

## **Updates regarding the OVC FY 2023 Improving Outcomes for Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking solicitation.**

**April 3, 2023: Updated the Grants.gov deadline on pages 1 and 14.**

On pages 1 and 14, the deadline stated for Grants.gov has been changed, as shown below.

### **Page 1:**

#### **OVC FY 2023 Improving Outcomes for Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking**

**Assistance Listing Number # 16.320**

**Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-OVC-2023-171585**

**Solicitation Release Date: February 13, 2023 9:00 AM ET**

**Version: 2**

**Step 1: Application Grants.gov Deadline: April 10, 2023 11:59 PM ET**

**Step 2: Application JustGrants Deadline: April 13, 2023 8:59 PM ET**

### **Page 14:**

#### **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 April 10, 2023.

The full application must be submitted in JustGrants by 8:59 p.m. eastern time on April 13, 2023.

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



---

## OVC FY 2023 Improving Outcomes for Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking

Assistance Listing Number # 16.320

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-OVC-2023-171585

Solicitation Release Date: February 13, 2023 9:00 AM ET

Version: 2

Step 1: Application Grants.gov Deadline: April 10, 2023 11:59 PM ET

Step 2: Application JustGrants Deadline: April 13, 2023 8:59 PM ET

---

### Overview

The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [Office for Victims of Crime](#) (OVC) seeks applications for funding from states or Tribes to develop, enhance, and coordinate programs and activities geared toward improving outcomes for child and youth victims of sex and labor trafficking. This program aims to improve statewide coordination and multidisciplinary collaboration across systems to address human trafficking involving children and youth. This program furthers the Department's mission by enhancing the field's response to child and youth victims of human trafficking.

This solicitation incorporates guidance provided in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) which provides additional information for 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.**

### Solicitation Categories

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

### Eligible Applicants:

Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized), State governments

Grantees awarded funding in FY 2019, FY 2020, FY 2021, and FY 2022 under the Improving Outcomes for Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking solicitation are not eligible to apply for funding under this solicitation, unless the new proposal outlines *new* services, cost items, or a distinct geographic scope not included in the original application.

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 2023 solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and the availability of appropriations.

### Contact Information

For assistance with the requirements of this solicitation, contact the OJP Response Center at 800-851-3420, 301-240-6310 (TTY for hearing-impaired callers only), or [grants@ncjrs.gov](mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov). The OJP Response Center operates from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. eastern time (ET) Monday–Friday, and 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET on the solicitation close date.

### Pre-application Information Session

OVC will conduct pre-application webinars during which OVC staff will review all planned FY 2023 anti-trafficking solicitations, provide high-level information about solicitation requirements, and conduct a question and answer session with interested potential applicants. Participation is optional. When the webinars have been scheduled, the details and registration information will be available at <https://ovc.ojp.gov/funding/funding-webinars>. Preregistration is required for all participants. Register and follow the instructions at <https://ovc.ojp.gov/funding/funding-webinars>. To use the time most efficiently, OVC encourages participants to review the solicitation and submit any questions they may have in advance and no later than 2 days prior to the webinar. Submit your questions to [askovc@ncjrs.gov](mailto:askovc@ncjrs.gov) with the subject as "Questions for OVC Anti-Human Trafficking Solicitations Webinar."

### Submission Information

**Registration:** Before submitting an application, all applicants must register with the System for Award Management (SAM). You must

renew and validate your registration every 12 months. If you do not renew your SAM registration, it will expire. An expired registration can delay or prevent application submission in Grants.gov and JustGrants. Registration and renewal can take up to 10 business days to complete.

**Submission:** Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process via Grants.gov and JustGrants.

**Step 1:** 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>. **Submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL as early as possible, but no later than 48 hours before the Grants.gov deadline.** If an applicant fails to submit in Grants.gov, they will be unable to apply in JustGrants.

For technical assistance with submitting the SF-424 and a SF-LLL in Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, Grants.gov Customer Support, or [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov). The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

**Step 2:** The applicant must submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](https://www.justgrants.usdoj.gov) by the JustGrants application deadline.

For technical assistance with submitting the **full application** in JustGrants, contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or [JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov](mailto:JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov). The JustGrants Service Desk operates 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET Monday–Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET on Saturday, Sunday, and Federal holidays.

OJP encourages applicants to review the "[How To Apply](#)" section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) and the [JustGrants website](#) for more information, resources, and training. Applicants should maintain all receipts and confirmations received from SAM.gov, Grants.gov, JustGrants systems.

