systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. However, assessments conducted for internal improvement purposes only may be allowable. For information on distinguishing between research and assessments, see the [Application Companion Guide](#).
2. Promoting or facilitating the violation of federal immigration law.
3. Inculcating or promoting gender ideology as defined in Executive Order 14168, *Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government*.

4. Promoting or facilitating discriminatory programs or ideology, including illegal DEI and “diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility” programs that do not advance the policy of equal dignity and respect, as described in Executive Order 14173, *Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity*. This prohibition is not intended to interfere with any of OVW’s statutory obligations, such as funding for HBCUs, culturally specific services, and disability programs.
5. Activities that frame domestic violence or sexual assault as systemic social justice issues rather than criminal offenses (e.g., prioritizing criminal justice reform or social justice theories over victim safety and offender accountability).
6. Generic community engagement or economic development without a clear link to violence prevention, victim safety, or offender accountability.
7. Programs that discourage collaboration with law enforcement or oppose or limit the role of police, prosecutors, or immigration enforcement in addressing violence against women.
8. Awareness campaigns or media that do not lead to tangible improvements in prevention, victim safety, or offender accountability.
9. Initiatives that prioritize illegal aliens over U.S. citizens and legal residents in receiving victim services and support.
10. Excessive funding for consulting fees, training, administrative costs, or other expenses not related to measurable violence prevention, victim support, and offender accountability.
11. Any activity or program that unlawfully violates an Executive Order.
12. Restorative practices that do not meet the definition outlined at 34 U.S.C. § 12514(a)(3).

**Note:** Recipients should serve all eligible victims as required by statute, regulation, or award condition.

### Other Unallowable Costs

Grant funds under this program also may not be used for the following costs:

1. Lobbying.
2. Fundraising.
3. Purchase of real property.
4. Physical modifications to buildings, including minor renovations (such as painting or carpeting).
5. Construction.
6. Providing restorative practices in matters involving victims of sexual assault who are under 18 years old and the harm doer is 18 or older.

### Limited Use of Funds

Recipients of an award under this program may use up to three percent of the funds to assess the need for internal improvements (e.g. convening listening sessions to identify service gaps in the community; surveying participants about the quality of the training.) The OVW research decision tree in the [Application Companion Guide](#) describes how applicants can ensure that such assessments are not prohibited human subjects research.

## Activities Requiring Prior Approval

Recipients must receive prior approval before using grant funds to support surveys, regardless of their purpose, to ensure they are within the scope of the award and meet the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (see the [Application Companion Guide](#) for more information).

## Type of Award

Awards will be made as cooperative agreements. Cooperative agreements are a type of award in which OVW expects to be substantially involved in planning and implementing the project. Examples of substantial involvement are: participating in meetings, reviewing drafts of products and plans, and helping select trainers, subject matter experts, and project sites. Recipients must be willing to work closely with OVW and be willing to make changes at OVW's request and/or when new needs emerge.

## Application Contents and Format

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### Letter of Intent (optional)

Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a Letter of Intent stating their intention to apply. The letter should be submitted to OVW at [OVW.RestorativeJustice@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.RestorativeJustice@usdoj.gov) by May 27, 2025. This letter does not obligate the applicant to apply, and applicants that do not submit this letter can still apply. See the OVW website for a sample [Letter of Intent](#).

### Application Contents

Applications must include the required documents and meet the program eligibility requirements. For a checklist of all required items, see the [Application Submission Checklist](#) section of this NOFO.

OVW will not contact applicants for missing items on the list below.

**Applications must include ALL the following to be considered for funding:**

Required Application Components	Possible Points
<b>Proposal Narrative</b>	
Purpose of the Proposal	20
What Will Be Done	25
Who Will Implement	25
<b>Budget</b>	
Budget worksheet and narrative	10
<b>Memorandum of Understanding and Supporting Documents</b>	
Memorandum of Understanding OR Letter of Experience	20
Certification to Implement Statutorily Defined Restorative Practices	N/A



## **Formatting and Technical Requirements**

Applications must follow the requirements below for all attachments, unless otherwise noted. OVW may deduct points for applications that do not adhere to these requirements:

1. Double-spaced text (charts may be single-spaced)
2. 8½ x 11-inch pages
3. One-inch margins
4. Arial font, type no smaller than 11-point, except for footnotes, which may be 9-point
5. Correctly numbered pages
6. No more than 20 pages for the Proposal Narrative
7. Documents in the following formats: Microsoft Word (.doc), PDF files (.pdf), or Text Documents (.txt)
8. Headings and sub-headings that correspond to those identified below for each application component

## **Proposal Abstract**

The Proposal Abstract must provide a short summary (no more than 2,000 characters) of the proposed project, including names of lead applicant and project partners, project title, purpose of the project, primary activities for which funds are requested, who will benefit (including geographic area to be served), and products and deliverables. The abstract should not summarize past accomplishments. The Proposal Abstract must be entered into a text box in JustGrants. It will not be scored but will be used throughout the review process.

