

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



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The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [Office for Victims of Crime](#) (OVC) is seeking applications to support the development and enhancement of partnerships between corrections agencies and community-based victim service providers with the goal of increasing access to outside support services for incarcerated survivors of sexual abuse.

## **OVC FY 2016 Building and Enhancing Partnerships to Support Incarcerated Survivors of Sexual Abuse**

**Applications Due: July 25, 2016**

### **Eligibility**

Eligible applicants are nonprofit organizations (including tribal nonprofit organizations).

OVC welcomes applications that involve two or more entities that will carry out the funded Federal award activities; however, one eligible entity must be the applicant and the other(s) must be proposed as subrecipient(s). The applicant must be the entity with primary responsibility for administering the funding and managing the entire project. Only one application per lead applicant will be considered; however, a subrecipient may be part of multiple proposals.

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

For additional information, see [Section C. Eligibility Information](#).

### **Deadline**

Applicants must register with [Grants.gov](#) prior to submitting an application. All applications are due to be submitted and in receipt of a successful validation message in Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on **July 25, 2016**.

All applicants are encouraged to read this [Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov](#).

For additional information, see [How to Apply](#) in Section D. Application and Submission Information.

## Contact Information

For technical assistance with submitting an application, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726 or 606-545-5035, or via email to [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov). The [Grants.gov](#) Support Hotline hours of operation are 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except federal holidays.

Applicants that experience unforeseen Grants.gov technical issues beyond their control that prevent them from submitting their application by the deadline must email the OVC contact identified below **within 24 hours after the application deadline** and request approval to submit their application. Additional information on reporting technical issues is found under “Experiencing Unforeseen Grants.gov Technical Issues” in the [How to Apply](#) section.

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact Stacy Phillips, Grants Management Specialist by telephone at 202-616-3627 or by email at [Stacy.Phillips@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:Stacy.Phillips@ojp.usdoj.gov).

Grants.gov number assigned to this announcement: **OVC-2016-10240**

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# OVC FY 2016 Building and Enhancing Partnerships to Support Incarcerated Survivors of Sexual Abuse (CFDA #16.582)

## A. Program Description

### Overview

This solicitation is intended to support the development and enhancement of partnerships between correctional agencies and community-based victim service providers with the goal of increasing access to outside support services for incarcerated survivors of sexual abuse. Eligible applicants shall be nonprofit organizations (including tribal nonprofit organizations) with demonstrated knowledge of and experience with providing support services to victims of sexual abuse and/or rape crisis coalitions, and a strong desire to provide victim support services to incarcerated survivors of sexual abuse. The statutory authority for this program is 42 U.S.C. § 10603 (c)(1)(A).

### Project-Specific Information

In 2003, the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed with the objective of eliminating prison rape. In 2012, the U.S. Department of Justice released the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) final rule (“Rule”). One of the requirements under the PREA Rule is that correctional agencies must attempt to make available to incarcerated survivors an advocate from a rape crisis center. Correctional agencies are encouraged to enter into an agreement with a rape crisis center to afford incarcerated survivors an opportunity to receive services from a trained advocate with background and expertise in providing sexual assault advocacy services. Specifically, the relevant PREA standards are:

“115.221 Evidence protocol and forensic medical examinations:

(d) The agency shall attempt to make available to the victim a victim advocate from a rape crisis center. If a rape crisis center is not available to provide victim advocate services, the agency shall make available to provide these services a qualified staff member from a community-based organization, or a qualified agency staff member. Agencies shall document efforts to secure services from rape crisis centers. For the purpose of this standard, a rape crisis center refers to an entity that provides intervention and related assistance, such as the services specified in 42.U.S.C. § 14041g(b)(2)(C), to victims of sexual assault of all ages. The agency may utilize a rape crisis center that is part of a governmental unit as long as the center is not part of the criminal justice system (such as a law enforcement agency) and offers a comparable level of confidentiality as a nongovernmental entity that provides similar victim services.

(e) As requested by the victim, the victim advocate, qualified agency staff member, or qualified community-based organization staff member shall accompany and support the victim through the forensic medical examination process and investigatory interviews and shall provide emotional support, crisis intervention, information, and referrals.”

“115.53 Inmate access to outside confidential support services

(a) The facility shall provide inmates with access to outside victim advocates for emotional support services related to sexual abuse by giving inmates mailing addresses and telephone numbers, (including toll free hotline numbers where available), of local, state, or national victim advocacy or rape crisis organizations, and for persons detained solely for civil immigration purposes, immigrant services agencies. The facility shall enable a reasonable communication between inmates and these organizations and agencies, in as confidential a manner as possible.

(b) The facility shall inform inmates, prior to giving them access, of the extent to which such communications will be monitored and the extent to which reports of abuse will be forwarded to authorities in accordance with mandatory reporting laws.

(c) The agency shall maintain or attempt to enter into memoranda of understanding or other agreements with community services providers that are able to provide inmates with confidential emotional support services related to sexual abuse. The agency shall maintain copies of agreements or documentation showing attempts to enter into such agreements.”

To date, many correctional facilities have not developed partnerships with victim service organizations to provide these services. Currently, there are a limited number of facilities that have partnered with victim service providers to ensure that incarcerated survivors of sexual assault are receiving services as recommended in the PREA standards. Additionally, according to the National PREA Resource Center, many rape crisis or similar victim service organizations experience significant challenges in providing services to incarcerated survivors. The challenges include: a lack of resources and capacity on the part of rape crisis centers, including lack of funding to support victim services and to coordinate with corrections; a lack of staff resources to partner to develop and implement victim services in corrections; and a lack of participation by correctional facilities. For many rape crisis centers or similar victim service providers, increasing client volume and the logistical complexity of providing services to incarcerated survivors, especially without financial resources, are also significant challenges.

### **Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables**

Under this grant, selected victim service organizations shall—

- (1) partner with underserved correctional agencies ( i.e., agencies that do not already have formalized partnerships with victim service providers), including, but not limited to, local jails, local juvenile facilities, and community confinement facilities;
- (2) collaborate with the partner correction agency to develop agreed-upon victim advocacy services, response protocols, and method of delivering services;
- (3) cross-train victim service and correction facilities staff on the provision and delivery of victim services to incarcerated survivors;
- (4) work with the facility to provide inmate education about the availability of victim services;
- (5) develop a program plan for implementation;
- (6) provide direct services to incarcerated survivors; and
- (7) prepare a plan for program sustainability.

