

DARYL FOX: Good afternoon everyone and welcome to today's webinar, Transforming America's Response to Elder Abuse: Enhanced Multidisciplinary Teams for Older Victims of Abuse and Financial Exploitation and TTA Assistance Program.

LAURA IVKOVICH: Thank you, Daryl. Hi. Good afternoon. I'm Laura Ivkovich. I'm with the Office for Victims of Crime. I have had the pleasure of being there for most of my career. I've also had the pleasure of holding the portfolio, amongst other things, identity theft, financial fraud, and exploitation, but also elder abuse and financial exploitation. So it's a pleasure to be able to welcome everybody today. I want to let you know that we're going to be going over on the...

...webinar outline, we're going to be going over OVC's mission and the solicitation itself. The overview will include the funding opportunity focus, eligibility, and required documents, as well as the application process and tools and questions and answers. And Daryl is going to help me through some of that portion of the--of the session. It'll be about an hour today and we hope that we'll be able to answer your questions. If not, there'll be other opportunities for you to touch base on anything that you might have questions about. You can also find information about funding opportunities at ovc.ojp.gov/funding/current-funding-opportunities. Next slide.

So OVC's mission is to enhance the Nation's capacity to assist crime victims and to providing leadership in changing attitudes, policies, and practices to promote justice and healing for all victims of crime. OVC's funding supports a variety of different areas, by both our statute and by our programmatic side, which is victims for--of tribal communities, state comp and assistance, training and technical assistance and information resources, victims of international terrorism and mass violence, federal agencies' provision of victim services, human trafficking, and demonstration and service projects. Next slide.

OVC's funding for fiscal '23 is large, \$1.8 billion to help improve victims throughout the Nation. The majority of that goes to assist victims through formula funding to states and territories for victims compensation and victim assistance. With the smaller portion, the little orange portion for discretionary programs, which these programs we're going to talk about today are funded under this discretionary pot. Next slide.

So this OVC funding opportunity, we are going to focus on eligibility, the documents that you need to know about for applying, and then the application process and the resources. So under the eligibility--oh, next slide.

Under the eligibility, we have a combined solicitation that has two purpose areas.

Purpose Area 1 for the Elder-MDTs includes state governments; special districts governments; city and town governments; county governments; Native American tribal organizations; Native American tribal governments; nonprofits both with and without the IRS status, other than institutions of higher education; private institutions of higher education; and public and state-controlled institutions of higher education.

Purpose Area 2, which is really the Multidisciplinary Training and Technical Assistance Center is--the eligibility requirements for that portion, Purpose Area 2, include Native American tribal organizations; Native American tribal governments; nonprofits having and not having the 501 status, other than institutions of higher education; private institutions of higher education; and public and state-controlled institutions of higher education. Next slide, please.

So, the program description for this solicitation basically comes from the solicitation itself. And I would invite folks to make sure that you do download and have a copy of the solicitation so that you can refer back to these sections. But under the program description, OVC seeks to support the development or enhancement of Elder Multidisciplinary Teams to better identify and respond to cases of abuse of older adults and more comprehensively serve and support victims of financial exploitation and other forms of elder abuse. The program will also support a National Elder Abuse Training and Technical Assistance Center. Through these efforts, OVC hopes to improve case outcomes, while minimizing additional trauma and restoring safety and security to older adult victims of crime and to hold more offenders accountable. Next slide, please.

So, the background on this, just as an aside, this is not the first time the solicitation has been issued. It has been issued twice before. We are now in our third round. But the background on this is to address system shortcomings when responding to elder abuse. This solicitation looks to shore up the gaps in offering a victim-centered criminal justice response by funding elder abuse case review MDTs, which bring together a group of professionals to discuss elder abuse cases with the goal of promoting healing through the provision of services, (i.e.--or excuse me, e.g., healthcare, legal, mental health, housing, and the like). This effort supports the ongoing collaboration with our federal partners such as OVW, the Office on Violence Against Women, DOJ's Elder Justice Initiative, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Office of Financial Protection for Older Americans and others, where OVC issued two separate solicitations for funding. The initial round, as I mentioned before, was funded in 2019 and we funded 14 programs. And the second round of funding in 2021, which funded nine programs. Next slide, please.

So the program details. Basically through these 10 new Elder-MDTs and the existing 23 Multidisciplinary Teams, which we'd already funded, OVC hopes to leverage existing federal resources and improve case outcomes while minimizing additional trauma, help to restore state--restore safety and security, and hold more offenders accountable, as I said before. We intend to fund two separate purpose areas. As I mentioned, the competitive IDs are listed there for each purpose area. Purpose Area 1 is for the Elder Multidisciplinary Teams and we are looking to fund up to 10 new awards. The dollar amount for the awards is 307--up to \$375,000 starting in October 1 of this year and going for 36 months. Purpose Area 2, which is the Elder Abuse Training and Technical Assistance Center--Multidisciplinary Training and Technical Assistance Center, OVC is looking to fund one award at a \$1 million. And that duration is also 36 months starting in October of 2023. Next slide.

So the goals are to improve case outcomes while minimizing additional trauma, restoring safety and security to older adult victims of financial exploitation abuse, and hold more offenders accountable. I think I've said that three times already, but I think that's important. It's the goal of this. And then to develop and/or enhance TTA support for elder abuse, Elder-MDTs, which will ensure that they can better identify and respond to older abuse--older adults who experience financial exploitation and other forms of elder abuse. Next slide.