## Contents

Overview	1
Contact Information	1
Pre-application Information Session	1
Submission Information	1
Program Description	5
Overview	5
Statutory Authority	5
Specific Information	5
Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables	5
Evidence-Based Programs or Practices	7
Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities	7
Priority Areas	7
Federal Award Information	8
Awards, Amounts and Durations	8
Continuation Funding Intent	8
Availability of Funds	8
Type of Award	8
Financial Management and System of Internal Controls	8
Budget Information	8
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement	8
Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)	9
Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver	9
Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs	9
Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)	9
Eligibility Information	9
Application and Submission Information	9
Content of Application Submission	9
Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) in Grants.gov	9
Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)	10
Proposal Abstract	10
Proposal Narrative	10
Goal, Objective and Deliverables	12
Budget and Associated Documentation	12
Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (Web-based Form)	12
Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)	12
Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)	12
Consultant Rate	12
Limitation on Employee Compensation; Waiver	12
Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)	12
Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation	12
Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and Other Supportive Documents	13
Additional Application Components	13
Curriculum Vitae or Resumes	13
Tribal Authorizing Resolution	13
Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement	13
Disclosures and Assurances	13
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	13
DOJ Certified Standard Assurances	13
Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items	13
DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing	13
Applicant Disclosure and Justification - DOJ High Risk Grantees	13
How to Apply	13
Submission Dates and Time	14
Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues Preventing Submission of an Application	14
Application Review Information	15
Review Criteria	15
Review Process	15
Federal Award Administration Information	15
Federal Award Notices	15
Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements	15

Information Technology Security Clauses	16
General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements	16
Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)	16
Other Information	16
Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a)	16
Provide Feedback to OJP	16
Performance Measures	16
Application Checklist	16
Standard Solicitation Resources	18

## 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.

To enhance capacity to identify, assist, and provide services to all victims of human trafficking, OVC leads the Nation in supporting victim-centered and trauma-informed programs, policies, and resources that promote justice, access, and empowerment.

With this solicitation, OVC seeks to improve outcomes for children and youth who are victims of human trafficking by integrating human trafficking policy and programming at the state or Tribal level and encouraging coordinated, multidisciplinary, and statewide approaches to serving trafficked youth. OVC seeks to fund up to four state or Tribal jurisdictions to identify the state or Tribe's greatest barriers to identifying and assisting child and youth victims of sex and labor trafficking and/or investigating and prosecuting these cases, and to develop a statewide or Tribal jurisdiction-wide strategy to address these challenges.

### Statutory Authority

This project is authorized by the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 (18 U.S.C. § 3014(h)(2)) and the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 (22 U.S.C. § 7105(b)(2)).

### Specific Information

For the purposes of this program, "child or children" refers to persons under the age of 18, and "youth" refers to individuals aged 16–24 (reflecting the age range covered by the Federal Government's [Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs](#)), unless the state or Tribe has another definition for "youth" included in state or Tribal law.

Sex trafficking and labor trafficking occur in many different settings within communities, and victims of these crimes have different experiences and backgrounds. Child and youth trafficking victims include U.S. citizens and foreign nationals. Child and youth victims of trafficking have specific needs, some of which may not be adequately met through existing systems and programs. Service providers and frontline responders (such as police and hospital personnel) are aware of the particular vulnerabilities associated with children and youth involved in welfare and justice systems; runaway and homeless youth; unaccompanied minors; and youth transitioning out of foster care. While each state or Tribe may approach the issue of human trafficking somewhat differently, and may opt to engage unique partners, all applications should address the needs of both sex and labor trafficking for child and youth victims in the jurisdiction.

### Mandatory Program Requirements

Applicants that receive funding under this program will be required to:

- Ensure their policies and procedures follow applicable federal and state laws protecting the civil rights of program participants and staff (post-award).
- Ensure that any staff, partner staff, or service providers working directly with trafficking victims are adequately licensed and trained to work with such victims, including through the use of OVC-supported training and technical assistance.
- Ensure that the project coordinator/program director and other relevant staff participate in any grantee orientations and OVC-sponsored training and technical assistance.
- Describe ongoing efforts to identify victims of labor trafficking, provide services to victims of labor trafficking, or train and conduct outreach to community members on labor trafficking as part of routine programmatic reporting.
- Provide all grant-funded staff at least one session of training annually related to diversity, equity, inclusion, and/or accessibility and tied to program goals and objectives (to be delivered by individuals or organizations with reasonable and demonstrable expertise).

### Strengthening Responses to Labor Trafficking

Through its award funding, training and technical assistance, and collaboration with federal partners, OVC has worked to strengthen identification of and responses to labor trafficking victims in the United States. Despite these efforts, labor trafficking remains misunderstood, under-identified, underreported, and often unaddressed. As reflected in OVC grantee data, many individuals experience many forms of victimization, including both labor and sex trafficking. To increase identification and expand access to services and justice for victims of labor trafficking, OVC is strengthening its expectations of organizations that receive anti-trafficking award funds. More information about gaps and opportunities in the response to this form of human trafficking is available at on the [OVC website](#).

### Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables

#### Goals

The goal of the program is to improve responses for child and youth victims of trafficking with a focus on collaboration at the statewide or Tribal jurisdiction level to create effective change across systems. Recognizing that each jurisdiction is unique, applicants should identify the state or Tribe's greatest barriers to identifying and assisting child and youth victims of sex and labor trafficking and/or investigating and prosecuting these trafficking cases, and propose a program to systematically address those barriers.