Selected victim service organizations will be required to work with a local researcher to assess the program and document successes and challenges. In addition, selected organizations will be required to work with Just Detention International (JDI), which received OVC funding in 2015 to provide training and technical assistance to victim service organizations, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance Administrators, and correction facilities to help create partnerships with victim service organizations and correction facilities. Additionally, applicants will be required

to submit with the solicitation a Letter of Support indicating a facility's commitment to partnering with the service provider to make victim services available to incarcerated survivors. Applicants shall be required to submit formalized Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with the partner facilities within 6 months of accepting the Award.

First year deliverables shall include—

- (1) develop a strategic plan to work with the partner facility,
- (2) develop and submit an MOU between the victim service organization and the facility memorializing the partnership and the details of how the services will be provided to incarcerated survivors,
- (3) identify and retain a research partner,
- (4) identify service gaps,
- (5) educate and cross-train all staff,
- (6) develop a sustainability plan, and
- (7) coordinate with JDI to provide training and technical assistance in the development of the project.

At the end of the first year, each project will be assessed to examine performance of the project and determine if continued funding is available and appropriate. Deliverables for the second and third years shall be developed, as appropriate.

### **Evidence-Based Programs or Practices**

OJP strongly emphasizes the use of data and evidence in policy making and program development in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. OJP is committed to:

- Improving the quantity and quality of evidence OJP generates
- Integrating evidence into program, practice, and policy decisions within OJP and the field
- Improving the translation of evidence into practice

OJP considers programs and practices to be evidence-based when their effectiveness has been demonstrated by causal evidence, generally obtained through one or more outcome evaluations. Causal evidence documents a relationship between an activity or intervention (including technology) and its intended outcome, including measuring the direction and size of a change, and the extent to which a change may be attributed to the activity or intervention. Causal evidence depends on the use of scientific methods to rule out, to the extent possible, alternative explanations for the documented change. The strength of causal evidence, based on the factors described above, will influence the degree to which OJP considers a program or practice to be evidence-based. The [OJP CrimeSolutions.gov](http://OJP.CrimeSolutions.gov) website is one resource that applicants may use to find information about evidence-based programs in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services.

## **B. Federal Award Information**

OVC estimates that it will make a minimum of four awards of up to \$300,000 for an estimated total of \$1,200,000 for a 12-month project period beginning October 1, 2016, with the potential for an additional 3 years depending on funding availability and grantee performance. Total funding is anticipated to be at least \$4,800,000 over 4 years. OVC may, in certain cases, provide supplemental funding in future years to awards under this solicitation. Important considerations in decisions regarding supplemental funding include, among other factors, the

availability of funding, strategic priorities, assessment of the quality of the management of the award (for example, timeliness and quality of progress reports), and assessment of the progress of the work funded under the award.

All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

### **Type of Award<sup>1</sup>**

OVC expects that it will make any award from this solicitation in the form of a cooperative agreement, which is a particular type of grant used if OVC expects to have ongoing substantial involvement in award activities. Substantial involvement includes direct oversight and involvement with the grantee organization in implementation of the grant, but does not involve day-to-day project management. See [Administrative, National Policy, and other Legal Requirements](#), under [Section F. Federal Award Administration Information](#), for details regarding the federal involvement anticipated under an award from this solicitation.

### **Financial Management and System of Internal Controls**

Award recipients and subrecipients (including any recipient or subrecipient funded in response to this solicitation that is a pass-through entity<sup>2</sup>) must, as described in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.303:

- (a) Establish and maintain effective internal control over the Federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the recipient (and any subrecipient) is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. These internal controls should be in compliance with guidance in “Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government” issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the “Internal Control Integrated Framework”, issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).
- (b) Comply with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal awards.
- (c) Evaluate and monitor the recipient’s (and any subrecipient’s) compliance with statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of Federal awards.
- (d) Take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified including noncompliance identified in audit findings.
- (e) Take reasonable measures to safeguard protected personally identifiable information and other information the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity designates as sensitive or the recipient (or any subrecipient) considers sensitive consistent with

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<sup>1</sup> See generally 31 U.S.C. §§ 6301-6305 (defines and describes various forms of federal assistance relationships, including grants and cooperative agreements (a type of grant)).

<sup>2</sup> For purposes of this solicitation (or program announcement), “pass-through entity” includes any entity eligible to receive funding as a recipient or subrecipient under this solicitation (or program announcement) that, if funded, may make a subaward(s) to a subrecipient(s) to carry out part of the funded program.

applicable Federal, state, local, and tribal laws regarding privacy and obligations of confidentiality.

In order to better understand administrative requirements and cost principles, applicants are encouraged to enroll, at no charge, in the Department of Justice Grants Financial Management Online Training available [here](#).

## **Budget Information**

### **Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement**

This solicitation does not require a match. However, if a successful application proposes a voluntary match amount, and OJP approves the budget, the total match amount incorporated into the approved budget becomes mandatory and subject to audit.

### **Pre-Agreement Cost (also known as Pre-award Cost) Approvals**

Pre-agreement costs are costs incurred by the applicant prior to the start date of the period of performance of the grant award.

OJP does not typically approve pre-agreement costs; an applicant must request and obtain the prior written approval of OJP for all such costs. If approved, pre-agreement costs could be paid from grant funds consistent with a grantee's approved budget, and under applicable cost standards. However, all such costs prior to award and prior to approval of the costs are incurred at the sole risk of an applicant. Generally, no applicant should incur project costs *before* submitting an application requesting federal funding for those costs. Should there be extenuating circumstances that appear to be appropriate for OJP's consideration as pre-agreement costs, the applicant should contact the point of contact listed on the title page of this announcement for details on the requirements for submitting a written request for approval. See the section on Costs Requiring Prior Approval in the [Financial Guide](#), for more information.