So for Purpose Area 1, which is the Elder-MDTs, we would want to have the applicant demonstrate the ability to develop new or expand existing MDTs that, one, use a paid E-MDT Coordinator position to manage the team. We've learned through research and trial and error that the more ongoing functioning MDTs are those that have somebody who's got the ability to center and focus their efforts on just managing and just pulling together the team, training the team, and other things. So, we wanted to make sure that the funding would be available to pay for a full-time coordinator. Other abilities would be the ability to understand victims' priorities and needs addressing effective response to financial exploitation and other forms of elder abuse, and the needs and obstacles faced by cultural communities with the--within that geographic region. Also to provide services to older adults who have been abused. To enhance the MDT's response through the addition of certain specialists such as neuropsychologists or similar professionals to address cognitive abilities and capability of older adults, as well as forensic accountants to address the possibility of financial exploitation. We wanted to make sure that we enhance these MDTs by the addition of the services of these experts. And then another ability would be to address issues of confidentiality that enable sharing of information to facilitate group decision-making. Again, we've learned, over time, that confidentiality can become a barrier in these types of multidisciplinary groups, and we wanted to make sure that this could be addressed. And so we're making sure that this is what's one of the objectives is. Next slide, please.

So the Purpose Area 1 continued objectives include reducing barriers to program advancement and improving the quality of services provided to older victims of abuse and financial exploitation. Participating in group dynamic training and cross-training to ensure that all members have a voice. Conducting regular interview--internal, excuse me, processes reviews of policies and procedures to improve the case review process and associated systems and seek to implement changes necessary to improve these issues. And another area of ability would be engaging in routine technical assistance to ensure continued enhancement and advancement of the MDT's efforts. And if it's an existing MDT already operating out there, that applicants should also demonstrate their commitment of an MDT member agencies and organizations through a formal partnership such as an MOU, Memorandum of Understanding. Next slide.

So the deliverables for Purpose Area 1, for the E-MDTs would be E-MDTs with expanded membership. Obviously, we'd want to make sure that we are reaching, through the funding of this, as many of the professionals who we need at the table to address the more--the fuller needs of this unique victim population. They will also have

a dedicated E-MDT Coordinator or an identified point of contact. They will have activities that support a coordinated and comprehensive response to crime victims' needs by direct service providers. And they will participate on statewide or other groups, such as task forces, work groups, committees to develop protocols and interagency agreements towards the goals of this program. Next slide, please.

Purpose Area 1 deliverables continued include as well, the recruitment of members and representatives from a broader array of professions, as needed, to examine the comprehensive service needs and intervention that will best serve the needs of victims, including financial exploitation and determine additional experts that might be consulted to improve outcomes for older adult victims. The successful applicant will also have a needs assessment. They'll use the TTA offered that the Office for Victims of Crime is funding under Purpose Area 2, which is the National Training and Technical Assistance Center, so use of that. And then producing the applicable reports and other products as required under a federal grant, which are basically semiannual, and annual reports, and financial reports. Next slide.

So, now I'm going to switch over to Purpose Area 2. Recall that Purpose Area 2 is the Training and Technical Assistance Center. And we would want to make sure that the objective includes demonstrating collaboration through partnership with at least one other organization and collectively demonstrating the following: knowledge of the field of elder abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation through research, practice, or otherwise. Experience and expertise in serving tribal victims, or propose a partnership with a subgrantee with this experience. Experience with providing TA on a national level that is research-informed, based on best practices, and is culturally sensitive or proposing a partnership to ensure culturally relevant programming. And then understanding of the various MDT models, how they optimally operate and develop over time, based on organizational development principles. Next slide.

Still on Purpose Area 2, continued. We would also want that the--that the applicant--successful applicant would be able to demonstrate collaboration and collectively demonstrate the following: understanding of relevant training programs and optimal modalities, such as cross-training and MDT training based on best practices. Familiarity with emerging programmatic and policy issues regarding elder abuse and financial exploitation, basically your finger on the pulse there. And familiarity with data collection and storage for program monitoring. And then the capacity to manage the National Elder Abuse MDT Training and Technical Center--Assistance Center with an existing infrastructure including the capability to develop and host a 3-day in-person training program for the E-MDTs selected by OVC, those that are found to be funded up--the 10 that we're looking to fund under Purpose Area 1. Next slide, please.

So, the deliverables for the Purpose Area 2, which is the Training and Technical Assistance Center, in the first year, it would be to develop a transition plan, for the National TA Center, and it's offerings, if it's not the incumbent. There is an incumbent. So if it's not the incumbent who's successful in applying and getting selected, it would have to--whoever is selected would have to make sure that they have a plan for this

transition. To--also to develop a plan for and conduct a gap analysis. To develop a strategic plan based upon that gap analysis for providing T and TA to those that were selected under Purpose Area 1, those 10 E-MDTs. Develop a sustainability plan. Identify professionals in the field to whom referrals may be made, or to serve as expert consultants. And to implement a systemic strategy to assess the impact of services received from the National Center. Next slide, please.