#### Objectives

An applicant should address all the objectives listed below in the Goals, Objectives, Deliverables and Timeline web-based form. All objectives should include how the project will respond to both sex and labor trafficking. This includes the following:

- Develop and implement a state or Tribal jurisdiction-wide strategy to combat the greatest challenges in addressing child and youth sex and labor trafficking within the state or Tribe.
- Develop protocols and procedures to make sure child and youth victims receive appropriate services, including developmentally and age-appropriate and culturally specific referrals and/or services in their own language or with access to interpretation and translation, and strengthening data collection across multiple systems that work with and provide services to youth.
- Develop a unified strategy to provide training to professionals throughout the jurisdiction, including, but not limited to, law enforcement officers, first responders such as hospital workers or paramedics, victim service providers, mental health care professionals, educators, child welfare or social workers, juvenile justice personnel, prosecutors, and other court personnel.
- Fill gaps in services and coordinate responses in existing anti-trafficking and youth-serving efforts, including those related to victim assistance, law enforcement, child welfare, runaway and homeless youth, and juvenile justice, among others. [Using online directories available from OVC](#) and the [Office on Trafficking in Persons](#) (OTIP), applicants should determine if there is an existing federally funded trafficking victim service provider within their jurisdiction, and work to make sure that an application under this program does not duplicate existing services currently funded by OVC or OTIP.
- Collect data and engage in [performance measurement](#) activities to determine if the program is meeting its stated goals and objectives (e.g., if there has been improved collaboration among systems).

#### Deliverables

All deliverables listed below should be inclusive of both sex and labor trafficking:

- [A written strategic plan](#) should be developed with project partners and supported by the baseline data provided in the application. The strategy must be finalized by the grantee and approved by OVC within the first year of the project start date. The strategic plan should be reviewed and updated annually based on lessons learned during the project.
- [Documented lessons learned](#) related to implementing the statewide strategy and the potential impacts on child and youth victims of human trafficking.
- [Written protocols and procedures](#) ensuring child and youth victims receive appropriate services, including developmentally appropriate, culturally responsive referrals and/or services in victims' primary language.
- [A written training plan](#) and training materials for jurisdiction stakeholders.
- [Outreach and awareness materials](#), including social media and technology efforts, designed and tailored for those working with children and youth victims of human trafficking.
- [Regular performance reports](#) documenting services provided.

The goals, objectives, and deliverables are directly related to the performance measures that show completed work results, as discussed in the "Application and Submission Information" section.

#### Ensuring Civil Rights

Federal laws prohibit recipients of TVPA funding administered by the OJP from discriminating in the delivery of services on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, religion, or disability. Applicable federal laws also prohibit TVPA recipients from discriminating on the basis of disability in their employment practices, and from discriminating against employees and beneficiaries on the basis of sex in funded education or training programs. Recipients are also obligated under federal civil rights laws to provide meaningful access to their programs and activities for persons with [limited English proficiency](#). Under certain circumstances, it might be permissible to limit services based upon age. Please note that other federal, state or local laws prohibiting discrimination may apply.

#### Enhancing Access to Services and Promoting Survivor Autonomy

OVC is committed to an approach to human trafficking that is trauma-informed, victim-centered, survivor-informed, culturally competent, and evidence-based. Definitions of these concepts are available in the glossary of [OVC's Model Standards for Serving Victims and Survivors of Crime](#).

In line with these concepts and to enhance survivors' access to victim services, programs funded under this solicitation will engage in practices that remove barriers to receiving services and support survivor autonomy. Such practices will reduce requirements to engage in services, promote survivors' choice within service delivery, and protect victim privacy and confidentiality.

Funded programs will demonstrate their commitment to this approach by maintaining the following (note: Many of these requirements are mandated by federal civil rights laws, while others reflect OVC's policy direction to recipients to enhance access to services and promote survivor autonomy):

- Procedures or policies that provide all survivors access to safe shelter, advocacy services, counseling, and other assistance without exclusions based on actual or perceived sex, age, immigration status, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental health condition, physical health condition, criminal record, involvement in commercial sex, income or lack of income, or the age and/or sex of their children. For those programs that by their design target a particular population (e.g., youth, gender specific) there should be procedures or policies in place to ensure access to comparable, qualified services for other survivors seeking support.
- Procedures or policies that protect the confidentiality of information and/or privacy of persons receiving services.
- Procedures or policies that do not require victims to take certain actions (e.g., receive counseling, report to law enforcement, commit to sobriety) to be eligible for, or to receive services. For youth serving programs with justifiable mandatory requirements, a [shared decision making model](#) should be used to provide minors with agency in participating in decisions that impact them.
- Project designs, products, services, and/or budgets that consider the unique needs of individuals with disabilities, [limited English proficiency](#), or who are Deaf or hard of hearing, including accessibility for such individuals.

#### Unallowable Costs

The following activities cannot be supported with grant funds:

1. **Holding Beds:** Grantees may not "hold beds" in a housing facility by charging their cost to the grant and keeping them empty until a victim needs the bed when other victims need access to the beds, as this may be considered an unallowable contingency payment (2 C.F.R. 200.433(c)).
2. **Stipends/Incentives to Participate in Services:** Neither cash, non-cash stipends, nor incentives may be paid to victims to encourage their participation in services. Nominal cash or non-cash stipends are allowable (e.g., taxi or ride share vouchers; public transportation tickets or tokens; money to pay for childcare; or gift cards for meals that are necessary when participants receive services).
3. **Primary Prevention Activities:** Per 22 U.S.C. § 7105(b)(2), this funding is to support victim service programs; therefore, applicants should not propose primary prevention activities under this program.