## **Data Requested with Application**

Applicants must complete the Pre-Award Risk Assessment questionnaire in JustGrants. The questionnaire will not be scored. The questions are listed in [Appendix A](#) of this NOFO.

## **Summary Data Sheet**

(1 to 4 pages maximum, single or double-spaced)

The Summary Data Sheet must be completed and submitted as an attachment under the Additional Application Components section in JustGrants. It will not be scored. Refer to [Appendix B](#) for the list of questions.

## **Proposal Narrative**

(70 points, 20 pages maximum, double-spaced)

The Proposal Narrative must include the sections outlined below.



## Purpose of the Proposal (20 points)

This section must:

1. Describe the populations in the service area and the needs the project will address.
2. If applicable, describe how the proposal will address [priority](#) one (human trafficking and transnational crime) and/or [priority](#) two (under-resourced rural and remote areas, Tribal nations, and small towns).
3. Explain the existing restorative practices that the lead applicant and/or partner use in serving victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking.
4. Explain the gaps and needs around restorative practices that this funding will address.
5. Outline the target population(s), (i.e. campus sexual assault or dating violence victims, adult domestic violence victims, etc.) to be served in this project
6. Describe the available community resources and referral process that will be employed when it is determined that the person harmed or a dependent of the person harmed is at risk of subsequent serious injury, sexual assault, or death, such that restorative practices are not a suitable option.

## What Will Be Done (25 points)

The application must provide a clear link between the proposed activities and the need identified in the “Purpose of the Proposal” section above. This section should not include any of the activities listed as [unallowable costs](#) in the Program Description section of this NOFO.

This section must:

1. Describe how the proposed project will address the needs identified in the Purpose of the Proposal section above.
2. Detail the restorative practices for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and/or stalking cases that will be strengthened or expanded in this project.
3. Describe how the experience and needs of each person harmed will be centered in the program design, including safety planning, safety monitoring process, and victim safety prioritization, with an emphasis on ongoing voluntary participation by the person harmed.
4. Explain the screening practices and procedures for determining the suitability of any individual who committed harm to participate in restorative practices.
5. Describe the process, including any risk assessment tools and protocols to assess any risk to the safety of any victim of harm or the public when screening the suitability (please refer to [Program Requirements number 6](#)) of any individual who committed harm for participation in the project.
6. Describe the needs of the target population and how the restorative practice model(s) that will be used will meet those needs.
7. If addressing the [Statutory Consideration](#) to meaningfully address the needs of culturally specific or underserved populations, describe how the proposed restorative practices project will be tailored to address the needs of culturally specific or underserved populations in the proposed service area.
8. Describe what steps the applicant and any proposed partner(s) will take to make proposed services accessible to people with disabilities, people with limited English proficiency, and people who are Deaf or hard of hearing.

## Who Will Implement the Proposal (25 points)

This section must:

1. Identify the key people and organizations, including project partners involved in the proposed project and explain their role and responsibilities within the project.
2. Demonstrate that the people and organizations identified have the capacity to address the stated need and can successfully implement the proposed project activities. **Job descriptions of all key personnel must be attached** but will not count toward the page limit.
3. Demonstrate that the applicant and/or project partners have a history of comprehensive training as well as experience in working with victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
4. Explain the history of the applicant and/or project partners of implementing restorative practices, including the number of years of experience in restorative practices, a list of the types of harms addressed, and populations served.
5. Describe how the applicant and/or its partners have built trust within the community, among people who have been harmed, and among people who have caused harm, including how the applicant and/or its partners have addressed perceptions of partiality to either people who have been harmed or people who have caused harm.

## Budget and Associated Documentation

OVW awards are governed by the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200 and the [DOJ Financial Guide](#).

Applicants must submit a detailed budget and budget narrative and upload the applicable associated documentation under each heading, as described below. The budget worksheet and budget narrative 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.

For additional information on budget requirements and allowable costs, see the [Budget Information](#), the [Sample Budget Narrative](#) (including Excel file), and the [Creating a Budget](#) webinar on the OVW website.

### Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative

**(10 points)**

Applicants must upload in JustGrants a detailed budget and budget narrative for all applicable cost categories. OVW strongly encourages using a spreadsheet (e.g., Excel, Numbers, etc.) for the budget worksheet. 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. Budgetary requirements vary among programs. The budget should be reasonable and based on the resources needed to implement the proposed project in the applicant's specific geographic location.

### Award Period and Amounts

The award period is 48 months. Budgets, including the total “estimated funding” on the [SF-424](#), must reflect 48 months of project activity. OVW anticipates that the award period will start on January 1, 2026.

Awards under this program for FY 2025 will be made for up to \$1 million.

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 before making an award or after an award is made but prior to access to funds.

### **The budget must:**

1. Present a clear link between the specific project activities and the proposed budget items. The budget should not contain items that are not supported by the Proposal Narrative.
2. Fairly and reasonably compensate all project partners for their full level of effort, unless otherwise stated in the MOU.
3. Include sufficient funds to provide language access, identify other funds that the applicant has budgeted for language access for this project, or describe other resources that the applicant has secured to ensure meaningful access for persons with limited English proficiency. See the [Accessibility](#) section of this NOFO for more information.
4. Include sufficient funds to provide access for people with disabilities or who are Deaf/hard of hearing, identify other funds that the applicant has budgeted for such access for this project, or describe other resources that the applicant has secured to ensure meaningful access for such people. See the [Accessibility](#) section of this NOFO for more information.
5. Include funds to attend OVW-sponsored TTA in the amount of \$50,000 for applicants located in the 48 contiguous states and \$60,000 for applicants located in Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, the Northern Mariana Islands, Hawaii, and Alaska. This amount is for the entire 48 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.
6. Include a \$300,000 planning period budget for Year 1, to include, but not be limited to, costs for the full-time Site Coordinator, funding for partners, supplies, operating costs, and travel to the New Grantee Orientation and one OVW sponsored training for three to four people, with the remainder of the requested award amount in the Other category, identified as To Be Determined (TBD).
7. Distinguish clearly between subawards and contracts in allocating any grant funds to other entities.
  - a. 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; a contract is for the purpose of obtaining goods and services for the recipient's use.

- b. The substance of the relationship is more important than the form of the agreement in determining whether the entity receiving federal funds is a subrecipient or a contractor.
- c. 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 oversight requirements in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.317-200.327.
- d. The issuance and monitoring of subawards must meet the requirements of 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.328-200.329 & 200.332, which includes oversight of subrecipient spending and overall performance to ensure that the goals of the subaward are achieved.

For more information on distinguishing between subawards and contracts, see the [Budget Information](#), the [Sample Budget Narrative](#), and the [Application Companion Guide](#).

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

Recipients **must** receive prior approval before using grant funds to provide a working meal and/or refreshments at a meeting, conference, training, or other event. Food and beverages are generally considered personal expenses for which government funds should not be used. Exceptions may be made for working meals that are necessary to accomplish official business and enhance the cost effectiveness of the meeting or conference. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- 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. Failure to serve 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, including relevant details about the applicant's community, such as a rural or remote location. For additional information on restrictions on food and beverage expenditures, see OVW Conference Costs Guidelines (posted on the [OVW website](#)).

Budget clearance does not constitute prior approval to hold a conference. Recipients must seek approval of these costs through the 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 Planning](#).

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

## Indirect Cost Rate Agreement

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 that do not have a current federal negotiated indirect cost rate (including provisional rate), may elect to charge a de minimis rate of up to 15% of modified total direct costs (MTDC).

Organizations that wish to negotiate an indirect cost rate should contact OVW's Grants Financial Management Division at [OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov) or 1-888-514-8556 for more information.

## 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.

## Nonprofits Only: Disclosure of Process for Setting Executive Compensation (if applicable)

Nonprofit organizations that use the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) Safe Harbor Procedure (described below) must submit a special disclosure to OVW (required by 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(15)(B)(iii)). All other applicants may skip this section.

**IRS Safe Harbor Procedure:** A nonprofit organization that provides unreasonably high compensation to certain executives may subject both the organization's managers and those who receive the compensation to additional federal taxes. However, the IRS may treat executive compensation levels as reasonable if the nonprofit organization satisfies certain rules set out in IRS regulations. These rules concern the organization's process for making compensation decisions and are known as the "three-step safe-harbor procedure" to create a "rebuttable presumption" of reasonableness for compensation of an organization's executives. See 26 C.F.R. § 53.4958-6.