Those deliverables continued again for the TA Center include, implementation--continued implementation in year two; continued resource development as identified in the gap analysis or other credible sources; the hosting of a 3 day in-person training selected, and any others as appropriate; engaging the E-MDTs in developing core competencies in one or more of the following evidence-based treatments for trauma in older victims. So that would be the CBT, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Trauma-Focused and Traumatic Stress Intervention.

Year three funding is intended to continue, obviously, year two activities with effective implementation of the Center. And then, to document the impact of the T and TA on the 10 E-MDT sites. Next slide, please.

So I believe this was already showcased. The federal award information is--the competitive ID numbers are important to identify the different purpose areas. Purpose Area 1, the Elder MDTs has its own competitive ID number, and it is 2023-00020-PROD. And for the Purpose Area 2, which is the Training and Technical Assistance Center for the Multidisciplinary Teams, it's 2023-00021-PROD. So I wanted to make sure that that was clear. That there's two different competitive ID numbers, and that that is made abundantly clear. We are also going to share with you that these are two different types of awards. So next slide, please.

So the types of awards for Purpose Area 1 are to be made as a grant. These are a little less strenuous of a federal lift, I'll say. The legal instrument is of financial assistance, which is the grant. It's the awarding agency maintains an oversight and monitoring role. That would be our--the Office for Victims of Crime would be the monitor, the grant monitor. But we would not have substantial involvement with the awarding agency. You guys would--the successful applicants as a--as a grantee would not be as connected with the Office for Victims of Crime as it is for Purpose Area 2, which would be through a cooperative agreement.

Purpose Area 2, which is that National Scope Training and Technical Assistance would be made as a cooperative agreement because it'd be--it would require substantial involvement between the awarding agency, OVC, and the recipient. And the awarding agency closely participates in the performance of the program. I had also mentioned earlier in the slides that we do work very closely with our federal partners in this same space. There are other programs, legal services, other elder domestic violence, sexual assault, financial crimes programs at OVW, CFPB funds networks, and other convenings around these issues. So we do want to make sure that we are mindful that we are staying connected with the efforts of others and sharing in that understanding.

So Purpose Area 2 for the National Training and Technical Assistance would be issued as a cooperative agreement, which is substantial involvement. Next slide, please.

And I think I'm going to be turning it over now to Daryl who's going to walk us through the Application and Submission Information. Daryl?

DARYL FOX: Yes. Thank you so much, Laura. As mentioned, this next section's going to cover the Application and Submission Information, some of the things to keep in mind when preparing your application.

New applicants and entities interested in applying should apply for a UEI, which is a Unique Entity Identifier number in SAM.gov as soon as possible. There's been noted extensive delays with the entity validation service process in SAM. So it's highly recommended not to wait until the last minute and adhere to these deadlines. Delays are also being experienced by entities that have changed their legal business name or physical address.

So some of the ones to focus on here are the Grants.gov deadline, May 24, 2023 at 11:59 PM Eastern. If you do not make that deadline, you will not be able to proceed to the next part of the full application deadline, which is the JustGrants system. That's a week later at May 31, 2023, 8:59 PM Eastern. So it does differ by a few hours there on that submission date. So you have to meet the Grants.gov deadline to be able to move on to the full application in JustGrants.

And as mentioned, you know, in a previous slide Laura said that DOJ does expect to award the grants no later than September 30, 2023 of this year, to start October 1, 2023 of this year.

And then just a note here on the slide that successful applicants may not begin work until the budget's been reviewed and officially approved by OJP. And any additional information or restrictions is going to be outlined in the award package that is sent. And we'll get back to these deadlines later in the--in the presentation today.

To meet the BMR, which is the basic minimum requirements to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding, your application must include these elements. First is the proposal abstract. Also the proposal narrative, which includes a variety of things such as the Description of the Issue or Statement of the Problem, Project Design and Implementation, Capabilities and Competencies, and the Plan for Collecting the Data for the Solicitation's Performance Measures, which we'll get into a little bit later. And then lastly, the budget web-based form is the budget details and narrative. So it's not an attachment, it's an actual web-based form that you must submit for the budget.

And just another note here, if you fail to submit any of the required documents, you will not be considered for funding. So just please check, double check, triple check that all of the required BMRs to proceed with are met and uploaded.

Just drilling a little deeper into those that were previously discussed, the proposal abstract is no more than 400 words, summarizing the proposed project, including the purpose, primary activities, expected outcomes, service area, and intended beneficiaries and the subrecipients, if known. This is all to be completed in a JustGrants web-based form. Quite simply, it's a clear and simple summary statement about your proposal. The abstract should be in paragraph form without bullets or tables written in the third person, and exclude personally identifiable information. Abstracts will be publicly made available on the OJP and the USAspending.gov websites, if the project's awarded. So just to be mindful of that. And you could reference the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for an example of a proposal abstract, and that was put in the chat a little bit earlier for you to access directly.

The proposal narrative is another item that we talked about earlier. Adhere to the proposal narrative formatting requirements within the solicitation. If the proposal narrative fails to comply with these length-related restrictions, OVC may consider such as noncompliance in peer review and in the final award decision. So, the narrative must be double-spaced, use a standard 12-point font, have no less than 1-inch margins, not to exceed 22 numbered pages, and then be submitted as an attachment in JustGrants. So this is not a web-based form, it's an actual attachment. Tables, charts, and graphs included in the proposal can be created in a legible font smaller than 12-point, but will count towards the page limit of the 22 numbered pages. So you are able to incorporate those into this, but they will count against the total page count.