#### **Limitation on Use of Funds (22 U.S.C. § 7110(g))**

The following statutory language applies to all awards under this solicitation:

1. **Restriction on programs.** No funds made available to carry out this chapter, or any amendment made by this chapter, may be used to promote, support, or advocate the legalization or practice of prostitution. Nothing in the preceding sentence shall be construed to preclude assistance designed to promote the purposes of this Act by ameliorating the suffering of, or health risks to, victims while they are being trafficked or after they are out of the situation that resulted from such victims being trafficked.
2. **Restriction on organizations.** No funds made available to carry out this chapter, or any amendment made by this chapter, may be used to implement any program that targets victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons described in section 7102(9) (A) of this title through any organization that has not stated in either a grant application, a grant agreement, or both, that it does not promote, support, or advocate the legalization or practice of prostitution. The preceding sentence shall not apply to organizations that provide services to individuals solely after they are no longer engaged in activities that resulted from such victims being trafficked.

Pursuant to the statute above, OVC requires grantees under this program to agree to the following award condition: *Recipient certifies that it does not promote, support, or advocate the legalization or practice of prostitution, nor will it use grant funds or program match funds to promote, support, or advocate the legalization or practice of prostitution.*

#### **Information on Managing Human Trafficking Awards**

For more information on implementing OVC Human Trafficking awards, please consult the [OVC Human Trafficking Program FAQs](#).

#### **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 projects and activities funded under this solicitation. For additional information and applicable documentation to be included in the application, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) section entitled "Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities."

#### **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.

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

In support of this [Executive Order](#), OJP will provide priority consideration when making award decisions to the following:

A. Applications that propose project(s) that are designed to 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.

To receive this consideration, the applicant must describe how the proposed project(s) will address potential racial inequities and contribute to greater access to services and opportunities for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality, and identify how the project design and implementation will specifically incorporate the input or participation of those communities and populations disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and the criminal justice system overall. Examples addressing this requirement include, but are not limited to, the following: budgeted project planning and/or implementation meetings with community stakeholders representing historically underserved and marginalized communities; outreach and/or public awareness campaigns specifically tailored to historically underserved and marginalized communities to encourage participation in the proposed project(s); budgeted incorporation of members representing historically underserved and marginalized communities in program evaluation, surveys, or other means of project feedback; and partnership with organizations that primarily serve communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality.

B. Applicants that demonstrate that their capabilities and competencies for implementing their proposed project(s) are enhanced because they (or at least one proposed subrecipient that will receive **at least 40%** of the requested award funding, as demonstrated in the Budget Web-Based Form) identify 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 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 the purposes of this solicitation as private nonprofit or tribal organizations whose primary purpose as a whole is to provide culturally specific services to racial and ethnic groups, including, among others, Black people, Hispanic and Latino people, Native American and other Indigenous peoples of North America (including Alaska Native, Eskimo, and Aleut), 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 does not guarantee an award.

**Federal Award Information**

**Solicitation Categories**

This solicitation does not include Solicitation Categories.

**Awards, Amounts and Durations**

**Anticipated Number of Awards**

4

**Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount of Awards**

\$1,500,000.00

**Period of Performance Start Date**

10/1/23

**Period of Performance Duration (Months)**

36

**Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation**

6,000,000.00

**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 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.

**Type of Award**

OVC expects to make awards under this solicitation as grants. See the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section of the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for a brief discussion of important statutes, regulations, and award conditions that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP grants.

**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**

The applicant should identify within their budget which items, services, etc., will/would be covered by matching sources and explain what type of match will be provided.

**Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement**

This solicitation requires a **25% cash or in-kind match**. Federal funds awarded under this solicitation may not cover more than 75% of the total costs of the project being funded. An applicant must identify the source of the 25% non-federal portion of the total project costs and how they will use match funds. If an award recipient's proposed match exceeds the required match amount, and OJP approves the budget, the total match amount in the approved budget becomes mandatory and subject to audit. ("Match" funds may be used only for purposes that would be allowable for the federal funds.) Recipients must satisfy this match requirement with cash or in-kind match.

How to Calculate Match:

**Formula**

Step 1	Award Amount	÷	% of Federal Share	=	Total (Adjusted) Project Cost
Step 2	Total (Adjusted) Projected Cost	x	% of Recipient's Share	=	Required Match

**Example**

Match Requirement – 75/25 (Federal Share/Recipient Share)

Federal Award = \$150,000

Step 1	\$150,000	÷	75% of Federal Share	=	\$200,000
Step 2	\$200,000	x	25% of Recipient's Share	=	\$50,000

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on this match requirement. For step-by-step instructions for entering match amounts in the budget, see the [Budget Summary Match Guide](#).

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

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on pre-agreement costs (also known as pre-award costs).

**Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver**

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for 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.

For the 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.

Eligible subrecipients are states, units of local government, federally recognized Indian Tribal governments (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior), and nonprofit (defined as an organization that is described in section 501 (c)(3) of Title 26 and is exempt from taxation under 501 (a) of such title) organizations (including Tribal nonprofits).

Grantees awarded funding in FY 2019, FY 2020, FY 2021, and FY 2022 under the Improving Outcomes for Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking solicitation are not eligible to apply for funding under this solicitation, unless the proposal outlines *new* services, cost items, or a distinct geographic scope not included in the original application.