**The special disclosure must** describe the process the applicant uses to determine the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees, and key employees. At a minimum it must describe (terms explained in IRS regulations are in italics):

1. the composition of the body that reviews and approves *compensation* arrangements for officers, directors, trustees, and key employees (covered individuals);
2. the methods and practices used by the organization to ensure that no individual with a *conflict of interest* participates in such review and approval;
3. the *appropriate data as to comparability* (obtained in advance) that the body uses to review and approve compensation arrangements for covered individuals; and
4. the records the applicant maintains as concurrent and adequate *documentation* of the body's decisions related to compensation, including records of deliberations and of the basis for decisions.

The disclosure must be uploaded as an attachment to the application in JustGrants, titled "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation." A sample disclosure is available on the [OVW website](#).

**Note:** OVW is required by law to make the applicant's disclosure available for public inspection, if requested. In addition, if funded, the applicant must update its disclosure in certain circumstances (e.g., if it changes the way it determines compensation).

## **Memorandum of Understanding and Supporting Documents**

All applicants must submit either a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or Letter of Experience (LOE) that reflects the required expertise of: 1) direct victim services and advocacy in working with survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and 2) implementing restorative practices.

### **Memorandum of Understanding (20 points)**

Applicants that are victim service providers or private or public nonprofit organizations, including Tribal nonprofit organizations and faith-based nonprofit organizations, must submit an MOU.

Applicants that are Tribal governments, Tribal organizations, units of local government, or institutions of higher education (20 U.S.C. § 1001(a)), that cannot demonstrate that they have both the expertise of: 1) direct victim services and advocacy in working with survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and 2) implementing restorative practices, must submit a Memorandum of Understanding.

**Note: With the exception of Tribal governments, Tribal organizations, units of local government, and institutions of higher education, an applicant cannot serve in both partner categories.**

**Applications that do not demonstrate that both required areas of expertise are met will be removed from consideration if the MOU is missing.**

The MOU is a document containing the terms of the partnership and the allocation of roles and responsibilities between two or more parties, and it must be included as an attachment to the application in JustGrants. The MOU is not a substitute for a subaward agreement, which ensures that subrecipients adhere to the requirements of the award and 2 C.F.R. Part 200 (see 2 C.F.R. § 200.332). Partners receiving funds under the award generally are considered subrecipients because they are carrying out a portion of the federal award.

The MOU **must** be a single document developed specifically for this application. It **must** be signed and currently dated by the Authorized Representative of each proposed partner organization. OVW will accept electronic signatures. MOUs missing signatures may result in a point deduction or **removal from consideration, particularly if the MOU is missing the signature of a required partner**. If necessary, an MOU can include multiple signature pages so long as each page includes the names and titles of all signatories to the MOU. A sample [MOU](#) is available on the OVW website.

*The MOU must clearly:*

1. Identify the project partners and provide a brief history of the collaborative relationship between those partners, including when and under what circumstances the collaborative relationship began and when each partner entered into the relationship.



2. Describe the roles and responsibilities each partner will assume to ensure the success of the proposed project.
3. State that each project partner has reviewed the budget, is aware of the total amount being requested, and is being equitably compensated for their work under the grant or is agreeing to be partially compensated or receive no compensation from the grant.
4. Describe the applicant's or partner's experience implementing restorative practices.
5. Describe the applicant's or partner's history of collaborating with community-led or community-driven efforts to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking.
6. Detail the applicant's or partner's history of working with and advocating for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking.
7. Describe the applicant's or partner's experience in screening the suitability of individuals who caused harm to participate in the restorative practices program.
8. Describe the applicant's or partner's experience in working with individuals who caused harm.
9. If addressing the [Statutory Consideration](#) to meaningfully address the needs of culturally specific or underserved populations, demonstrate how the proposed partnership can address the needs of the culturally specific and/or underserved population(s), identified in the What Will Be Done section of the [Proposal Narrative](#).

**NOTE:** Tribal governments and Tribal organizations applying is the lead applicant that are unable to obtain one or more MOU signatures may submit an unsigned or partially signed MOU. If the MOU is unsigned or partially signed, the MOU must state the reason for delayed signatures, such as the Tribal council not meeting while this NOFO was open. If the application is selected for funding, a signed MOU must be submitted by the end of the planning period as an award deliverable.

#### Letter of Experience (20 points)

Applicants that are Tribal governments, Tribal organizations, units of local government, or institutions of higher education (20 U.S.C. § 1001(a)), can elect to submit a Letter of Experience (LOE) signed by the highest authorizing official if they can demonstrate that they have both the expertise of 1) direct victim services and advocacy in working with survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and 2) implementing restorative practices.