Laura will review these in a little more detail, but the following sections are part of the proposal narrative and their merit review criteria. So first is the Statement of the Problem and the Description of the Issue, it's going to be worth 15 percent of the total. Project Design and Implementation is a little bit larger at 30 percent. Capabilities and Competencies is another 30 percent. And then Plans for Collecting the Data for the Solicitation's Performance Measures at 15 percent. Then the budget, which is the web-based form, makes up 10 percent of the full application. So just make sure--quick tip listed here, outline all the grant requirements and make a plan to fulfill each and every requirement.

LAURA IVKOVICH: Thanks, Daryl. So we're going to go through the proposal narrative. For--so for Purpose Area 1, remember we've got two different purpose areas. But for Purpose Area 1, the Description of the Issue and Statement of the Problem, applicants should briefly describe any previous or current attempts to address elder abuse MDT team development. Include any related research or evaluation studies that contribute to the need for an enhanced elder abuse MDT or E-MDT. Make a convincing case that the project addresses a gap and does not just duplicate existing resources.

Now, for Purpose Area 2, the Description of the Issue or Statement of the Problem, it should describe the need for technical assistance for elder abuse professionals participating in E-MDTs. And use data to provide evidence. Describe the target population. Describe any research or evaluation studies. And identify the challenges such as resources, policy and system barriers, training gaps, and the--and the like, to

improving outcomes for older victims and provide a clear statement of how funding will allow the applicant to address these unique challenges in innovative and collaborative ways. Next slide.

So for the proposed narrative Project Design and Implementation, this section must include the following. The strategy, tasks, and timeline plan for project implementation. A description of the project phases, tasks, activities, staff responsibilities, interim deliverables, and final products. A time-task plan, as an attachment. The designation of organizational responsibility and a schedule for completion of activities and submission of finished products, and those must occur within the proposed project period. You can't propose that to be coming out in month 48. It has to be within the timeframe. A plan for how the project deliverables will be developed. A plan for submitting financial and progress reports. Those are always important. And include a [Logic Model](#) that graphically illustrates how the project's goals, objectives, and activities are interrelated to address the stated problem. And there are samples available at the link that is noted here, and I believe that might also be able to be placed into the chat feature as well. The Logic Model helps, as well, the peer reviewers to understand in a very succinct graphical way how the program is anticipated to go forward. Next slide.

So as--the successful Purpose Area 2 applicant who receives funding must be prepared to incorporate substantive and editorial changes into deliverables with the discussion with an OVC grant monitor. That would be me. If the applicant proposes to work with a video production company, we also have approval processes that we have to go through. And we do have a communications team, but they're not required to review these products, especially if there's something small like a one-page flier or some of the more discreet web pages, though the applicant can include appropriate--must include appropriate disclaimers, as required by the award conditions. And there are special conditions in each award issued by the Office for Victims of Crime about how to proceed. So that's more information for those who are--do receive the award. There are also releases of any of the deliverable products is contingent upon approval by OVC, especially if those deliverables are to be submitted and our communications team takes a look at them for purposes of OVC publishing them. Usually, there's a 3-month timeframe that we need in order for a team, our communications, editors, and others to take a look at that. And it should clearly describe the intended services and deliverables. The plan would also look at the coordination of the project with other organizations, including victim services and any other joint or cooperative efforts. And a dissemination plan for any training, products or awareness materials that will be produced as a result of the proposed project. Next slide, please.

So the Capabilities and Competencies portion of this, which is the 30 percent, this is a biggie. Applicants must include the following, a description of the management structure, and the current, and proposed staff members' qualifications. A description of how the program will be managed, including an organizational chart or information describing the roles and responsibilities of key organizational and functional components and personnel. A list of personal--personnel, excuse me, responsible for managing and implementing the major stages of the project, including selection criteria,

if additional staff are to be hired. Resumes for key staff submitted as a separate attachment to the application. And I'll just say whenever adding additional attachments, it's always best to label them. The versioning of them is important and it makes it easier for folks to know what they're looking for in the system when it says resumes of key staff as your attachment. Going back to what it must include, it must include a descriptive statement about the applicant's knowledge and understanding of the needs of victims of elder abuse and financial exploitation. So those describe the capabilities and competencies. For Purpose Areas 1 and 2, the Project Coordinator must have 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 must be included. Next slide, please.

So proposal narrative and this is for the Plan for Collecting the Data. This is 15 percent of the total. This section must include the following information. It must describe the process for measuring project performance. Identify who will collect the data; who is responsible for performance measurements; and how the information will be used to guide and evaluate the project's impact. And it must describe the process to accurately report the data. OVC does have a list of performance measures, and these questions for the program can be found online in--at [ovc.ojp.gov/funding/performance-measures/transforming-victim-services](https://www.ovc.ojp.gov/funding/performance-measures/transforming-victim-services), and that should also be put into the chat feature. We, at OVC, will require award recipients to submit performance measures data and performance reports in JustGrants. And OVC will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process if an applicant is selected for the award. Next slide please.

