U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Office for Victims of Crime



OVC FY 2022 Building Capacity of National Crisis Hotlines

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Application JustGrants Deadline: June 27, 2022 8:59 PM

Overview

The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>Office for Victims of Crime</u> (OVC) seeks applications for funding to enhance or expand the capacity of national hotlines that are essential for providing crisis intervention services, safety planning, information, referrals, and resources for victims of crime in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands. This program furthers the DOJ's mission by supporting organizations to improve responses, services, and access for victims of crime.

This solicitation incorporates the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide by reference. The OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants to prepare and submit applications to OJP for funding. If this solicitation expressly modifies any provision in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation as to that provision.

This solicitation expressly modifies the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide by not incorporating the "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation" provisions in the "Application Attachments" section.

Solicitation Categories

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

Eligible Applicants:

City or township governments, County governments, Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), 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, State governments, Other

Other

For purposes of this solicitation, "state" means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

To advance Executive Order 13929 Safe Policing for Safe Communities, the Attorney General determined that all state, local, and university or college law enforcement agencies must be certified by an approved independent credentialing body or have started the certification process to be eligible for FY 2022 DOJ discretionary grant funding. To become certified, the law enforcement agency must meet two mandatory conditions: (1) the agency's use-of-force policies adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and (2) the agency's use-of-force

policies prohibit chokeholds except in situations where use of deadly force is allowed by law. The certification requirement also applies to law enforcement agencies receiving DOJ discretionary grant funding through a subaward. For detailed information on this certification requirement, please visit https://cops.usdoj.gov/SafePolicingEO to access the Standards for Certification on Safe Policing for Safe Communities, the Implementation Fact Sheet, and the List of Designated Independent Credentialing Bodies.

All recipients and subrecipients (including any for-profit organization) must forgo any profit or management fee.

OVC will consider applications under which two or more entities would carry out the federal award; however, only one entity may be the applicant. Any others must be proposed as subrecipients (subgrantees). For additional information on subawards, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

OVC may elect to fund applications submitted under this FY 2022 solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and the availability of appropriations.

Contact Information

For technical assistance with submitting the Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF)-424 and a Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form (SF-LLL) in Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, at Grants.gov Customer Support, or support@grants.gov. The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

For technical assistance with submitting the **full application** in DOJ's Justice Grants System (JustGrants), contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u>. The JustGrants Service Desk operates 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. eastern time Monday–Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, and Federal holidays.

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact the OJP Response Center (this is the OVC contact) by telephone at 800–851–3420 or TTY: 301–240–6310 (hearing impaired only), or by email at grants@ncjrs.gov. The OJP Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. eastern time Monday–Friday, and 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the solicitation closing date.

Pre-Application Webinar: OVC will conduct one pre-application webinar during which OVC staff will review the solicitation requirements and conduct a question and answer session with interested potential applicants. Participation is optional. When the webinar has been scheduled, the details and registration information will be available at https://ovc.ojp.gov/funding/funding-webinars.

Submission Information

Applications will be submitted to DOJ in two steps:

<u>Step 1:</u> The applicant must submit by the Grants.gov deadline the required Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF)-424 and a Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) form when they register in Grants.gov at https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html. To register in Grants.gov, the applicant will need to ensure that its System for Award Management (SAM) registration is current.

<u>Step 2</u>: The applicant must then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at <u>JustGrants.usdoj.gov</u>. To be considered timely, the full application must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline. OJP encourages applicants to review the "How to Apply" section in the <u>OJP</u> Grant Application Resource Guide and the <u>JustGrants</u> website for more information, resources, and training.

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Program Description

Overview

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. This program will enhance or expand the capacity of national hotlines that are essential for providing crisis intervention services, safety planning, information, referrals, and resources for victims of crime in all 50 states.