Nonprofit organizations that hold money in offshore accounts for the purpose of avoiding paying the tax described in 26 U.S.C. § 511(a) are not eligible to apply.

**Notice regarding law enforcement agencies:** 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 2023 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.

**Application and Submission Information**

**Content of Application Submission**

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 Web-Based Form (The web-based form includes the budget details and the budget narrative.)

If OJP determines that an application does not include these elements, it will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.

## Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) in Grants.gov

The SF-424 must be submitted in Grants.gov. It 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 "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 their 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 its purpose, primary activities, expected outcomes, the geographic service area, intended beneficiaries, and subrecipients (if known)—must be completed in the JustGrants web-based form. This abstract should be in paragraph form without bullets or tables, written in the third person, and exclude personally identifiable information. Abstracts will be made publicly available on the OJP and USASpending.gov websites if the project is awarded. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for an example of a proposal abstract. If priority consideration is being requested, please indicate the priority area(s) A and/or B selected.

### 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 numbered pages. If the Proposal Narrative fails to comply with these length restrictions, OVC may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decision.

The Proposal Narrative must include the following sections:

#### a. Description of the Issue

Applicants must briefly describe the sex trafficking and labor trafficking of children and youth in their state or Tribal jurisdiction. Applicants must describe the problem of labor trafficking within the targeted geographic area; what is known and unknown about the problem; current efforts to identify labor trafficking victims; and gaps in the response to labor trafficking.

Applicants should use state or Tribal jurisdiction baseline data to provide evidence that the problem exists, demonstrate the size and scope of the problem, and document existing efforts to address it, citing the source of the data. Note: Data should come from multiple sources and extend beyond national hotline data. Relevant baseline data might include:

- Number of human trafficking cases investigated, cases prosecuted, and traffickers convicted in the state or Tribal jurisdiction for calendar years 2020, 2021, and 2022, if possible noting how many involved child victims. Applicants are encouraged to include trafficking cases investigated and prosecuted using other relevant federal, state, and Tribal statutes, including those related to child exploitation.
- Number of minors (if any) arrested and charged for infractions related to the sale of commercial sex, and/or labor trafficking, during calendar years 2020, 2021 and 2022.
- Number of child and youth trafficking victims identified and assisted with services for calendar years 2020, 2021, and 2022.

#### b. Project Design and Implementation

Applicants must clearly state the goals and measurable objectives for the project. The goals and objectives must relate directly to the challenges described in the problem statement and the purpose of the solicitation and objectives must be measurable.

- Applicants must include a logic model with the application that graphically illustrates how the project's goals, objectives, and activities will work together to address the stated problem. The logic model must be included as a separate attachment and must include anticipated short- and long-term outcomes.
- Applicants must describe the steps that will be taken to achieve the goals and objectives of the project. They must document that the proposed project will be a statewide or Tribal jurisdiction effort—that is, the goals, objectives, and deliverables are linked to improving outcomes for child and youth trafficking victims *throughout the state or Tribe*. The strategy or project design must include the identification of a lead agency and a main point of contact within the lead agency to coordinate the effort. It must also contain a description of project phases, tasks, activities, staff responsibilities, deliverables at each stage, and final products.
- Describe how the proposed project is designed to improve responses to labor trafficking victims. These efforts may include targeted training to staff at the applicant organization or for partner organizations; strengthening partnerships with organizations supporting populations vulnerable to labor trafficking, including allocating funding to partners; working with community partners to develop outreach strategies and support for potential victims of labor trafficking; and/or other proposed approaches. The applicant must describe how these efforts will impact the project activities and budget and how the applicant will assess whether the proposed activities are having the desired outcomes of identifying and responding to

survivors of labor trafficking. Failure to include such a description will be taken into consideration when this section is scored during peer review.

- Describe how victim safety will be considered and how confidentiality will be provided. Applications that propose activities that have a potential negative impact on victim safety may receive a deduction in points during the review process or may be eliminated from consideration entirely.
- Describe how the proposed project will be accessible to youth with disabilities, youth who are Deaf or hard of hearing, and youth with limited English proficiency. Applicants and any partners should have policies and procedures in place to provide or refer to those providing accessible and appropriate services.
- Present a separate time-task plan that identifies which organization is responsible for each activity to be completed, and a schedule for the completion of the activities and submission of finished products. In preparing the time-task plan or schedule, applicants should make certain that all project activities will occur within the proposed project period.
- Describe how they will coordinate this project with existing anti-trafficking efforts, including any anti-trafficking task forces or multidisciplinary response teams that may be operating within their jurisdiction.
- Describe how the perspective and input of human trafficking survivors have been or will be incorporated into the project design and implementation.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration for Priority A, it should address in this section how the proposed project(s) 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, and identify how the project design and implementation will specifically incorporate the input or participation of these communities.