The budget web-based form or the worksheet and budget narrative, that equates to a 10 percent for the criteria for evaluation. And the applicant will complete the JustGrants web-based form, breaking that out costs by year, reflecting 36 months total of project activity. Personnel cost should relate to the key personnel for the project and it should be mathematically sound and correspond with information described in the proposal's narrative and aligned with the project design. Applicants can see the Budget Preparation and Submission Information section on the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for more details on budget and associate doc--associated documentation. And there's examples basically where you can find that as well online.

We also have the DOJ Grant Financial Guide also available to take a look at to see how budgets are based. And that's an important--that's a very important guide because that--if you are awarded a grant, that's what you must be guided by. And we would make sure that there is audit and financial information that's reviewed to make sure the intended funding is going toward what it's intended for. So that's rather important. And that guide helps us and the Office of Inspector General to make sure that the budget is being--the grant funds are being used for what the budget was approved for. Next slide.

So in thinking about a budget, there's a few things that they need to be. They need to be specific when listing your expenses. They need to be measurable. Under the

computation section of the budget, you need to make sure that your costs are measurable. And attainable, ensure that your budget items are attainable, that they're relevant. If you put your timeline next to your budget, make sure each item is accounted for. Don't forget something. And then your budget should be relevant. And then make sure your budget is time-bound, and broken down year-by-year or month-by-month. It does--it does make sense to pay attention to spelling out how you derive the numbers that you're putting towards your budget, and that budget form will help with that.

And I think I'm going to turn it over to Daryl now to walk you through the additional documents that you'll need in order to apply. Daryl?

DARYL FOX: Yes. So the [DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#) is a wonderful resource. It's going to provide step-by-step on what you're going to need. For that, I'm going to actually put that in the chat right now for everybody. You can access that directly. It's--and there's a large Application Submission Job Aid covering [Potential Attachments](#) that you may be asked to provide. So all these information and these links are going to be available from the JustGrants website, which is a robust, you know, robust, plenty of information, trainings, guides, and things. I'm going to put another guide in this chat right here for you to access as well, the [Application Submission Job Aid](#). So definitely you're going to want to reference this as you're preparing items for your application to assist with those.

Hallmarks of an outstanding application. So, you know, whereas Laura mentioned some of the budget tips and tricks, use simple and concise language. Ensure information is presentable and organized. It helps with the peer review process as well. And definitely recommended to add tables, graphs, staff photos, other images when possible if you'd like, and being mindful of all those grant guidelines that we talked about prior as far as page limits and fonts. Be realistic about how you will achieve your goals. And then get feedback from those who may run the project. What they may see, what they may propose. And make sure the proposal is consistent with the solicitation. So you definitely want to reference that in all aspects through the application process. You want to ensure you're meeting the guidelines and that you're on point. And then as stressed plenty of times throughout this presentation with all OJP grants, check, recheck, and check again before submitting, as you're submitting, and even after you submit. And that includes the budget, the grant requirements, references, and any other grant details. That's one of the main things within your control that you can definitely check to make sure that things do get passed on to peer review for consideration of funding.

And then this slide highlights some common reasons for a--cited for a weak application. Over the years of cultivating some of the main things that stood out, some applications were too ambitious or lacked focus. Some applicants lacked the appropriate expertise to carry out the proposed project. That's particularly important with the TA award project within this solicitation. No evidence of feasibility. Don't assume the peer reviewers are as familiar with the project as you. So make sure it's definitely explainable, and clear, and concise in the narrative and such. Poor writing, a lot of errors, obviously, something within your all's control to help minimize. And then no citations or source of data when

you're entering that. So, just be mindful of these five or six common reasons, as you prepare your application.

So now, as we got through a lot of the programmatic aspects and such, we're going to get through the application process here. So what you need to do when, and submitting. So, once you have everything gathered and ready to submit.

The first one, there's going to be two grant application deadlines. I mentioned these a little bit earlier. This part of the grant's lifecycle involves completing and submitting web-based forms, one in Grants.gov, which is the SF-424 and SF-LLL. That's going to be the first step in your application, just a simple upload of those forms, getting those in the system. Once you've located the funding, you're going to submit those in Grants.gov. And that's really it. Your entity information is populated based upon entries in SAM and Grants.gov. And this deadline, we'll get into again, has its own deadline, which is a week before the JustGrants, which is the full application.

So the next one is the JustGrants listed as number two here, and that's going to be everything else besides the two forms. And that's going to be a week later. I mean, everything's going to be in the JustGrants system. As we mentioned, there's several how tos, and videos, and checklists from that Grants--JustGrants website you can access.

It's highly recommended to submit at least 72 hours prior to the deadline in these systems to make sure you have enough time to correct any errors and resubmit it, if necessary. And it's okay if you want to enter preliminary information in Grants.gov. If you haven't fully determined your budget or project scope, you'll be able to edit that and update your entities within those systems. Just note that once your application has been submitted and validated, it will be sent to Just--in Grants.gov, it will be sent to JustGrants for completion. Now, it may take several days for Grants.gov to complete validations and be released to JustGrants, so just be mindful of that. And submitting early is very recommended. Like I said, 72 hours or prior, just to--if there's any technical issues you may have.

Moving on to the dates. So, as mentioned, SF-424 and the LLL in Grants.gov is going to be May 24, 11:59 PM Eastern, it's part one. And then part two is the full application. And that's JustGrants.gov by May 31st, 8:59 PM Eastern. So note that time difference there.