For purposes of this solicitation, "state" means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Statutory Authority

34 U.S.C. 20103 (c)(1)(A)

Specific Information

Funding to support national hotlines was previously available under OVC's Advancing the Use of Technology to Assist Victims of Crime solicitation. In fiscal year 2022, OVC created the Building Capacity of National Crisis Hotlines program specifically to support the enhancement or expansion of national hotlines that serve all crime victims and survivors with strengths-based and trauma-informed services. Hotlines are an important safety net for survivors who may not be able to access services in their immediate area. The National Runaway Safeline's 2020 Crisis Services and Prevention Report noted several shifts in the nature of crisis contacts as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, such as an overall increase in intensity and length of time of crisis connections, and an increase in suicide and other mental health-related contacts. Funding hotlines will build the capacity and infrastructure of call centers to offer more continuous and stable hotline support without interruption, sustain uninterrupted access to services and resources, and allow service providers to transition to tele-services when possible.

Infrastructure is needed to integrate and upgrade technology systems allowing organizations to maintain ongoing operations of a national hotline and enhance the quality of, and access to, hotline crisis services. This program is designed not only to build the capacity and infrastructure of call centers, but also to maintain the National Hotline Consortium, a group of leading national victim service and crisis intervention hotlines.

All proposed hotline personnel should be experienced case managers who provide direct services and personalized support to crime victims. The hotline, at a minimum, should incorporate the following approaches: 1) use skilled case managers who can assess the needs of victims and identify relevant next steps; 2) identify appropriate reporting agencies, and provide information to callers to assist them in reporting, or connect callers directly (as a warm hand-off) with the appropriate agency; 3) provide information, resources, and referrals to other applicable services, as needed; and 4) provide contact information to national or local resources per the specific needs of the caller.

OVC encourages applications that focus on: 1) addressing online gender-based abuse and harassment; 2) offering services that respond to online-facilitated gender-based violence; 3) training hotline personnel on how to respond to issues of online harassment and abuse, particularly toward women and girls along with LGBTQ and nonbinary people and other marginalized groups; and 4) using technology to make services safe and more accessible, and to reach underserved communities.

Per <u>Executive Order 13985</u>, the term "underserved communities" refers to populations sharing a particular characteristic, and geographic communities, that have been systematically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life.

Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

Goals

The goal of this program is to enhance or expand the capacity of national victim service hotlines to provide crisis intervention support services using trauma-informed approaches that protect the safety and confidentiality of

victims.

Objectives

Applicants will achieve this goal through the following objectives:

- 1. Provide high-quality service to crime victims and survivors by expanding hotline staffing to improve capacity to reduce wait times and enhance access to services and resources.
- Enhance training for hotline personnel on how to respond to complex crisis situations (e.g., suicide prevention, human trafficking, child abuse, online abuse and harassment) and provide support to minimize their risk and the effects of vicarious trauma and burnout.
- 3. Engage in public awareness campaigns and outreach efforts to increase accessibility, visibility, and awareness of national hotline services.
- 4. Develop culturally and linguistically appropriate materials and resources for service providers and criminal justice stakeholders that increase awareness of hotline services.
- 5. Provide trainings or webinars targeted at service providers and criminal justice stakeholders that increase awareness of hotline services.
- 6. Maintain the National Hotline Consortium to share technology service delivery and promising practices, improve operations, and support accessible, quality victim services and crisis response.
- Increase focus on quality assurance and quality improvement by implementing a data-driven improvement process that enhances service provision, technology processes, reporting, and data analysis capacity.

Deliverables

The deliverables will be the development or enhancement and implementation of national hotlines in addition to training and technical assistance and public outreach. Other deliverables include the following:

- Development or enhancement of a training curriculum for hotline personnel to enhance knowledge and service delivery (Year 1).
- Development or enhancement of an automated system for tracking calls and analyzing trends to enhance reporting and data analysis capacity (Years 1–2).
- Development of a quality assurance and improvement plan (Years 1–2).
- Development of a public outreach/marketing plan to increase visibility and awareness of hotline services (Years 1–2).