### **Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver**

With respect to any award of more than \$250,000 made under this solicitation, recipients may not use federal funds to pay total cash compensation (salary plus cash bonuses) to any employee of the award recipient at a rate that exceeds 110% of the maximum annual salary payable to a member of the Federal Government's Senior Executive Service (SES) at an agency with a Certified SES Performance Appraisal System for that year.<sup>3</sup> The 2016 salary table for SES employees is available at the Office of Personnel Management [website](#). Note: A recipient may compensate an employee at a greater rate, provided the amount in excess of this compensation limitation is paid with non-federal funds. (Any such additional compensation will not be considered matching funds where match requirements apply.) For employees who charge only a portion of their time to an award, the allowable amount to be charged is equal to the percentage of time worked times the maximum salary limitation.

The Assistant Attorney General for OJP may exercise discretion to waive, on an individual basis, the limitation on compensation rates allowable under an award. An applicant requesting a waiver should include a detailed justification in the budget narrative of the application. Unless

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<sup>3</sup> OJP does not apply this limitation on the use of award funds to the nonprofit organizations listed at Appendix VIII to 2 C.F.R. Part 200.

the applicant submits a waiver request and justification with the application, the applicant should anticipate that OJP will request the applicant to adjust and resubmit the budget.

The justification should include the particular qualifications and expertise of the individual, the uniqueness of the service the individual will provide, the individual's specific knowledge of the program or project being undertaken with award funds, and a statement explaining that the individual's salary is commensurate with the regular and customary rate for an individual with his/her qualifications and expertise, and for the work to be done.

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

OJP strongly encourages applicants that propose to use award funds for any conference-, meeting-, or training-related activity to review carefully—before submitting an application—the OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting available at [www.ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/PostawardRequirements/chapter3.10a.htm](http://www.ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/PostawardRequirements/chapter3.10a.htm). OJP policy and guidance (1) encourage minimization of conference, meeting, and training costs; (2) require prior written approval (which may affect project timelines) of most conference, meeting, and training costs for cooperative agreement recipients and of some conference, meeting, and training costs for grant recipients; and (3) set cost limits, including a general prohibition of all food and beverage costs.

### **Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)**

If an applicant proposes a program or activity that would deliver services or benefits to individuals, the costs of taking reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to those services or benefits for individuals with limited English proficiency may be allowable. Reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to services or benefits may include interpretation or translation services where appropriate.

For additional information, see the "Civil Rights Compliance" section under "Solicitation Requirements" in the [OJP Funding Resource Center](#).

## **C. Eligibility Information**

All applicants are required to submit with the solicitation a Letter of Support indicating a facilities' commitment to partnering with the service provider to make victim services available to incarcerated survivors.

Selected victim service organizations will be required to partner with a local researcher to assess the program and document successes and challenges.

Selected victims service organizations would be required to work with JDI, which received OVC funding in 2015 to provide training and technical assistance to victim service organizations, VOCA Victim Assistance Administrators, and correction facilities to help create partnerships with victim service organizations and correction facilities.

For additional eligibility information, see the title page.

For additional information on cost sharing or matching requirements, see [Section B. Federal Award Information](#).

### **Limit on Number of Application Submissions**

If an applicant submits multiple versions of the same application, OVC will review only the most recent system-validated version submitted. For more information on system-validated versions, see [How to Apply](#).

## **D. Application and Submission Information**

### **What an Application Should Include**

Applicants should anticipate that if they fail to submit an application that contains all of the specified elements, it may negatively affect the review of their application; and, should a decision be made to make an award, it may result in the inclusion of special conditions that preclude the recipient from accessing or using award funds pending satisfaction of the conditions.

Moreover, applicants should anticipate that applications that are determined to be nonresponsive to the scope of the solicitation, or that do not include the application elements that OVC has designated to be critical, will neither proceed to peer review nor receive further consideration. Under this solicitation, OVC has designated the following application elements as critical: Program Narrative, Applicant Questionnaire, Budget Detail Worksheet, and Budget Narrative. Applicants must address a series of questions within the Program Narrative section of the solicitation. The responses should address the—

- scope of the problem,
- program design and implementation,
- project goals and objectives,
- organizational capabilities and project management, and
- plans for collecting the required data for this solicitation's performance measures.

Applicants may combine the Budget Narrative and the Budget Detail Worksheet in one document. However, if an applicant submits only one budget document, it must contain **both** narrative and detail information. Please review the "Note on File Names and File Types" under [How to Apply](#) to be sure applications are submitted in permitted formats.

*OJP strongly recommends that applicants use appropriately descriptive file names (e.g., "Applicant Questionnaire," "Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative," "Timelines," "Memoranda of Understanding," "Resumes") for all attachments. Also, OJP recommends that applicants include resumes in a single file.*

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

The SF-424 is a required standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications, applications, and related information. Grants.gov and the OJP Grants Management System (GMS) take information from the applicant's profile to populate the fields on this form. When selecting "type of applicant," if the applicant is a for-profit entity, select "For-Profit Organization" or "Small Business" (as applicable).

**Intergovernmental Review:** This funding opportunity (program) **is not** subject to [Executive Order 12372](#). (In completing the SF-424, applicants are to make the appropriate selection in response to question 19 to indicate that the "Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.")

## 2. Project Abstract

Applications should include a high-quality project abstract that summarizes the proposed project in 400 words or less. Project abstracts should be—

- Written for a general public audience
- Submitted as a separate attachment with “Project Abstract” as part of its file name
- Single-spaced, using a standard 12-point font (Times New Roman) with 1-inch margins

As a separate attachment, the project abstract will **not** count against the page limit for the program narrative.

All project abstracts should follow the detailed template available at [ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/ProjectAbstractTemplate.pdf](http://ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/ProjectAbstractTemplate.pdf).

**Permission to Share Project Abstract with the Public:** It is unlikely that OVC will be able to fund all applications submitted under this solicitation, but it may have the opportunity to share information with the public regarding unfunded applications, for example, through a listing on a web page available to the public. The intent of this public posting would be to allow other possible funders to become aware of such proposals.

In the project abstract template, applicants are asked to indicate whether they give OJP permission to share their project abstract (including contact information) with the public. Granting (or failing to grant) this permission will not affect OJP’s funding decisions, and, if the application is not funded, granting permission will not guarantee that abstract information will be shared, nor will it guarantee funding from any other source.

**Note:** OJP may choose not to list a project that otherwise would have been included in a listing of unfunded applications, should the abstract fail to meet the format and content requirements noted above and outlined in the project abstract template.