#### c. Capabilities and Competencies

The lead agency must demonstrate that it has the expertise and organizational capacity to successfully undertake a statewide or Tribal jurisdiction initiative that involves significant collaboration with other agencies and partners supporting the effort. Applicants must address the following items in this section:

- Define the roles and responsibilities of the lead agency and the partner agencies and/or entities committed to the effort. This discussion must describe the project's organizational and operational structure.
- Describe any previous or current experience conducting multi-agency planning to respond to sex and labor trafficking of children and youth.
- Include a list of personnel, in addition to the identified coordinator, responsible for managing and implementing the major stages of the project, and a description of the current and proposed professional staff members' qualifications that enable them to fulfill their responsibilities.
- Submit resumes for key staff as a separate attachment to the application.
- Demonstrate that project staff have appropriate training and experience to implement project activities as described in the proposal, including the knowledge and expertise necessary to implement culturally responsive projects with the identified cultural or ethnic communities.
- Document any plans for hiring and provide position descriptions for staff to be hired.
- Describe how the coordinator who will organize state or Tribal efforts to improve outcomes for child and youth victims of human trafficking will be empowered to lead a multidisciplinary, collaborative effort across many existing systems and with a diverse range of stakeholders.

If any funds will go to organizations providing victim services, applicants must demonstrate that these organizations have substantial experience providing services to child and youth victims of sex and labor trafficking or related populations (such as runaway and homeless youth), or employ staff specialized in the treatment of human trafficking victims.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority B, it should describe within this section how being a culturally specific organization (or funding one or more culturally specific subrecipient organizations at a minimum of 40% of the project budget) will enhance its ability to implement the proposed project(s), should also specify which populations are intended or expected to be served or have their needs addressed under the proposed project(s), and should include the website address (if applicable) and formal or informal mission statement or principles of the culturally specific organization.

#### d. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures

This section must include the following information:

- A plan for collecting all the performance measure data required by this solicitation.
- A description of the key staff who will be responsible for collecting data and reporting performance measures.

In addition, this plan must describe how the applicant anticipates using the collected data to assess whether the applicant is responding to labor trafficking victims as described in the application's Project Design and Implementation.

Note: An applicant is **not** required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included as a notification that award recipients will be required to submit performance data as part of each award's reporting requirements. Some measures are presented as examples, while others are the exact measures that every recipient will be expected to address.

OJP will require each award recipient 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](http://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 at <https://ovc.ojp.gov/funding/performance-measures/human-trafficking/human-trafficking-performance-measures-questionnaire.pdf>. A list of resources and trainings can be found at <https://ovc.ojp.gov/funding/performance-measures/human-trafficking>.

OVC will require award recipients to submit quarterly performance measure data in the Performance Management Tool (PMT) and separately submit a semi-annual performance report in JustGrants. OVC will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process, if the applicant is 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" section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#).

#### **Goal, Objective and Deliverables**

The applicant will submit the project's goals, objectives, deliverables and timeline in the JustGrants web-based form. The projected fiscal year and quarter the objectives and deliverables will be completed is also entered into the form. Please refer to the [Application Submission Job Aid](#) for step-by-step directions.

**Goals.** The applicant should describe the project's intent to change, reduce, or eliminate the problem noted in the previous section and outline the project's goals.

**Program Objectives.** The applicant should explain how the program will accomplish its goals. Objectives are specific, quantifiable statements of the project's desired results. They should be measurable and clearly linked to the goal.

**Deliverables.** Project deliverables refer to outputs—tangible or intangible—that are submitted within the scope of a project.

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

Please note the Unallowable Costs and Limitations on the Use of Funds in the Program-Specific section.

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

The applicant will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form. For additional information, see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide and the Complete the Application in JustGrants – Budget](#) training.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority A and has proposed activities (such as community or stakeholder meetings, community outreach or public awareness campaigns, community participation in project design, implementation, or evaluation, etc.) to incorporate the input and participation of communities that have been historically underserved, and participation must be reflected in the web-based budget form.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority B based on the identification of at least one proposed subrecipient as a culturally specific organization, the proposed funding for the subrecipient(s) in the web-based budget form **must reflect a minimum of 40% of award funding**. The budget narrative must also describe how the activities that will be funded with the (minimum) 40% of award funding provided to the subrecipient(s) **specifically relate to the priority consideration requested** and described in the Capabilities and Competencies section of the application.

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

See the section on Costs Requiring Prior Approval in the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide Post Award Requirements](#) for more information.

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

If applicable, the applicant will upload their indirect cost rate agreement as an attachment in JustGrants. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for more information on indirect costs.

#### **Consultant Rate**

See the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#) for information on the consultant rates which require prior approval from OJP.

#### **Limitation on Employee Compensation; Waiver**

See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information on the Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards over \$250,000; Waiver.

#### **Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)**

The applicant will download the questionnaire, complete it, and upload 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**

If applicable, the applicant will upload a description of the process used to determine executive compensation as an attachment in JustGrants. See the "Application Attachments" section of the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for information.

### **Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and Other Supportive Documents**

Applicants should include for each named partner, a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Letter of Intent, or subcontract that confirms the partner's agreement to support the project through commitments of staff time, space, services, or other project needs. For applications submitted from two or more entities, applicants are encouraged to develop and submit signed MOUs or signed Letters of Intent that provide a detailed description of how the agencies will work together to meet project requirements.

Each MOU or Letter of Intent should include the following: (1) names of the organizations involved in the agreement; (2) scope of the direct service(s) and other work to be performed under the agreement; (3) duration of the agreement. Subcontracts, MOUs, or Letters of Intent should be submitted as one separate attachment to the application.