Development of a public-facing <u>annual</u> report that highlights data collected (e.g., services provided, challenges, trends, gaps in services)

Evidence-Based Programs or Practices

OJP strongly encourages the use of data and evidence in policymaking and program development for criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. For additional information and resources on evidence-based programs or practices, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities

OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the programs and activities funded under this solicitation. For additional information, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide section entitled "Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities."

OJP Priority Areas

The Department of Justice is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community.

1. Priority Considerations Supporting Executive Order 13985, Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government

Consistent with this Executive Order, the term "underserved community" refers to a population sharing a particular characteristic, as well as a geographic community, that has been systematically denied a full

opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life or whose members have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality. Such communities include, among others, Black people, Hispanics and Latino/a/e people, Native American and other Indigenous peoples of North America (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts), Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders.

In support of Executive Order 13985, OJP will:

A. Give priority consideration to applications that include project(s) that will promote racial equity and the removal of barriers to access and opportunity for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality, when making award decisions.

To receive this consideration, the applicant must describe how the proposed project(s) will address potential inequities and barriers to equal opportunity, and/or contribute to greater access to services for underserved and historically marginalized populations.

B. Give priority consideration to applicants that can demonstrate that their capabilities and competencies for implementing their proposed project(s) are enhanced because the applicant (or at least one proposed subrecipient that will receive at least 30% of the requested award funding, as demonstrated in the Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative) identifies as a culturally specific organization. To receive this additional priority consideration, applicants must describe how being a culturally specific organization (or funding the culturally specific subrecipient organization(s)) will enhance their ability to implement the proposed project(s) and should also specify which culturally specific populations are intended or expected to be served or to have their needs addressed under the proposed project(s).

Culturally specific organizations are defined for purposes of this solicitation as private nonprofit or tribal organizations whose primary purpose as a whole is to provide culturally specific services to, among others, Black people, Hispanics and Latino/a/e people, Native American and other Indigenous peoples of North America (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts), Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and/or Pacific Islanders.

Note: Addressing these priority areas is one of many factors that OJP considers in making funding decisions. Receiving priority consideration for one or more priority areas is not a guarantee of an award.

Federal Award Information

Solicitation Categories

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

Awards, Amounts and Durations

Anticipated Number of Awards

Period of Performance Start Date 10/1/22 12:00 AM

Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation \$6,000,000,00

Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount of Awards \$2,000,000.00

Period of Performance Duration (Months)

Continuation Funding Intent

OVC may, in certain cases, provide additional funding in future years to awards made under this solicitation, through continuation awards. OJP will consider, among other factors, OJP's strategic priorities, a recipient's overall management of the award, and the award-funded work's progress, when making continuation award decisions.

Availability of Funds

This solicitation, and awards (if any are made) under this solicitation, are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by the agency or by law. In addition, nothing in this solicitation is intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

Types of Awards

OVC expects to make awards under this solicitation as cooperative agreements, which provide for OJP to have substantial involvement in carrying out award activities. See the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section of the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

Financial Management and System of Internal Controls

Award recipients and subrecipients (including recipients or subrecipients that are pass-through entities) must, as described in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.303, comply with standards for financial and program management. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

Budget Information

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

This solicitation does not require a match.

Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide information on Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs).

Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> information on the Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver.

Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs.

Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on Costs Associated with Language Assistance.

Eligibility Information

For eligibility information, see the solicitation cover page.

For information on cost sharing or match requirements, see the "Federal Award Information" section.

Application and Submission Information

The following application elements **must** be included in the application to meet the basic minimum requirements to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding:

- Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form) (The web-based form includes the budget details and the budget narrative.)

See the "Application Elements and Formatting Instructions" section of the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on what happens to an application that does not contain all the specified elements or is nonresponsive to the scope of the solicitation.

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

The SF-424 must be submitted in Grants.gov. The SF-424 is a required standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications, applications, and related information. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information on completing the SF-424.