## 3. Program Narrative and Application Questionnaire

Responses to the Application Questionnaire must not exceed 25 pages in length, double-spaced (i.e., 25 pages for the entire response, not 25 pages per question). If the responses fail to comply with these length-related restrictions, OVC may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions.

The Application Questionnaire comprises the following sections (see also Selection Criteria):

- a. Statement of the Problem
  - a. Why does your organization want to participate in this initiative?
  - b. What experience do you have with providing support services to victims of sexual abuse and/or rape crisis coalitions?
  - c. Describe policies and practices in your area of work related to victim services and addressing the needs of sexual abuse victims, specifically those that are incarcerated.
  - d. Describe your experience in developing and providing training and technical assistance to victim service organizations.
  - e. Who are your constituents?

- b. Project Design and Implementation
  - a. Describe how you would implement this project.
  - b. Who are your potential project partners?
  - c. Do you have agreements or MOUs in place?
- c. Capabilities and Competencies
  - a. Describe your organization.
  - b. What is your current capacity to collaborate with one or more research partners?
  - c. Describe the strengths and weaknesses of your organization. Identify its challenges (e.g., resources, policy and system barriers, training gaps, etc.)
  - d. Identify any staffing, resource, and capacity needs that your organization would have to fill to lead this project.
- d. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation’s Performance Measures

To demonstrate program progress and success, as well as, to assist the Department with fulfilling its responsibilities under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (GPRA), Public Law 103-62, and the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010, Public Law 111–352, applicants that receive funding under this solicitation must provide data that measure the results of their work done under this solicitation. OJP will require any award recipient, post award, to provide the data requested in the “Data Grantee Provides” column so that OJP can calculate values for the “Performance Measures” column. Performance measures for this solicitation are as follows:

Objective	Performance Measure(s)	Description	Data Grantee Provides
<b>Multijurisdictional Linkages and Wraparound Services</b>	Number of partnerships formed.	The number of new formalized collaboration agreements developed during the reporting period. They must be signed by heads of organizations with authority to commit resources such as time, dollars, staff, and facilities. Examples can be MOUs, tribal resolutions, and formalized collaboration agreements. Letters of support lend organizational support but do not commit resources. The intent is to measure the extent of progress toward the goals of Vision 21.	a. Number of new formalized collaboration agreements developed.  b. Number of new letters of support.
	Number of planning activities conducted.	Number of planning activities undertaken during the reporting period. Planning activities include creation of	a. Number of planning activities undertaken.

		task forces or interagency committees/advisory groups, meetings held, needs assessments undertaken, etc. The intent is to measure progress toward the goals for Vision 21.	
	Number of agency policies or procedures created, amended, or rescinded.	The number of cross-program or agency policies or procedures created, amended, or rescinded during the reporting period. A policy is a plan or specific course of action that guides the general goals and directives of programs and/or agencies. A procedure is the established or correct method of doing something. Include policies and procedures that are relevant to the topic area of the program or that affect program operations. Preferred data sources are program records, minutes, or summaries. The intent is to measure progress toward the goals of Vision 21.	a. Count the number of agency policies or procedures created, amended, or rescinded during the reporting period.
	Number of groups/organizations/agencies participating in multijurisdictional linkages initiative.	Multijurisdictional linkages are collaborations between agencies for a common goal. Group may be an association, government, nonprofit, consortium, agency, neighborhood association, religious group, or a single organization Types are state, regional, or local partnerships. Intent is to measure increase in partnerships as a result of the Vision 21 funding.	a. Number of agencies involved in the partnership.
	Percent of agencies that implement evidence-based programs or practices.	Evidence-based programs or practices are best practice models which include program models that have shown through rigorous evaluation and replication to be effective.	a. Number of agencies that utilize an evidence-based program or practice in the delivery of services.

		See OJP's <a href="http://www.crimesolutions.gov">www.crimesolutions.gov</a> . Services may include direct services.	
	Number of victims served through this partnership.	Count the number of victims served through this partnership.	a. Number of victims served during the reporting period. b. Number of victims served in the quarter prior to the start of the grant.
<b>Strategic Planning</b>	Number of improvement initiatives implemented.	Count the number of system-wide initiatives implemented during the reporting period. Examples: community strategic planning meeting, stakeholder engagement meetings.	a. Number of improvement initiatives planned for the duration of the grant period. b. Number of improvement initiatives implemented this reporting period.
	Number of planning activities conducted.	Number of planning activities undertaken during the reporting period. Planning activities include creation of task forces or interagency committees/advisory groups, meetings held, needs assessments undertaken, etc. Preferred data source is program records. The intent is to measure progress toward the goals for Vision 21.	a. Number of strategic planning activities begun.

OVC does not require applicants to submit performance measures data with their application. Performance measures are included as an alert that OVC will require successful applicants to submit specific data as part of their reporting requirements. For the application, applicants should indicate an understanding of these requirements and discuss how they will gather the required data, should they receive funding.

**Note on Project Evaluations**

Applicants that propose to use funds awarded through this solicitation to conduct project evaluations should be aware that certain project evaluations (such as systematic investigations designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge) may constitute “research” for purposes of applicable DOJ human subjects protection regulations. However, project evaluations that are intended only to generate internal improvements to a program or service, or are conducted only to meet OJP’s performance measure data reporting requirements likely do not constitute “research.” Applicants should provide sufficient information for OJP to determine whether the particular project they propose would either intentionally or unintentionally collect and/or use information in such a way that it meets the DOJ regulatory definition of research.

Research, for the purposes of human subjects protections for OJP-funded programs, is defined as, “a systematic investigation, including research development, testing, and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge” 28 C.F.R. § 46.102(d). For additional information on determining whether a proposed activity would constitute research, see the decision tree to assist applicants on the “Research and the Protection of Human Subjects” section of the [OJP Funding Resource Center](http://www.ojp.gov/funding/Explore/SolicitationRequirements/EvidenceResearchEvaluationRequirements.htm) web page ([www.ojp.gov/funding/Explore/SolicitationRequirements/EvidenceResearchEvaluationRequirements.htm](http://www.ojp.gov/funding/Explore/SolicitationRequirements/EvidenceResearchEvaluationRequirements.htm)). Applicants whose proposals may involve a research or statistical component also should review the “Data Privacy and Confidentiality Requirements” section on that web page.