### **Additional Application Components**

The applicant will attach the additional requested documentation in JustGrants.

#### **Curriculum Vitae or Resumes**

Provide resumes of key personnel.

#### **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 upload the tribal authorizing documentation 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 upload documentation of its research and evaluation independence and integrity 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. Once the applicant submits in Grants.gov, this information will pre-pend into JustGrants. 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; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing**

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

##### **Applicant Disclosure and Justification - DOJ High Risk Grantees**

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; noncompliance with award terms and conditions on prior awards or is otherwise not responsible. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

### **How to Apply**

**Registration:** Before submitting an application, all applicants must register with the System for Award Management (SAM). You must renew and validate your registration every 12 months. If you do not renew your SAM registration, it will expire. An expired registration can delay or prevent application submission in Grants.gov and JustGrants. Registration and renewal can take up to 10 business days to

complete.

**Submission:** Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process via Grants.gov and JustGrants.

**Step 1:** After registering with SAM, the applicant must submit the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL** in Grants.gov at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html> by the Grants.gov deadline. **Submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL as early as possible, but no later than 48 hours before the Grants.gov deadline.** If an applicant fails to submit in Grants.gov, they will be unable to apply in JustGrants.

**Step 2:** The applicant must then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](https://www.justgrants.usdoj.gov) by the JustGrants deadline.

Within 24 hours after receipt of confirmation emails from Grants.gov, the individual in Section 8F of the SF-424 will receive an email from [DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov](mailto:DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov) with instructions on how to create a JustGrants account. Register the Entity Administrator and the Application Submitter with JustGrants as early as possible but no later than 48-72 hours before the JustGrants deadline. Once registered in JustGrants, the Application Submitter will receive an emailed link to complete the rest of the application in JustGrants. The Entity Administrator also will need to log into JustGrants to review and invite the applicant's Authorized Representative(s) before an application can be submitted.

Submit the complete application package in JustGrants at least 24 – 48 hours prior to the JustGrants deadline. Some of the application components will be entered directly into JustGrants, and others will require uploading attached documents. Therefore, applicants will need to allow ample time before the JustGrants deadline to prepare each component. Applicants may save their progress in the system and revise the application as needed prior to hitting the Submit button at the end of the application in JustGrants.

For additional information, see the "How to Apply" section in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) and the [DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#).

#### **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 April 10, 2023.

The **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by 8:59 p.m. eastern time on April 13, 2023.

OJP urges applicants to submit their Grants.gov and JustGrants submissions prior to the due dates with sufficient time to correct any 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. Failure to begin the SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants registration process in sufficient time (i.e., waiting until the date identified in this solicitation) is not an acceptable reason for late submission.

#### **Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues Preventing Submission of an Application**

OJP will only consider requests to submit an application after the deadline when the applicant can document that a technical issue with a government system prevented application submission.

If an applicant misses a deadline due to unforeseen technical issues with SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants, the applicant may request a waiver to submit an application after the deadline. However, the waiver request will not be considered unless it includes a tracking number generated when the applicant contacts the applicable service desks to report technical difficulties. Tracking numbers are generated automatically when an applicant emails the applicable service desks; and for this reason applicants are encouraged to email the appropriate service desk, even if they also intend to call the service desk for phone support. Experiencing wait times for phone support does not relieve the applicant of the responsibility of getting a tracking number.

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

- SAM.gov - contact the [SAM Help Desk \(Federal Service Desk\)](#), Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET at 866-606-8220.
- Grants.gov - contact the [Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline](#), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays, at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, or [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov).
- JustGrants - contact the JustGrants Service Desk at [JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov](mailto:JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov) or 833-872-5175, Monday – Friday from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET and Saturday, Sunday, and Federal holidays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET.

If an applicant has technical issues with SAM.gov or Grants.gov, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center at [grants@ncjrs.gov](mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov) within **24 hours of the Grants.gov deadline** to request approval to submit after the deadline.

If an applicant has technical issues with JustGrants that prevent application submission by the deadline, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center at [grants@ncjrs.gov](mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov) within **24 hours of the JustGrants deadline** to request approval to submit after the deadline.

Waiver requests sent to the OJP Response Center must -

- describe the technical difficulties experienced,
- include a timeline of the applicant's submission efforts (e.g., date and time the error occurred, date and time of actions taken to resolve the issue and resubmit, and date and time support representatives responded),
- include an attachment of the complete grant application and all the required documentation and materials,
- include the applicant's Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), and
- include any SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants Service Desk tracking numbers documenting the technical issue.

OJP will review each waiver request and the required supporting documentation and notify the applicant whether the request for late submission has been approved or denied. An applicant that does not provide documentation of a technical issue or that does not submit a waiver request within the required time period will be 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:

Description of the Issue (10%) - evaluate the applicant's understanding of the program/issue to be addressed.

Project Design and Implementation (35%) - evaluate the adequacy of the proposal, including the goals, objectives, timelines, milestones, and deliverables.

Capabilities and Competencies (30%) - evaluate the applicant's administrative and technical capacity to successfully accomplish the goals and objectives.

Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (5%) - evaluate the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements and the plan for collecting the required data.