In Section 8F. of the SF-424, please include the name and contact information of the individual **who will complete the application in JustGrants**. JustGrants will use this information *(email address)* to assign the application to this user in JustGrants.

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

Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)

The Standard Applicant Information section of the JustGrants application is pre-populated with the SF-424 data submitted in Grants.gov. The applicant will need to review the Standard Applicant Information in JustGrants and make edits as needed. Within this section, the applicant will need to: add zip codes for areas affected by the project; confirm its Authorized Representative; and verify and confirm the organization's unique entity identifier, legal name, and address.

Proposal Abstract

A proposal abstract (no more than 400 words) summarizing the proposed project, including the purpose of the project, primary activities, expected outcomes, the service area, intended beneficiaries and subrecipients (if known), will be completed in the JustGrants web-based form. This abstract should be written in the third person and will be made publicly available on the OJP website if the project is awarded. If you are requesting priority consideration, please indicate the priority area (1A and/or 1B) you are applying under.

Proposal Narrative

The proposal narrative should be submitted as an attachment in JustGrants. The attached document should be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point font; have no less than 1-inch margins; and should not exceed 25 pages. Pages should be numbered and submitted as an attachment. If the proposal narrative fails to comply with these length restrictions, OVC may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions.

The following sections must be included as part of the proposal narrative:

- a. Description of the Issue
 - Describe why this project and proposed activities are necessary (significance/value) and/or address a need and include supporting information.
 - Describe how funding will support the project's value to the victims' field by meeting the stated goal.
 An applicant should use data to provide evidence that the need for the effort exists and demonstrate the scope and size of the need. The applicant should also make a convincing case that the project addresses a gap in existing resources and does not duplicate an existing program.
- b. Project Design and Implementation

- Describe the strategy to address the needs identified in the Description of the Issue.
 - State the key goal(s) of the project.
 - Identify specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-based (SMART) objectives to accomplish goal(s), which should align with the objectives of this solicitation.
 - List the proposed project activities and describe how they relate to the stated objectives.
 Activities are the specific actions to be undertaken to fulfill the objectives and reach the goal(s).
 - Provide a detailed description of the method(s) to be used to carry out each activity.
 - Describe interim deliverables and final products, which should align with the deliverables of this solicitation.
 - Provide a timetable indicating roughly when activities or project milestones are to be accomplished.
- Identify any potential challenges to the project's success and describe how the applicant will mitigate those challenges.
- Describe how the safety and confidentiality of victims will be protected.
- Describe any sustainability measures the applicant will take to continue its efforts beyond the funding period.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration for Priority 1(A), it should address in this section how the proposed project(s) will promote racial equity and/or the removal of barriers to access and opportunity, and/or contribute to greater access to services, for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality.

- c. Capabilities and Competencies
 - Applicants must describe the capabilities and competencies to accomplish the goals and objectives
 of the project. The application must also include a clear description of the applicant's management
 structure and current and proposed professional staff members' unique qualifications that will enable
 them to fulfill their grant responsibilities.
 - Applicants must describe how the program will be managed and include an organizational chart or information describing personnel.
 - Applicants must also include a list of personnel responsible for managing and implementing the
 major stages of the project. If additional staff will be hired to complete the project, the applicant
 should identify the selection criteria. The project director must have both the substantive expertise
 and experience to perform crucial leadership functions, and sufficient time to devote to the project to
 provide the needed guidance and supervision. Job descriptions and copies of resumes for proposed
 key staff positions should be included as a separate attachment

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1(B), it should describe within this section how being a culturally specific organization (or funding a culturally specific subrecipient organization at a minimum of 30% of the project budget) will enhance its ability to implement the proposed project(s) and should also specify which culturally specific populations are intended or expected to be served or have their needs addressed under the proposed project(s).

- d. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures
 - Describe the process for measuring project performance.
 - Identify who will collect the data; who is responsible for performance measurements.
 - Describe how the information will be used to guide and evaluate the impact of the project.
 - Describe the process to accurately report data.