There are certain web-based forms that we've mentioned that must be submitted directly into the system. That includes--what's listed here is the proposal abstract, the solicitation-specific data. For those that are return users you will need to submit your goals, objectives, deliverables, and timeline just like before. So make sure your budget information is included in the budget detail form. And lastly, disclosure of your duplication of cost items is required as well. And just a reminder to pay attention to these required sections throughout each of these steps within this process.

After you submitted your application, you're probably wondering what's next. So once all the applications for the solicitation have been reviewed, then the entities will be notified, which happens prior to September 30th. And please remember who your Entity Administrator and Authorized Resubmitter/Representatives are, for they will be notified when the deadline for the applications will be changed. The system will also notify Application Submitter, Entity Administrator, and Authorized Representative when the application has been received in JustGrants from Grants.gov. So when that transfer happens, those entities will be notified. And then the Entity Administrator will be--receive a notification on when the award notification has been sent.

So one thing of note here, if you submitted your application, the status is going to be designated as submitted, but you may also see a banner on the site that indicates that it's past due. This banner just indicates the submission deadline has passed, not that your application has past due. So just be mindful and don't think that the system hasn't received and processed your application.

So now that we've gone over some of the systems, what we want to do is explore some of the different resources available to you and the information on additional different systems that you're going to be looking to in applying.

So first of all, here is the [OVC website](#), and this is just going to have a variety of different resources for you to access regarding OVC programs, resources, research, and the like. And you can sign up for updates as you need to from there. And everything is topic driven. If you look at this screen at the top right, topics, you'll be able to identify different topics of use.

The [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#). This is a very important document in preparation of your application. It's a good starting point for applicants because it serves as the primary reference manual to assist with any OJP, OVW, and COPS Office award recipients in fulfilling their fiduciary responsibility to safeguard grant funds and to ensure funds are used for the purposes for which they were awarded. I'm going to put that link in the chat for everybody right now. And it compiles a variety of laws, rules, regulations that affect financial and administrative management of your award. So, it references the underlying laws and regulations provided in the guide. I mean, it really should be the starting point for all recipients and subrecipients of DOJ grants. And here is just a list of the top 10 topics that are listed within the guide that you can reference once you get into that guide. So, definitely something to check out as you prepare your applications.

As mentioned several times is the Grant Application Resource Guide, the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#). This is also intended to assist as you're preparing your application. It addresses a variety of policies, statutes, and regulations that apply to OJP program applicants or to grants and cooperative agreements awarded in fiscal year 2023. Some OJP programs may actually have program solicitations that expressly modify a provision of this guide. In such cases, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in the solicitation. So be mindful, regardless of what this says, do consult the solicitation itself for any modifications that may differ.

And then this slide provides a link, and I'll put it in the chat as well. Information on the [Grants Measurement Reporting](#), I'm going to put the link in where you can view those activities. While you will not submit performance measures with your applications, this will give you an idea of the types of information that will be requested, if you are awarded. And the website could help you familiarize with the systems you might use in this--in this realm.

Okay. So, it was mentioned that Grants.gov was sort of the first step in everything. But [SAM.gov](#) is actually the very first step in applying for this grant. So before submitting an application, all applicants must register with the SAM system. You must renew and validate your registration every 12 months. So if you did not renew your SAM registration, it will expire. An expired registration can delay or prevent application submission in both Grants.gov and JustGrants. So just be mindful. And registration can take up to 10 business days to complete. So make sure you get this as your first stop before beginning to apply.

And then, as mentioned, [Grants.gov](#) is going to be your first step in applying. I'm going to put the link in the chat here. So once you're all set in SAM.gov, you're going to access Grants.gov to upload your SF-424 and your SF-LLL. And once again, that double deadline. So this is going to be that first deadline, which we'll get to, again, and that was in that May, a week before the final deadline. And once you submit everything in Grants.gov, please keep an eye out for an email confirming you've successfully submitted. If you do not successfully submit, you will not be able to complete your JustGrants application. So just make sure you get that confirmation noted. Save it, as proof that you were able to successfully complete everything in this system.

And then once you're done with the Grants.gov, [JustGrants](#) is going to be where you submit your full application. And this is what you're going to use throughout the lifecycle of your grant, from application, all the way through the award closeout. And this site here lists some different training resources that you can access. They're organized by topic. Microlearning videos, which are very well-received. Those are the snippet 10, 20, 30-second videos at times, on navigating through a specific section in JustGrants. They're very valuable to have those on hand if you get stuck at any point throughout. Job Aid Reference Guides that you can access as well. So you're going to find a lot of these references very useful as you go through. So you're definitely going to want to bookmark that URL in JustGrants.

JustGrants team also office--or offers office hours on the application mechanics. Kind of get into a little more detail about where we're talking about today. This is more the technical aspects of the system. They occur every Wednesday from 2:30 to 4:00 PM Eastern. On here are some upcoming [office hours](#) planned for April, one on April 19th and one on April 26th. And a variety of open-ended topics that you could discuss one-on-one with the presenters--or the moderators within these sessions, from preparing to apply to completing items in JustGrants form, and even what happens after. So, I will go ahead and put the sessions link in the chat as well for this one.