Budget (10%) - evaluate for completeness, cost effectiveness, and allowability (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

Other - Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and Other Supportive Documents (10%) - evaluate strength and commitment of partnerships needed to effectively implement the work.

###### 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, if applicable), available funding, past performance, and the extent to which the Budget Web-Based Form accurately explains 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 entity. Among other things to help assess whether an applicant with one or more prior federal awards has a satisfactory record of performance, integrity, and business ethics, OJP checks whether the applicant entity 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 entity 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 its organization 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 entity.

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

Generally, award notifications are made by the end of the current Federal fiscal year, September 30th. 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 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 more information.

### **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.

**Required reports.** 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), contact information for Grants.gov, and 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**

OVC will require award recipients to submit quarterly performance measure data in the Performance Measurement Tool and separately submit semi-annual performance reports in JustGrants. A list of resources and trainings can be found at <https://ovc.ojp.gov/funding/performance-measures/human-trafficking>. Examples of performance measure questions for this project can be found here: <https://ovc.ojp.gov/funding/performance-measures/human-trafficking/human-trafficking-performance-measures-questionnaire.pdf>.

### **Application Checklist**

#### **OVC FY 2023 Improving Outcomes for Child and Youth Victims of Human Trafficking**

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. For more information, reference the [OJP Application Submission Steps in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) and the [DOJ Application Submission Checklist](#).

#### **Pre-Application**

##### **Before Registering in Grants.gov:**

- Acquire or renew your Entity's [System Award Management \(SAM\) Registration Information](#) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

##### **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](#))

##### **Find the Funding Opportunity**

- Search for the funding opportunity in Grants.gov using the opportunity number, assistance listing number, or keyword(s)
- Access the funding opportunity and application package (see Step 7 in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))
- 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 [https://www.ojp.gov/funding\\_financialguide/iii-postaward-requirements#6g3y8](https://www.ojp.gov/funding_financialguide/iii-postaward-requirements#6g3y8) (see [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#))

**Review the Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements**

- Review the "[Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2023 Awards](#)" in the [OJP Funding Resource Center](#).

**Review the Scope Requirement**

- The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of \$1,500,000.

**Review Eligibility Requirement:**

- Review the Eligibility section on the cover page and Eligibility Information section in the solicitation.

~~~~

**Application Step 1**

Submit the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL** in Grants.gov

- In Section 8F of the SF-424, include the name and contact information of the individual **who will complete the application in JustGrants and the SF-LLL in Grants.gov**

*Within 48 hours after the SF-424 and SF-LLL submission in Grants.gov, receive four (4) Grants.gov email notifications:*

- a submission receipt
- a validation receipt
- a grantor agency retrieval receipt
- an agency tracking number assignment

*If no Grants.gov receipt and validation email is received, or if error notifications are received:*

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

Within 24 hours after receipt of confirmation emails from Grants.gov, the individual in Section 8F of the SF-424 will receive an email from JustGrants with login instructions.

- Proceed to Application Step 2 and complete application in JustGrants

**Application Step 2**

Submit the following information in JustGrants:

Application Components

- Standard Applicant information (SF-424 information from Grants.gov)
- **Proposal Abstract\***
- **Proposal Narrative\***

Budget and Associated Documentation

- **Budget Web-Based form\***
- 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](#))
- Disclosure of Process related to Executive Compensation (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](#))
- Timeline
- Memorandum of understanding (if applicable)
- Résumés of key personnel (if applicable)
- List of procurement contracts (if applicable)
- Organizational chart (if applicable)

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](#))

**\*Note: Items designated with an asterisk must be submitted for an application to meet the basic minimum requirements review. If OJP determines that an application does not include the designated items, it will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.**

Review, Certify and Submit Application in JustGrants

- Any validation errors will immediately display on screen after submission.
- Correct validation errors, if necessary, and then return to the "Certify and Submit" screen to submit the application. Access the [Application Submission Validation Errors Quick Reference Guide](#) for step-by-step instructions to resolve errors prior to submission.
- Once the application is submitted and validated, a confirmation message will appear at the top of the page. Users will also receive a notification in the "bell" alerts confirming submission.

*If no JustGrants application submission confirmation email or validation is received, or if error notification is received:*

- Contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or [JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov](mailto:JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov) regarding technical difficulties. See the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

#### Standard Solicitation Resources

[OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) provides guidance to assist OJP grant applicants in preparing and submitting applications for OJP funding.

[DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#) serves as the primary reference manual to assist 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. It compiles a variety of laws, rules and regulations that affect the financial and administrative management of DOJ awards. This guide serves as a starting point for all award recipients and subrecipients of DOJ grants and cooperative agreements in ensuring the effective day-to-day management of awards.

[JustGrants Resources Website](#) is an entryway into information about JustGrants and the grants management system itself. Through this portal both award recipients and applicants can access training resource and user support options, find frequently asked questions and sign-up for the [JustGrants Update e-newsletter](#).

[JustGrants Application Submission Training Page](#) offers helpful information and resources on the application process. This training page includes e-learning videos, reference guides, checklists and other resources to help applicants complete an application.

[Virtual Q&A Sessions](#) are advertised here and provide opportunities for users to receive topic-specific training, direct technical assistance and support on JustGrants system functionality.