Note: Applicants are **not** required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included as an alert that successful applicants will be required to submit performance data as part

of each award's reporting requirements.

OJP will require each successful applicant to submit regular performance data that show the completed work's results. The performance data directly relate to the goals, objectives, and deliverables identified in the "Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables" discussion. Applicants can visit OJP's performance measurement page at www.ojp.gov/performance for an overview of performance measurement activities at OJP.

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found in the "Performance Measures" section.

OVC will require award recipients to submit performance measure data in OVC's online Performance Measurement Tool, and separately submit a semi-annual performance report in JustGrants. OVC will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process, if selected for award.

Note on Project Evaluations

An applicant that proposes to use award funds through this solicitation to conduct project evaluations must follow the guidance in the "Note on Project Evaluations" in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

Applicants will submit the project's goals, objectives, deliverables, and timelines in the JustGrants web-based form.

Budget and Associated Documentation

The applicant must submit the following budget and associated documentation as applicable.

Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)

The applicant will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1(B) based on the identification of at least one proposed subrecipient as a culturally specific organization, the proposed funding for the subrecipient in the webbased budget form **must be a minimum of 30% of award funding.**

The budget narrative must also describe how the activities that will be funded with the (minimum) 30% of award funding provided to the subrecipient **specifically relate to the priority consideration requested under Priority 1(B)** and described in the Capabilities and Competencies section of the application.

Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

The applicant will submit its indirect cost rate agreement by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

Employee Compensation Waiver

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on the Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver.

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

The applicant will download the questionnaire, complete it, and submit it by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for the link to the questionnaire and additional information.

Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation

This solicitation expressly modifies the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide by not incorporating its "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation" provisions. Applicants to this solicitation are not

required to provide this disclosure.

Applicant Disclosure and Justification - DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable)

If applicable, submit the DOJ High Risk Disclosure and Justification as an attachment in JustGrants A DOJ High Risk Grantee is an award recipient that has received a DOJ High Risk designation based on a documented history of unsatisfactory performance, financial instability, management system or other internal control deficiencies, or noncompliance with award terms and conditions on prior awards, or is otherwise not responsible. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

Additional Application Components

Applicants will attach the additional requested documentation in JustGrants.

Curriculum Vitae or Resumes

The applicant should provide job descriptions and resumes for any and all proposed key staff positions.

Tribal Authorizing Resolution

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of tribal authorizing documentation as an attachment. If applicable, the applicant will submit the tribal authorizing documentation by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on tribal authorizing resolutions.

Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement

If an application proposes research (including research and development) and/or evaluation, the applicant must demonstrate research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, before it may receive award funds. The applicant will submit documentation of its research and evaluation independence and integrity by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. For additional information, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

Disclosures and Assurances

The applicant will address the following disclosures and assurances.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Complete and submit the SF-LLL in Grants.gov. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

DOJ Certified Standard Assurances

Review and accept the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items

Complete the JustGrants web-based Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

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

Review and accept the DOJ Certified Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

How to Apply

Step 1: The applicant must submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL in Grants.gov at

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html.

Step 2: The applicant must then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants in <u>JustGrants.usdoj.gov</u>.

For additional information, see the "How to Apply" section in the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> and the <u>DOJ Application Submission Checklist</u>.

Submission Dates and Time

The SF-424 and the SF-LLL must be submitted in Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on June 8, 2022.

The full application must be submitted in JustGrants by 8:59 p.m. eastern time on June 27, 2022.

OJP urges applicants to submit their Grants.gov and JustGrants submissions prior to the due dates to allow sufficient time to correct errors and resubmit by the submission deadlines if a rejection notification is received. To be considered timely, the **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline.

Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues

An applicant that experiences unforeseen SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants technical issues beyond its control that prevent application submission by the deadline, must demonstrate all efforts in requesting technical support in order to submit an application by the deadline. Technical support is available via phone and email to the applicable SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants support centers or service desks in which an applicant received a ticket number for resolution. If an applicant misses a deadline due to unforeseen technical difficulties, the applicant may request a waiver to submit an application after the deadline. Note: If an applicant does not submit all the required Grants.gov forms by the Grants.gov deadline, the applicant will not be able to proceed to the JustGrants portion of the application process.