The LOE must be a single document, no more than two pages in length, and developed specifically for this application. The required letter must be uploaded and attached in JustGrants at the time of application submission. Applications will be removed from consideration if the LOE is missing.

The LOE must address the following:

1. The number of years the organization has provided direct services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking.
2. The number of years the organization has provided restorative practices to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking.
3. The breadth of direct victim services and restorative practices that the organization provides to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking.
4. The qualifications or skills of the organization's staff to be assigned to the project, and the training they have received on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking and restorative practices.

**NOTE:** Tribal governments and Tribal organization applying as the lead applicant that are unable to obtain one or more signatures may submit an unsigned or partially signed LOE. If the LOE is unsigned or partially signed, the LOE must state the reason for delayed signatures, such as the Tribal council not meeting while the NOFO was open. If the application is selected for funding, a signed LOE must be submitted by the end of the planning period as an award deliverable.

A sample LOE is available on the OVW Website: [OVW - Sample Letter of Experience](#).

## **Additional Application Components**

The following documents will not be scored but must be uploaded and attached to the application in JustGrants. Failure to do so will result in the application being removed from consideration.

### **Certification Regarding Out-of-Scope Activities**

**\*\*\*This Certification Regarding Out-of-Scope Activities is the subject of federal litigation. For the most up-to-date information about the certification requirement, please see the OVW website at: <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/open-notice-of-funding-opportunity>.\*\*\***

Applicants must attach a letter to OVW's Director, signed by the Authorized Representative, certifying that grant funds will not be used for the following out-of-scope activities:

1. Promoting or facilitating the violation of federal immigration law.
2. Inculcating or promoting gender ideology as defined in Executive Order 14168, *Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government*.
3. Promoting or facilitating discriminatory programs or ideology, including illegal DEI and "diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility" programs that do not advance the policy of equal dignity and respect, as described in Executive Order 14173, *Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity*. This prohibition is not intended to interfere with any of OVW's statutory obligations, such as funding for HBCUs, culturally specific services, and disability programs.
4. Activities that frame domestic violence or sexual assault as systemic social justice issues rather than criminal offenses (e.g., prioritizing criminal justice reform or social justice theories over victim safety and offender accountability).
5. Generic community engagement or economic development without a clear link to violence prevention, victim safety, or offender accountability.
6. Programs that discourage collaboration with law enforcement or oppose or limit the role of police, prosecutors, or immigration enforcement in addressing violence against women.
7. Awareness campaigns or media that do not lead to tangible improvements in prevention, victim safety, or offender accountability.
8. Initiatives that prioritize illegal aliens over U.S. citizens and legal residents in receiving victim services and support.
9. Excessive funding for consulting fees, training, administrative costs, or other expenses not related to measurable violence prevention, victim support, and offender accountability.
10. Research projects.



11. Any activity or program that unlawfully violates an Executive Order.

Note: Nothing in this certification prohibits recipients from serving all eligible victims as required by statute, regulation, or award condition.

See sample [Certification of Out-of-Scope Activities Letter](#).

#### Letter 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 of Nonsupplanting](#) is available on the OVW website.

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

As noted under the [Eligible Applicants](#) section, an 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 the Code. All such applicants are required to attach 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.

#### Confidentiality Notice Form

All applicants are required to acknowledge that they have received notice that recipients and subrecipients 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 [OVW website](#). This form must be signed by the Authorized Representative.

#### Certification to Implement Statutorily Defined Restorative Practices

Applicants must upload and attach in JustGrants the required Certification to Implement Statutorily Defined Restorative Practices signed by the highest authorizing official. For more information on the required certifications, see the [Eligibility Information](#) section of this NOFO.

### **Disclosures and Assurances**

All applicants must review, complete, and submit all disclosures, assurances, and certifications in JustGrants as described below.

#### Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (if applicable)

Applicants are required to complete and submit a lobbying disclosure form (Standard Form/SF-LLL) **IF** they have paid or will pay any person to lobby in connection with the award for which they are applying **AND** their application is for more than \$100,000. This disclosure requirement is not applicable to such payments by an Indian Tribe, Tribal organization, or any other Indian organization that are permitted by other federal law. For this requirement, lobbying means influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or

employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress. (See 31 U.S.C. § 1352; 28 C.F.R. part 69.)