#### 4. Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative

##### a. Budget Detail Worksheet

A sample Budget Detail Worksheet can be found at [www.ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/BudgetDetailWorksheet.pdf](http://www.ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/BudgetDetailWorksheet.pdf). Applicants that submit their budget in a different format should include the budget categories listed in the sample budget worksheet. The Budget Detail Worksheet should be broken down by year.

For questions pertaining to budget and examples of allowable and unallowable costs, see the Financial Guide at <http://ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/index.htm>.

##### b. Budget Narrative

The budget narrative should thoroughly and clearly describe every category of expense listed in the Budget Detail Worksheet. OJP expects proposed budgets to be complete, cost effective, and allowable (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

Applicants should demonstrate in their budget narratives how they will maximize cost effectiveness of grant expenditures. Budget narratives should generally describe cost effectiveness in relation to potential alternatives and the goals of the project. For example, a budget narrative should detail why planned in-person meetings are necessary, or how technology and collaboration with outside organizations could be used to reduce costs, without compromising quality.

The narrative should be mathematically sound and correspond with the information and figures provided in the Budget Detail Worksheet. The narrative should explain how the applicant estimated and calculated all costs, and how they are relevant to the completion of the proposed project. The narrative may include tables for clarification purposes but need not be in a spreadsheet format. As with the Budget Detail Worksheet, the Budget Narrative should be broken down by year.

**Travel for required trainings:** The Travel category of the Budget Detail Worksheet should include costs to support the travel of staff to attend trainings. Applicants must include costs associated with travel, lodging, per diem, and ground transportation for each of the following:

1. The Regional Financial Management Training Seminar sponsored by OJP's Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO), unless the applicant has previously attended this seminar or plans to take the training online. Specific information about the dates and locations of upcoming OCFO events and information about the DOJ Grants Financial Management Online Training can be found at [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/training/training.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/training/training.htm).
2. OVC-wide discretionary grantee meeting. Date and location to be determined.

**c. Noncompetitive Procurement Contracts in Excess of Simplified Acquisition Threshold**

If an applicant proposes to make one or more noncompetitive procurements of products or services, where the noncompetitive procurement will exceed the simplified acquisition threshold (also known as the small purchase threshold), which is currently set at \$150,000, the application should address the considerations outlined in the [Financial Guide](#).

**d. Pre-Agreement Cost Approvals**

For information on pre-agreement costs, see [Section B. Federal Award Information](#).

**5. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)**

Indirect costs are allowed only under the following circumstances:

- (a) The applicant has a current, federally approved indirect cost rate; or
- (b) The applicant is eligible to use and elects to use the “de minimis” indirect cost rate described in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.414(f).

Attach a copy of the federally approved indirect cost rate agreement to the application. Applicants that do not have an approved rate may request one through their cognizant federal agency, which will review all documentation and approve a rate for the applicant organization, or, if the applicant's accounting system permits, costs may be allocated in the direct cost categories. For the definition of Cognizant Federal Agency, see the “Glossary of Terms” in the [Financial Guide](#). For assistance with identifying your cognizant agency, please contact the Customer Service Center at 1-800-458-0786 or at [ask.ocfo@usdoj.gov](mailto:ask.ocfo@usdoj.gov). If DOJ is the cognizant federal agency, applicants may obtain information needed to submit an indirect cost rate proposal at <http://www.ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/IndirectCosts.pdf>.

In order to use the “de minimis” indirect rate, attach written documentation to the application that advises OJP of both the applicant's eligibility (to use the “de minimis” rate) and its election. If the applicant elects the “de minimis” method, costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs, but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both. In addition, if this method is chosen then it must be used consistently for all federal awards until such time as you choose to negotiate a federally approved indirect cost rate.<sup>4</sup>

**6. MOUs and Letters of Support**

Applicants must include, for each named partner, an MOU, Letter of Support, or subcontract that confirms the partner's agreement to provide the service and describes the cost agreement between the agencies. Subcontracts, MOUs, or Letters of Support should be submitted as

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<sup>4</sup> See 2 C.F.R. § 200.414(f).

one separate attachment to the application. MOUs and Letters of Support must 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; (4) estimated cost per victim or cost of actual services provided—fee-for-service, in-kind match, or no-cost; (5) whether or not there is a cap on the total amount of the agreement; and (6) whether or not there is a maximum number of victims that may be served under the agreement. If any of the required direct services above are to be provided pro bono, or accessed through other government-subsidized or otherwise funded programs, applicants must describe how services will be provided to victims without the use of grant funds.

Applications with insufficient documentation to fully demonstrate the applicant's ability to implement their proposed demonstration project will be negatively impacted during the review process. Awards made under this solicitation will contain a special condition precluding access to the full amount of grant funds until all supporting documentation is received and approved by OVC.

## **7. Logic Model**

Applicants must include a logic model that graphically illustrates how the project's goals, objectives, and activities are interrelated to address the stated problem. The logic model must be included as a separate attachment and must include information related to anticipated outputs, performance measures, and short- and long-term outcomes that are anticipated for victims served and the community. Sample logic models are available at [www.ojjdp.gov/grantees/pm/logic\\_models.html](http://www.ojjdp.gov/grantees/pm/logic_models.html).

## **8. Position Descriptions and Resumes**

Position descriptions and resumes for key participants should be tailored to the applicant to demonstrate qualifications of staff involved in the project.

## **9. Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable)**

Tribes, tribal organizations, or third parties proposing to provide direct services or assistance to residents on tribal lands should include in their applications a resolution, a letter, affidavit, or other documentation, as appropriate, that certifies that the applicant has the legal authority from the tribe(s) to implement the proposed project on tribal lands. In those instances when an organization or consortium of tribes applies for a grant on behalf of a tribe or multiple specific tribes, the application should include appropriate legal documentation, as described above, from all tribes that would receive services or assistance under the grant. A consortium of tribes for which existing consortium bylaws allow action without support from all tribes in the consortium (i.e., without an authorizing resolution or comparable legal documentation from each tribal governing body) may submit, instead, a copy of its consortium bylaws with the application.