And then to assist potential applicants in developing strong proposals, OVC's hosted some educational [webinars](#) for interested stakeholders last year, to learn more about the program objectives and submission requirements. So it drills down a little deeper into that JustGrants application submission process. And here, there's three parts, as far as getting ready to apply; then once you're starting, considerations when building your budget; and then actually preparing your proposal to notify yourself of what is coming next. So, that three-part video series can be accessed on the OVC website. You can find [current funding opportunities](#) from OVC's website as well, in the current funding tab. They're nearing the end of the solicitation season as we speak. So, there's plenty of opportunities available and still open for you to peruse.

You can sign up for OV--[News From OVC](#), which is their email listserv. Stay up-to-date on what's coming out, what's new. And then the [DOJ Program Plan](#), which was entered in the chat previously, if you're looking for other programs' funding opportunities within the Department of Justice.

So, as we round things out today, I just want to highlight these important contact information summary sheets. So, as mentioned, SAM.gov that's going to be for your UEI number. The information is available here if you want to contact them for anything, 866-606-8220.

And then Grants.Gov for that first step in submitting your SF-LLL and SF-424, support@grants.gov.

JustGrants, which was mentioned for the full application. They have a support line, 833-872-5175, and also an email at JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov.

And then, what was not mentioned yet, but one of the more--very important part of the process is the OJP Response Center. Once we conclude today, if you do have any questions about anything programmatic related to the solicitation itself, the OJP Response Center is who you're going to want to refer to at grants@ncjrs.gov. And they'll be working alongside OVC to create responses to those questions. So, once you're in the solicitation and have questions, you're going to want to refer the OJP Response Center for any questions related to that. And as we go through the Q&A, I'll put this slide back up for you to reference.

And that leads us to the end of the presentation. So, we can get to some questions now. I know we're running a little late on time, but if you do have a question, far bottom right, three dots, QA, send to all panelists. We'd be glad to get to those today.

And, Laura, you know, the first one was, you know, "If there were previously funded E-MDTs through OVC, specifically 2019, are they eligible to apply again?"

LAURA IVKOVICH: Thank you for the questions. I think we got two of those pretty similar questions. And I know I've been asked that before. So, good news, bad news.

The good news is you are--have already been funded and you have had the opportunity to access the Technical Assistance Center. You've had webinars that talk about sustainability. And you probably already know that VOCA, which I spoke about before, remember that pie chart, that very large portion of the pie chart for VOCA is the amount that goes right back to the states to fund programs, domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse. But also under the Victim Assistance rules, which were updated in 2016, there--the ability to fund things like a Program Coordinator for an MDT is possible under VOCA Victim Assistance rules. So, we do hope that as we're seeding the development of these E-MDTs that they will be strong and be able to go on and apply for additional funding at the state and local level, which is where the majority of the VOCA funding actually flows. We have a very small slice of funding for the discretionary side of the house. And so the majority of it really goes back to the states and territories. And we have made sure that the rules are broad enough that they include--specifically include VOCA Victim Assistance can fund coordinators for such things as Multi-Disciplinary Teams. So, we're very hopeful that you'll be able to avail yourself of the funding at the state and local level. So, that's the good news.

The bad news is no, sorry. You're not eligible to apply. You can tell your--the jurisdictions contiguous to you about the program. And hopefully, you'll have other E-MDTs perhaps in your state interested in applying as well. But under page--I think it was at page 10 in the solicitation, it did mention that we were interested in funding 10 new E-MDTs to go along with the existing 23 elder MDTs that have been funded in the--in the previous two offerings. So, we're looking to build the field of additional Elder MDTs. I think that answers that.

Daryl, any others?

DARYL FOX: Nothing in the queue at this time.

LAURA IVKOVICH: Oh, I do see something that says, "I volunteered to be an MDT coordinator, and no experience."

So, I'm not sure if I can generalize this, but we are looking to hire for the Coordinator positions. So, the applicants are looking to either have a job description, you know, a sample job description that they would want to put out there to hire somebody, if they don't already have an MDT, or they would be looking to submit their key resume--the resume of those who are already in the position. And job experience comes from a lot of places. Expertise and experience comes just from that, ex--your experience in working this--in this area and knowing these issues. And we would want that key resume to address all of that. The peer reviewers would be looking at that aspect with regard to qualifications for the E-MDT Coordinators. So, if it's just a new starting out and aren't really aware of--or participate in the issues that are very unique to older victims of elder abuse and financial exploitation, it would be a good idea to go to trainings, go to webinars, learn more about the unique issues, and consider sitting on any state coalitions or task force meetings that might be happening to better understand these issues and look for potential future funding opportunities.

Again, this is the third round of the same solicitation that we've offered in the past. So, there hopefully will be more opportunities for this, as well as training at the state level. I know we've funded state victim assistance academies around the nation and many of those do focus as well on the needs of child victims, older victims, and various categories of victims that can be a broad or richer training opportunity to learn more. So, there's a variety of ways of getting that experience and that training. So, we hope that you will avail yourselves of those as well, if you're looking to build expertise in this--in this area.

Daryl, anything else that you've seen come through?

DARYL FOX: Yeah. Actually, thanks for that answer. And there's been a couple that have come in and we can address those. "This particular person didn't see a section to include support letters, is that part of the proposal narrative?"