Applicants that are required to submit the SF-LLL must download the form from [https://apply07.grants.gov/apply/forms/sample/SFLLL\\_2\\_0-V2.0.pdf](https://apply07.grants.gov/apply/forms/sample/SFLLL_2_0-V2.0.pdf), complete it, and upload it with their application when prompted to do so in JustGrants.

### Summary of Other Federal Funding

Applicants must disclose whether they have any of the following: 1) an OVW grant or cooperative agreement that is open or that closed within 12 months of the date this funding opportunity closes; 2) a subaward under an OVW grant or cooperative agreement that is open or that closed within 12 months of the date this funding opportunity closes; 3) a pending OVW application as either the lead applicant/potential recipient or as a partner/potential subrecipient; 4) a federal award to do the same or similar work; or 5) a pending federal application to do the same or similar work.

Applicants must provide this information by completing the Summary of Other Federal Funding form in the Disclosures and Assurances section of JustGrants during the application submission process.

### DOJ Certified Standard Assurances

Applicants must read and acknowledge the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants, a copy of which is available [here](#).

### 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, a copy of which is available [here](#).

## **Submission Requirements and Deadlines**

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The complete application package (this NOFO, including links to required forms) is available on Grants.gov and on the [OVW website](#). Applicants wishing to request a paper copy of these materials should contact OVW at 202-307-6026 or [OVW.RestorativeJustice@usdoj.gov](mailto:OVW.RestorativeJustice@usdoj.gov).

Deadlines for the steps below are in the [Key Dates](#) section of this NOFO.

### **Prior to Application Submission**

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

Entities applying for the first time must register with the following systems:

- SAM.gov: Registration with [SAM.gov](#) includes receiving a UEI and takes an average of **2 to 3 weeks**.
- Grants.gov: Registration with [Grants.gov](#) takes an average of **1 week**.
- JustGrants: Registration with JustGrants needs to be completed **ONLY** after successful submission of [Step 1](#) of the application as described below under How to Apply.

**Note:** Registration time frames are estimates. Applicants experiencing registration challenges should contact the system's [help desk](#) and refer to the [OVW Policy for Applicants Experiencing Technical Difficulties During the Registration and Submission Processes](#) section below for guidance on how to proceed.

Entities that have previously applied for funding from DOJ must ensure their accounts with SAM, Grants.gov, and JustGrants are active and up to date.

**All applicants must maintain active registration in SAM.gov with current information whenever they have a federal award or an application under consideration by a federal agency.** It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that they are registered with SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants. OVW strongly encourages all applicants to begin the registration process or ensure that all accounts are active and up to date. **Failure to do so may result in missing the application deadline and therefore not being considered for funding.**

## **How to Apply**

### **Step 1:**

Submit the SF-424, which is generated when the applicant begins the submission process in Grants.gov. To view the form before completing it in Grants.gov, applicants should click the Package tab under the funding opportunity for which they are applying and select Preview. Preview then provides links to the form.

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) should match the amount of federal funding requested in the budget of the application. 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 have the authority to apply for and accept grant awards on behalf of the organization or jurisdiction.

**Intergovernmental Review (SF-424 Question 19):** This funding opportunity is subject to Executive Order (E.O.) 12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs. Applicants must check the Office of Management and Budget's website for the names and addresses of state [Single Points of Contact](#) (SPOC) under Intergovernmental Review. If the applicant's state appears on the SPOC list, the applicant must contact the state SPOC to comply with the state's process under E.O. 12372. In completing the SF-424, the applicant must make the appropriate selection in response to question 19 once it has complied with its state E.O. 12372 process. An applicant whose state does not appear on the SPOC list should answer question 19 by selecting the following response: "Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the state for review."

### **Step 2:**

Submit the full application, including attachments, in JustGrants at <https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/>. Applicants begin Step 2 of the application submission process by reviewing the Standard Applicant Information in JustGrants, making edits as needed, confirming the Authorized Representative, verifying the legal name and address, and entering the ZIP code(s) for the areas affected by the

project. OVW encourages applicants to review the [JustGrants](#) website for more information, resources, and training.

**Tip:** JustGrants functions better using a PC with Chrome or Edge web browser.

**Note that the Grants.gov and JustGrants deadlines are typically only a few days apart.**

## **Submission Dates and Times**

Applicants must make every effort to submit their application electronically in Grants.gov and JustGrants by the [deadlines](#).

Applicants experiencing technical difficulties, severe inclement weather, or natural or manmade disasters affecting submission should follow the steps described on OVW's [website](#).