Applicants unable to submit an application that includes a fully-executed (i.e., signed) copy of appropriate legal documentation, as described above, consistent with the applicable tribe's governance structure, should, at a minimum, submit an unsigned, draft version of such legal documentation as part of its application (except for cases in which, with respect to a tribal consortium applicant, consortium bylaws allow action without the support of all consortium member tribes). If selected for funding, OVC will make use of and access to funds contingent on receipt of the fully-executed legal documentation.

## 10. Applicant Disclosure of High Risk Status

Applicants are to disclose whether they are currently designated high risk by another federal grant making agency. This includes any status requiring additional oversight by the federal agency due to past programmatic or financial concerns. If an applicant is designated high risk by another federal grant making agency, you must email the following information to [OJPComplianceReporting@usdoj.gov](mailto:OJPComplianceReporting@usdoj.gov) at the time of application submission:

- The federal agency that currently designated the applicant as high risk
- Date the applicant was designated high risk
- The high risk point of contact name, phone number, and email address, from that federal agency
- Reasons for the high risk status

OJP seeks this information to ensure appropriate federal oversight of any grant award. Disclosing this high risk information does not disqualify any organization from receiving an

OJP award. However, additional grant oversight may be included, if necessary, in award documentation.

## 11. Additional Attachments

### a. Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications

Applicants are to disclose whether they have pending applications for federally funded grants or subgrants (including cooperative agreements) that include requests for funding to support the same project being proposed under this solicitation and will cover the identical cost items outlined in the budget narrative and worksheet in the application under this solicitation. The disclosure should include both direct applications for federal funding (e.g., applications to federal agencies) and indirect applications for such funding (e.g., applications to State agencies that will subaward federal funds).

OJP seeks this information to help avoid any inappropriate duplication of funding. Leveraging multiple funding sources in a complementary manner to implement comprehensive programs or projects is encouraged and is not seen as inappropriate duplication.

Applicants that have pending applications as described above are to provide the following information about pending applications submitted within the last 12 months:

- The federal or state funding agency
- The solicitation name/project name
- The point of contact information at the applicable funding agency

Federal or State Funding Agency	Solicitation Name/Project Name	Name/Phone/Email for Point of Contact at Funding Agency
DOJ/COPS	COPS Hiring Program	Jane Doe, 202/000-0000; jane.doe@usdoj.gov

HHS/ Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration	Drug Free Communities Mentoring Program/ North County Youth Mentoring Program	John Doe, 202/000-0000; john.doe@hhs.gov
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Applicants should include the table as a separate attachment to their application. The file should be named "Disclosure of Pending Applications."

Applicants that do not have pending applications as described above are to include a statement to this effect in the separate attachment page (e.g., "[Applicant Name on SF-424] does not have pending applications submitted within the last 12 months for federally funded grants or subgrants (including cooperative agreements) that include requests for funding to support the same project being proposed under this solicitation and will cover the identical cost items outlined in the budget narrative and worksheet in the application under this solicitation.").

**b. Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity**

If a proposal involves research and/or evaluation, regardless of the proposal's other merits, in order to receive funds, the applicant must demonstrate research/evaluation independence, including appropriate safeguards to ensure research/evaluation objectivity and integrity, both in this proposal and as it may relate to the applicant's other current or prior related projects. This documentation may be included as an attachment to the application which addresses BOTH i. and ii. below.

i. For purposes of this solicitation, applicants must document research and evaluation independence and integrity by including, at a minimum, one of the following two items:

a. A specific assurance that the applicant has reviewed its proposal to identify any research integrity issues (including all principal investigators and sub-recipients) and it has concluded that the design, conduct, or reporting of research and evaluation funded by OVC grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts will not be biased by any personal or financial conflict of interest on the part of part of its staff, consultants, and/or subrecipients responsible for the research and evaluation or on the part of the applicant organization;

OR

b. A specific listing of actual or perceived conflicts of interest that the applicant has identified in relation to this proposal. These conflicts could be either personal (related to specific staff, consultants, and/or subrecipients) or organizational (related to the applicant or any subgrantee organization). Examples of potential investigator (or other personal) conflict situations may include, but are not limited to, those in which an investigator would be in a position to evaluate a spouse's work product (actual conflict), or an

investigator would be in a position to evaluate the work of a former or current colleague (potential apparent conflict). With regard to potential organizational conflicts of interest, as one example, generally an organization could not be given a grant to evaluate a project if that organization had itself provided substantial prior technical assistance to that specific project or a location implementing the project (whether funded by OJP or other sources), as the organization in such an instance would appear to be evaluating the effectiveness of its own prior work. The key is whether a reasonable person understanding all of the facts would be able to have confidence that the results of any research or evaluation project are objective and reliable. Any outside personal or financial interest that casts doubt on that objectivity and reliability of an evaluation or research product is a problem and must be disclosed.

- ii. In addition, for purposes of this solicitation applicants must address the issue of possible mitigation of research integrity concerns by including, at a minimum, one of the following two items:
  - a. If an applicant reasonably believes that no potential personal or organizational conflicts of interest exist, then the applicant should provide a brief narrative explanation of how and why it reached that conclusion. Applicants **MUST** also include an explanation of the specific processes and procedures that the applicant will put in place to identify and eliminate (or, at the very least, mitigate) potential personal or financial conflicts of interest on the part of its staff, consultants, and/or subrecipients for this particular project, should that be necessary during the grant period. Documentation that may be helpful in this regard could include organizational codes of ethics/conduct or policies regarding organizational, personal, and financial conflicts of interest.

OR

- b. If the applicant has identified specific personal or organizational conflicts of interest in its proposal during this review, the applicant must propose a specific and robust mitigation plan to address conflicts noted above. At a minimum, the plan must include specific processes and procedures that the applicant will put in place to eliminate (or, at the very least, mitigate) potential personal or financial conflicts of interest on the part of its staff, consultants, and/or subrecipients for this particular project, should that be necessary during the grant period. Documentation that may be helpful in this regard could include organizational codes of ethics/conduct or policies regarding organizational, personal, and financial conflicts of interest. There is no guarantee that the plan, if any, will be accepted as proposed.