LAURA IVKOVICH: No. That's an attachment. So, the proposal narrative covers what was mentioned in the presentation. The support letters would be as an attachment. Just like a resume would be as an attachment. It would just be important to note that it's a support letter in the naming convention for the attachment.

DARYL FOX: "My understanding is that MDTs could be within an agency or across agencies. Are both okay?"

LAURA IVKOVICH: Yes. Multi-disciplinary Teams are intended to be multi-disciplinary, meaning they're not in one agency and only from one agency's viewpoint. So, that's the beauty of bringing talented professionals who have a viewpoint, and maybe a catch point, and maybe are better able to shore up some of the gaps by bringing their expertise to the table. So, we would want to make sure that you have representation for your multi-disciplinary team beyond just one discipline. We would look for traditional disciplines that you would think: victim services, adult protective services, or investigation, law enforcement, mental health, legal services--civil legal services, maybe prosecutor. And for enhancing, we were also looking at things like--and we spelled it out in the solicitation, neuropsychologists, geriatricians, forensic accountants, especially for the financial exploitation case of that. So, we're looking at a variety of different professionals who would come as a group to be trained together as a group and to really look for and dissect that case review, which is really what this is. This is not a prosecution--This is not to fund prosecutions of these cases. That's not what this is. This is to be a--just like a child advocacy center has multiple disciplines that look at the whole--the whole picture of abuse. This too is from that lens, that same lens from multiple disciplines. I hope that answers that.

DARYL FOX: "And is there somewhere to locate information on former and current grantees for Areas 1 and 2?"

LAURA IVKOVICH: You know what, there is a state map. And I can't recall whether we put the link in the solicitation for that. But we do have a listing of--I will make sure that that's available to the Justice--Resource Center. But we do have 23 different programs funded. Some of them are tribal. I'll actually tell you them now. Starting up in the north, Minnesota Elder Justice Center; Milwaukee County Department of Aging; in Chicago, Metropolitan Family Services Legal Aid; in Michigan, Elder Law of Michigan; in Ohio, Coleman Professional Services. In New Hampshire, we have the Department of Justice there. In Pennsylvania, we have the Philadelphia DA Advocates' Office. In Maryland, we have the Community Advocates. Also in Maryland, Sinai Hospital of Baltimore. In Virginia, we have Richmond City of Virginia, and also Center for Excellence in Aging and Geriatric Health in Williamsburg. And we have in Georgia, Rockdale County, as well as Live Safe Resources, Inc., in Georgia. One of the tribal nations is Sac and Fox, which is physically located in the area of Oklahoma. We also have the Oklahoma Attorney General DA Council. In Colorado, we have Denver City DA. In Utah, we have the Utah Department of Human Services. In California, we have four different ones, Northridge Financial--excuse me, Northridge Hospital Foundation. In--near Los Angeles, USC Pasadena Team. Also up near LA, Empowered Aging, and then near San Francisco, the California Elder Justice Coalition. And then up in Washington State area, we have Lummi Indian Business Council. And in Nebraska, we have the Winnebago Tribe. So, those are the areas that we have already funded. And I'll make sure that this is available to the OJP Response Center for anybody else who might have a question about where those are located.

DARYL FOX: And, Laura...

LAURA IVKOVICH: Oh, and I think...

DARYL FOX: ...I've put in...

LAURA IVKOVICH: Okay. Go ahead. You could probably find them...

DARYL FOX: I've put in a--yeah. I've put in a link in the chat on the awards list. It's the entire...

LAURA IVKOVICH: Perfect.

DARYL FOX: ...OVC list. And if you just...

LAURA IVKOVICH: Perfect.

DARYL FOX: ...queue in search for say elder, it will pull up those and they can access those.

LAURA IVKOVICH: Perfect. Thank you very much, Daryl. That works too. Thanks.

DARYL FOX: Yeah. There was another question as well. "Can an agency apply for both purpose areas?"

LAURA IVKOVICH: Yeah. An agency could. We're looking at the capabilities and competencies of a national group that could run a national training and technical assistance center. And that capability and competency section would describe really what we're looking for in that regard. So--and a partnership with others. So, it wouldn't necessarily fall on the shoulders of just one organization or agency, but through a partnership.

Any others? You know, we're kind of at time already.

DARYL FOX: Yeah. That's the end in the queue at this time.

LAURA IVKOVICH: All right.

DARYL FOX: Okay. Anything in closing before we end today, Laura?

LAURA IVKOVICH: Just thank you very much. I know that it's a lot of administrative area to look at. Pay attention to all the items in this webinar. They do--There are great tools. The links that Daryl put into the chat are going to be very helpful to you. And that we--The solicitation, you should read it not just once, not just twice but probably three times and have it as a reference tool as you're--as you're working on your application. Don't wait until the last minute to start. And be talking to your partners as you're thinking through what you might want to do here. Don't wait until, you know, the deadline. Please be talking now. And just--I appreciate anybody who's interested in this area. You do hard work for little, you know, accolade and it's often unseen work. But we need professionals who can look for those gaps, look for those case-related areas that might otherwise slip through, especially for this population that is often without voice, often isolated, and often unable to speak for themselves. So, thank you very much for all of the efforts that you already provide for this unique population. That's it. I'll turn it back to you, Daryl.

DARYL FOX: Great. So on behalf of the Office for Victims of Crime and our panelist, we want to thank you for joining today's webinar. This will end today's presentation.