An applicant experiencing technical difficulties with the following systems must contact the associated support desk indicated below to report the technical issue and receive a tracking number:

- Grants.gov contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline
- SAM.gov contact the SAM Help Desk (Federal Service Desk)
- JustGrants contact the JustGrants Support Desk at JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or 833–872–5175

An applicant requesting a waiver to submit a late application must document their request for technical assistance in an email to the OJP Response Center at grants@ncjrs.gov within 24 hours after the application deadline to request approval to submit its application after the deadline. If an applicant has technical issues with Grants.gov, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center within 24 hours of the Grants.gov deadline to request approval to submit after the deadline. Waiver requests to submit after the submission deadline must:

- Describe the technical difficulties experienced;
- Include a timeline of the applicant's submission efforts (e.g., what date and time did the error occur, what date and time was action taken to resolve the issue and resubmit; and what date and time did support representatives respond);
- Include an attachment(s) of the complete grant application and all required documentation and material;
 and
- Include the applicant's Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), any applicable SAM.gov tracking number(s), Grants.gov Help Desk, and JustGrants Support Desk Ticket Numbers.

OJP will review each request for late submission and required supporting documentation and notify the applicant whether the request has been approved or denied. For more details on the waiver process, OJP encourages applicants to review the "Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues" section in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

Application Review Information

Review Criteria

Merit Review Criteria

Applications that meet the basic minimum requirements will be evaluated by peer reviewers on how the proposed project/program addresses the following criteria:

- 1. Statement of the Problem/Description of the Issue (20%) evaluate the applicant's understanding of the program/issue to be addressed.
- 2. Project Design and Implementation (40%) evaluate the adequacy of the proposal, including the goals, objectives, timelines, milestones, and deliverables.
- 3. Capabilities and Competencies (20%) evaluate the administrative and technical capacity of the applicant to successfully accomplish the goals and objectives.
- 4. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (10%) evaluate the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements and the plan for collecting the required data.
- 5. Budget (10%) evaluate for completeness, cost effectiveness, and allowability (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

Other Review Criteria/Factors

Other important considerations for OVC include geographic diversity, strategic priorities (specifically including, but not limited to, those priority areas already mentioned), available funding, past performance, and the extent to which the Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form) accurately explain project costs that are reasonable, necessary, and otherwise allowable under federal law and applicable federal cost principles.

Review Process

Applications submitted under this solicitation that meet the basic minimum requirements, will be evaluated for technical merit by a peer review panel(s) in accordance with OJP peer review policy and procedures using the review criteria listed above.

OJP screens applications to ensure they meet the basic minimum requirements prior to conducting the peer review. Although specific requirements may vary, the following are common requirements applicable to all OJP solicitations:

- The application must be submitted by an eligible type of applicant.
- The application must request funding within programmatic funding constraints (if applicable).
- The application must be responsive to the scope of the solicitation.
- The application must include all items necessary to meet the basic minimum requirements.

Pursuant to the Part 200 Uniform Requirements, before award decisions are made, OJP also reviews information related to the degree of risk posed by the applicant. Among other things to help assess whether an applicant with one or more prior federal awards has a satisfactory record with respect to performance, integrity, and business ethics, OJP checks whether the applicant is listed in SAM as excluded from receiving a federal award.

In addition, if OJP anticipates that an award will exceed \$250,000 in federal funds, OJP also must review and consider any information about the applicant that appears in the non-public segment of the integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently, the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System, FAPIIS).

Important note on FAPIIS: An applicant may review and comment on any information about itself that currently appears in FAPIIS and was entered by a federal awarding agency. OJP will consider such comments by the

applicant, in addition to the other information in FAPIIS, in its assessment of the risk posed by the applicant.