Considerations in assessing research and evaluation independence and integrity will include, but are not be limited to, the adequacy of the applicant's efforts to identify factors that could affect the objectivity or integrity of the proposed staff and/or the organization in carrying out the research, development, or evaluation activity; and the adequacy of the applicant's existing or proposed remedies to control any such factors.

## 12. Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire

In accordance with the Part 200 Uniform Requirements as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.205, Federal agencies must have in place a framework for evaluating the risks posed by applicants before they receive a Federal award. To facilitate part of this risk evaluation, **all** applicants (other than an individual) are to download, complete, and submit this [form](#).

## 13. Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

All applicants must complete this information. Applicants that expend any funds for lobbying activities are to provide the detailed information requested on the form Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL). Applicants that do not expend any funds for lobbying activities are to enter “N/A” in the text boxes for item 10 (“a. Name and Address of Lobbying Registrant” and “b. Individuals Performing Services”).

### How to Apply

Applicants must register in, and submit applications through Grants.gov, a primary source to find federal funding opportunities and apply for funding. Find complete instructions on how to register and submit an application at [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov). Applicants that experience technical difficulties during this process should call the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at **800-518-4726** or **606-545-5035**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except federal holidays. Registering with Grants.gov is a one-time process; however, **processing delays may occur, and it can take several weeks** for first-time registrants to receive confirmation and a user password. OJP encourages applicants to **register several weeks before** the application submission deadline. In addition, OJP urges applicants to submit applications 72 hours prior to the application due date to allow time to receive validation messages or rejection notifications from Grants.gov, and to correct in a timely fashion any problems that may have caused a rejection notification.

OVC strongly encourages all prospective applicants to sign up for Grants.gov email [notifications](#) regarding this solicitation. If this solicitation is cancelled or modified, individuals who sign up with Grants.gov for updates will be automatically notified.

**Browser Information:** Grants.gov was built to be compatible with Internet Explorer. For technical assistance with Google Chrome, or another browser, contact Grants.gov Customer Support.

**Note on Attachments.** Grants.gov has two categories of files for attachments: mandatory and optional. OJP receives all files attached in both categories. Please insure all required documents are attached in the mandatory category.

**Note on File Names and File Types:** Grants.gov only permits the use of certain specific characters in names of attachment files. Valid file names may include only the characters shown in the table below. Grants.gov is designed to reject any application that includes an attachment(s) with a file name that contains any characters not shown in the table below.

Characters	Special Characters		
Upper case (A – Z)	Parenthesis ( )	Curly braces { }	Square brackets [ ]
Lower case (a – z)	Ampersand (&)	Tilde (~)	Exclamation point (!)
Underscore ( _ )	Comma ( , )	Semicolon ( ; )	Apostrophe ( ' )
Hyphen ( - )	At sign ( @ )	Number sign ( # )	Dollar sign ( \$ )

Space	Percent sign (%)	Plus sign (+)	Equal sign (=)
Period (.)	<b>When using the ampersand (&amp;) in XML, applicants must use the “&amp;#amp;” format.</b>		

Grants.gov is designed to forward successfully submitted applications to the OJP Grants Management System (GMS).

**GMS does not accept executable file types as application attachments.** These disallowed file types include, but are not limited to, the following extensions: “.com,” “.bat,” “.exe,” “.vbs,” “.cfg,” “.dat,” “.db,” “.dbf,” “.dll,” “.ini,” “.log,” “.ora,” “.sys,” and “.zip.” GMS may reject applications with files that use these extensions. It is important to allow time to change the type of file(s) if the application is rejected.

All applicants are required to complete the following steps:

OJP may not make a federal award to an applicant organization until the applicant organization has complied with all applicable DUNS and SAM requirements. Individual applicants must comply with all Grants.gov requirements. If an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time the federal awarding agency is ready to make a federal award, the federal awarding agency may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a federal award and use that determination as a basis for making a federal award to another applicant.

Individual applicants should search Grants.gov for a funding opportunity for which individuals are eligible to apply. Use the Funding Opportunity Number (FON) to register. Complete the registration form at <https://apply07.grants.gov/apply/IndCPRegister> to create a username and password. Individual applicants should complete all steps except 1, 2 and 4.

- 1. Acquire a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number.** In general, the Office of Management and Budget requires that all applicants (other than individuals) for federal funds include a DUNS number in their applications for a new award or a supplement to an existing award. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and differentiating entities receiving federal funds. The identifier is used for tracking purposes and to validate address and point of contact information for federal assistance applicants, recipients, and subrecipients. The DUNS number will be used throughout the grant life cycle. Obtaining a DUNS number is a free, one-time activity. Call Dun and Bradstreet at 866–705–5711 to obtain a DUNS number or apply online at [www.dnb.com](http://www.dnb.com). A DUNS number is usually received within 1-2 business days.
- 2. Acquire registration with the System for Award Management (SAM).** SAM is the repository for standard information about federal financial assistance applicants, recipients, and subrecipients. OJP requires all applicants (other than individuals) for federal financial assistance to maintain current registrations in the SAM database. Applicants must be registered in SAM to successfully register in Grants.gov. Applicants must **update or renew their SAM registration annually** to maintain an active status. SAM registration and renewal can take as long as 10 business days to complete.

Applications cannot be successfully submitted in Grants.gov until Grants.gov receives the SAM registration information. Once the SAM registration/renewal is complete, **the**

**information transfer from SAM to Grants.gov can take up to 48 hours.** OJP recommends that the applicant register or renew registration with SAM as early as possible.

Information about SAM registration procedures can be accessed at [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov).