**Application Tip:** OVW strongly encourages all applicants to begin the submission process at least 48 hours prior to the Grants.gov application deadline. Failure to do so may result in missing the application deadline and therefore not being considered for funding.

## **Application Submission Checklist**

Applicants must submit all required application items. Prior to peer review, OVW will not contact applicants for missing items. Applicants applying to more than one OVW program are responsible for ensuring that only documents pertinent to this funding opportunity are included with this application. OVW will not redirect documents 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 Item	Required?	Submission Type	Submission Website	Date Completed
<a href="#">Application for Federal Assistance: SF-424</a>	Yes	Online Form	Grants.gov	
<a href="#">Proposal Abstract</a>	Yes	Online Form	JustGrants	
<a href="#">Pre-Award Risk Assessment</a>	Yes	Online Form	JustGrants	
<a href="#">Summary Data Sheet</a>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<a href="#">Proposal Narrative</a>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<a href="#">Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative</a>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<a href="#">Indirect Cost Rate Agreement</a>	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	

Application Item	Required?	Submission Type	Submission Website	Date Completed
<a href="#"><u>Financial Capability Questionnaire</u></a>	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
<a href="#"><u>Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation</u></a>	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
<a href="#"><u>Memorandum of Understanding or Letter of Experience</u></a>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<a href="#"><u>Certification Regarding Out-of-Scope Activities</u></a>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<a href="#"><u>Letter of Nonsupplanting</u></a>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<a href="#"><u>Proof of 501(c)(3) Status</u></a>	Yes (nonprofits only)	Attachment	JustGrants	
<a href="#"><u>Confidentiality Notice Form</u></a>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<a href="#"><u>Disclosure of Lobbying Activities</u></a>	If applicable	Attachment	JustGrants	
<a href="#"><u>Summary of Other Federal Funding</u></a>	If applicable	Online Form	JustGrants	
<a href="#"><u>Job Descriptions</u></a>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	
<a href="#"><u>Certification to Implement Statutorily Defined Restorative Practices</u></a>	Yes	Attachment	JustGrants	

## Application Review Information

### Responsiveness Review

Criteria that make an application or project ineligible are listed in the [Application Contents](#) and [Eligibility](#) sections of this NOFO. Additional information about circumstances that may result in removal from consideration is provided below under [Review and Selection Process](#) and [Risk Review](#).

### 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. Applications will also be scored based upon the quality of the response, capacity of the applicant and any partners, and the level of detail provided. Each element **must** be addressed in the section in which it is requested. Points may be deducted if the

applicant does not include the information in the appropriate section even if it is included elsewhere within the application. Each section will be reviewed as a separate document and will be scored as such. Scoring details can be found in the [Application Contents](#) section of this NOFO.

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 NOFO. OVW may use internal reviewers, external reviewers, or a combination of both.

OVW peer reviewers may include victim advocates, restorative practice practitioners, researchers, evaluators, criminal or civil justice representatives who have implemented restorative practices and others with expertise in areas such as tribal communities, colleges and universities, rural areas, urban areas, working with people with disabilities or older adults, and providing services to victims, including transitional housing and services provided by community organizations and the faith community. While some peer reviewers are expert consultants on violence against women issues, the vast majority are current practitioners or recent retirees from the professions mentioned above. To ensure that applications are reviewed by people with on-the-ground experience responding to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, OVW does not use professional peer reviewers. All reviewers are required to adhere to OVW's peer review conflict of interest policy, which is designed to identify and resolve any issues that may call into question a reviewer's impartiality or objectivity regarding an application.

### **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 add up to 10 points to applications substantively addressing one or more priorities and 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. Activities outside the statutory scope of the program or initiative and/or unallowable under the Uniform Guidance or the DOJ Financial Guide (deduct up to 25 points).
3. Formatting and technical requirements (deduct up to 5 points).

An application that is 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.

During the Programmatic Review, OVW and/or the designated TTA providers will conduct at least one individual call with applicants that are considered for funding to assess capacity and readiness to participate in the pilot project.

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

## **Risk Review**

Prior to making an award, OVW must evaluate the risk posed by applicants as described in 2 C.F.R. § 200.206(b), using the applicant's responses to the questions listed in [Appendix A](#). OVW also must review and consider integrity and performance information about applicants that is available in SAM.gov. Applicants may review and comment on information about themselves that another federal awarding agency has previously entered. OVW considers the applicant's comments as well as other information available in SAM.gov in making its judgment about the risk posed by making an award to the applicant.