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final award decisions will be made by the Assistant Attorney General, who may consider not only peer review ratings and OVC recommendations, but also other factors as indicated in this section.

Federal Award Administration Information

Federal Award Notices

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on award notifications and instructions.

Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements

If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the OJP-approved application, the recipient must comply with all award conditions and all applicable requirements of federal statutes and regulations, including the applicable requirements referred to in the assurances and certifications executed in connection with award acceptance. For additional information on these legal requirements, see the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of information related to information technology security. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on information technology security.

General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements

In addition to the deliverables described in the "Program Description" section, all award recipients under this solicitation will be required to submit certain reports and data.

<u>Required reports</u>. Award recipients typically must submit quarterly financial reports, semi-annual performance reports, final financial and performance reports, and, if applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with the Part 200 Uniform Requirements or specific award conditions. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent. (In appropriate cases, OJP may require additional reports.)

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measure data.

Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For OJP contact(s), see the solicitation cover page.

For contact information for Grants.gov, see the solicitation cover page.

For contact information for JustGrants, see the solicitation cover page.

Other Information

Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a)

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a).

Provide Feedback to OJP

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on how to provide feedback to OJP.

Performance Measures

A list of performance measure questions for this project can be found here: https://www.ovc.gov/grants/pdftxt/TVS-questionnaire.pdf. Award recipients under this solicitation will be required to complete the following sections, including any relevant shared measures:

- I. Training
- II. Technical Assistance
- III. Tech Development
- IV. Data Gathering
- V. Collaborative Partnerships
- VI. Strategic Planning
- VII. Victim Services

Application Checklist

OVC FY 2022 Building Capacity of National Crisis Hotlines

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. The DOJ Application Submission Checklist is another resource.

What an Applicant Must Do:

Prior to registering in Grants.gov:

 Confirm your Entity's System Award Management (SAM) Registration Information (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

To register in Grants.gov:

- Acquire an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and a Grants.gov username and password (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Acquire AOR confirmation from the E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

To find the funding opportunity:

- · Search for the funding opportunity in Grants.gov using the opportunity number, Assistance Listing or keyword(s)
- Access the funding opportunity and application package (see Step 7 in the OJP Grant Application Resource
- Sign up for Grants.gov email notifications (optional) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Read Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov
- Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting

available at ojp.gov/funding/financialguidedoj/iii-postaward-requirements#6g3y8 (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements:

• Review the "Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2022 Awards" in the OJP Funding Resource Center.

Review Scope Requirement:

• The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of \$2,000,000

Review Eligibility Requirement:

- State governments*
 City or township governments
 Public and State controlled institutions of higher education
- County governments

- Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)
 Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)
 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

Prepare to submit the Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF)-424 and Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form (SF-LLL)

- Review Information to complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) in Grants.gov
 Complete Standard Applicant Information (SF-424 information from Grants.gov)
 Submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL in Grants.gov

After the SF-424 and SF-LLL submission in Grants.gov, receive Grants.gov email notifications that:

- Submission has been received in Grants.gov
- Submission has either been successfully validated or rejected with errors (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

If no Grants.gov receipt validation, or error notifications are received:

 Contact OVC or Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, Grants.gov customer support, or support@grants.gov regarding technical difficulties (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

Receive email notification to complete application in JustGrants

Proceed to complete application in JustGrants

Content of Application Submission: Critical Application Elements

The following items are critical application elements required to pass the basic minimum requirements review. If OJP determines that an application does not include the following elements, it will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.

- · Proposal Abstract
- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based Form)

Budget and Associated Documentation:

- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

Additional Application Components:

- Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

• Job Descriptions and Resumes for all Proposed Key Staff Positions

Disclosures and Assurances:

- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- DOJ Certified Standard Assurances (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

Submit application in JustGrants:

• Application has been successfully submitted in JustGrants

If no JustGrants application submission, validation, or error notifications are received:

• Contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u> regarding technical difficulties