### **High-Risk Recipients**

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

## **Award Notices**

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OVW notifies applicants through JustGrants (not Grants.gov) when they receive an award. Successful applicants then log into JustGrants to review and accept the award. The Authorized Representative must acknowledge that they have read and understood all sections of the award instrument and they must submit the required declaration and certification to accept the award. These steps must be completed electronically in JustGrants.

By the anticipated decision notification date in the [Key Dates](#) section of this NOFO, unsuccessful applicants will receive a letter addressed to their Authorized Representative with information on how to receive feedback on their application.



## Availability of Funds

All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds as well as any modifications or additional requirements imposed by law. There is no guarantee that funds will be available in the future. Depending on availability of funding and an application's merit, OVW may fund an application not selected under this funding opportunity in a future fiscal year or under another OVW program.

## **Post-Award Requirements and Administration**

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### **Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements**

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 applying. This information can be found in the *Requirements for All OVW Applicants and Recipients* section of the [Application Companion Guide](#).

[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.

### **Post-award Reporting Requirements**

OVW recipients must submit semi-annual performance reports and quarterly Federal Financial Reports (SF-425). Performance report forms will be provided to all award recipients. 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 SAM, see the [Application Companion Guide](#) and the award condition on recipient integrity and performance matters available on the [OVW website](#).

## **Other Information**

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### **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, easily understood, and not unnecessarily burdensome. 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.**



## **Appendix A: Pre-Award Risk Assessment**

**Note:** Applicants must complete this questionnaire in JustGrants. The questions listed below are for reference only. Each applicant must respond to each question. Do not submit responses from a prior fiscal year without updating them to be responsive to all questions listed in the questionnaire. 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 application being removed from consideration or a delay in access to funds. Provide complete responses that address all questions included for each numbered item.

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. 200.334-200.338.
7. Does the applicant or any of its employees have any potential personal or organizational conflicts of interest related to the possible receipt of OVW award funds? Applicants are required to disclose in writing any potential conflicts of interest to their awarding agency. See 2 C.F.R. 200.112 and Chapter 3.20, Grant Fraud, Waste and Abuse, of the DOJ Financial Guide for additional information.
8. Is the individual primarily responsible for fiscal and administrative oversight of grant awards familiar with the applicable grants management rules, principles, and regulations including the

Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 C.F.R. Part 200)? Provide a short list of the individual's qualifications/experience. If the individual is not familiar with the applicable rules and regulations, the applicant must contact OVW's Grants Financial Management Division at OVW.GFMD@usdoj.gov 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. 200.331-200.333)? 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.
11. 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.

## Appendix B: Summary Data Sheet

The Summary Data Sheet questionnaire must be completed and submitted as an attachment under the Additional Application Components section in JustGrants.

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

2. Is the applicant (the organization whose unique entity identifier 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.**

- Yes – go to Q 2A & 2B
- No

2A. List all subrecipients

2B. Note: The applicant acknowledges that it 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?

- Yes – go to 3A
- No

3A. Specify the end date of the applicant's fiscal year.

4. Does the application substantively address any of the following priorities:
    - Measures to combat human trafficking and transnational crime, particularly crimes linked to illegal immigration and cartel operations, that support safety and justice for trafficking victims who have also suffered domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and/or stalking.
- Yes
  - No

- Projects to provide victim services, especially housing, and improve law enforcement response in rural and remote areas, Tribal nations, and small towns that often lack resources to effectively combat domestic violence and sexual assault.
    - Yes
    - No
5. Is the applicant 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?
- If yes, the applicant must upload proof of 501(c)(3) status in the Additional Application Components section of JustGrants.
6. 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?
7. 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 for Setting Executive Compensation](#).
- If yes, the applicant must upload the required Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation in the Budget and Associated Documentation section of JustGrants.
8. Identify Lead agency's applicant type:
- Tribal government
  - Tribal organization
  - Unit of local government
  - Institutions of higher education (as defined in section 1001(a) of Title 20)
  - Victim service provider
  - Private or public nonprofit organizations, including Tribal nonprofit organizations, and faith-based nonprofit organizations
9. List all project partners (organization names and/or individual consultants) and the funding amount requested for each partner.
10. Provide the name(s) and location(s) of organization(s) with restorative practice expertise.
11. Provide the name(s) and location(s) of organization(s) with direct victim services and advocacy expertise.

12. Describe the lead applicant and/or partner's history of comprehensive training and experience in domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.
13. Identify the population size and the project's service area.
14. Describe the restorative practices that address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking to be enhanced or expanded in this project.