- 3. Acquire an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and a Grants.gov username and password.** Complete the AOR profile on Grants.gov and create a username and password. The applicant organization's DUNS number must be used to complete this step. For more information about the registration process for organizations, go to [www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html](http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html). Individuals registering with Grants.gov should go to <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/individual-registration.html>.
- 4. Acquire confirmation for the AOR from the E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC).** The E-Biz POC at the applicant organization must log into Grants.gov to confirm the applicant organization's AOR. The E-Biz POC will need the Marketing Partner Identification Number (MPIN) password obtained when registering with SAM to complete this step. Note that an organization can have more than one AOR.
- 5. Search for the funding opportunity on Grants.gov.** Use the following identifying information when searching for the funding opportunity on Grants.gov. The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number for this solicitation is 16.582, titled "OVC FY 2016 Building and Enhancing Partnerships to Support Incarcerated Survivors of Sexual Abuse," and the funding opportunity number is OVC-2016-10240.
- 6. Submit a valid application consistent with this solicitation by following the directions in Grants.gov.** Within 24–48 hours after submitting the electronic application, the applicant should receive two notifications from Grants.gov. The first will confirm the receipt of the application and the second will state whether the application has been successfully validated, or rejected due to errors, with an explanation. It is possible to first receive a message indicating that the application is received and then receive a rejection notice a few minutes or hours later. Submitting well ahead of the deadline provides time to correct the problem(s) that caused the rejection. **Important:** OJP urges applicants to submit applications **at least 72 hours prior** to the application due date to allow time to receive validation messages or rejection notifications from Grants.gov, and to correct in a timely fashion any problems that may have caused a rejection notification. All applications are due to be submitted and in receipt of a successful validation message in Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on July 25, 2016.

Click [here](#) for further details on DUNS, SAM, and Grants.gov registration steps and timeframes.

**Note: Duplicate Applications**

If an applicant submits multiple versions of the same application, OVC will review only the most recent system-validated version submitted. See Note on File Names and File Types under [How to Apply](#).

## Experiencing Unforeseen Grants.gov Technical Issues

Applicants that experience unforeseen Grants.gov technical issues beyond their control that prevent them from submitting their application by the deadline must contact the Grants.gov [Customer Support Hotline](#) or the [SAM Help Desk](#) (Federal Service Desk) to report the technical issue and receive a tracking number. Then applicant must email the OVC contact identified in the Contact Information section on page 2 **within 24 hours after the application deadline** and request approval to submit their application. The email must describe the technical difficulties, and include a timeline of the applicant's submission efforts, the complete grant application, the applicant's DUNS number, and any Grants.gov Help Desk or SAM tracking number(s). **Note: OVC does not automatically approve requests.** After the program office reviews the submission, and contacts the Grants.gov or SAM Help Desks to validate the reported technical issues, OJP will inform the applicant whether the request to submit a late application has been approved or denied. If OJP determines that the applicant failed to follow all required procedures, which resulted in an untimely application submission, OJP will deny the applicant's request to submit their application.

The following conditions are generally insufficient to justify late submissions:

- Failure to register in SAM or Grants.gov in sufficient time (SAM registration and renewal can take as long as 10 business days to complete. The information transfer from SAM to Grants.gov can take up to 48 hours.)
- Failure to follow Grants.gov instructions on how to register and apply as posted on its website
- Failure to follow each instruction in the OJP solicitation
- Technical issues with the applicant's computer or information technology environment, including firewalls, browser incompatibility, etc

**Notifications regarding known technical problems with Grants.gov, if any, are posted at the top of the OJP funding web page at <http://ojp.gov/funding/index.htm>.**

## E. Application Review Information

### Selection Criteria

1. Statement of the Problem (20%)
2. Project Design and Implementation (40%)
3. Capabilities and Competencies (20%)
4. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (5%)
5. Budget: complete, cost effective, and allowable (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities). Budget narratives should generally demonstrate how applicants will maximize cost effectiveness of grant expenditures. Budget narratives should demonstrate cost effectiveness in relation to potential alternatives and the goals of the project.<sup>5</sup> (10%)
6. Other (e.g. MOUs, Letters of Support, Logic Model) (5%)

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<sup>5</sup> Generally speaking, a reasonable cost is a cost that, in its nature or amount, does not exceed that which would be incurred by a prudent person under the circumstances prevailing at the time the decision was made to incur the costs.

## Review Process

OJP is committed to ensuring a fair and open process for awarding grants. OVC reviews the application to make sure that the information presented is reasonable, understandable, measurable, and achievable, as well as consistent with the solicitation.

Peer reviewers will review the applications submitted under this solicitation that meet basic minimum requirements. For purposes of assessing whether applicants have met basic minimum requirements, OJP screens applications for compliance with specified program requirements to help determine which applications should proceed to further consideration for award. Although program requirements may vary, the following are common requirements applicable to all solicitations for funding under OJP grant programs:

- Applications must be submitted by an eligible type of applicant
- Applications must request funding within programmatic funding constraints (if applicable)
- Applications must be responsive to the scope of the solicitation
- Applications must include all items designated as “critical elements”
- Applicants will be checked against the System for Award Management (SAM)

For a list of critical elements, see “What an Application Should Include” under [Section D. Application and Submission Information](#).

OVC may use internal peer reviewers, external peer reviewers, or a combination, to assess applications meeting basic minimum requirements on technical merit using the solicitation’s selection criteria. An external peer reviewer is an expert in the subject matter of a given solicitation who is not a current DOJ employee. An internal reviewer is a current DOJ employee who is well-versed or has expertise in the subject matter of this solicitation. A peer review panel will evaluate, score, and rate applications that meet basic minimum requirements. Peer reviewers’ ratings and any resulting recommendations are advisory only, although their views are considered carefully. In addition to peer review ratings, considerations for award recommendations and decisions may include, but are not limited to, underserved populations, geographic diversity, strategic priorities, past performance under prior OVC and OJP awards, and available funding.

OJP reviews applications for potential discretionary awards to evaluate the risks posed by applicants before they receive an award. This review may include but is not limited to the following:

1. Financial stability and fiscal integrity
2. Quality of management systems and ability to meet the management standards prescribed in the Financial Guide
3. History of performance
4. Reports and findings from audits
5. The applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on award recipients
6. Proposed costs to determine if the Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative accurately explain project costs, and whether those costs are reasonable, necessary, and allowable under applicable federal cost principles and agency regulations

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 factors including, but not limited to, peer review ratings, underserved populations, geographic diversity, strategic priorities, past performance under prior OVC and OJP awards, and available funding when making awards.

## **F. Federal Award Administration Information**

### **Federal Award Notices**

OJP sends award notification by email through GMS to the individuals listed in the application as the point of contact and the authorizing official (E-Biz POC and AOR). The email notification includes detailed instructions on how to access and view the award documents, and how to accept the award in GMS. GMS automatically issues the notifications at 9:00 p.m. eastern time on the award date (by September 30, 2016). Recipients will be required to log in; accept any outstanding assurances and certifications on the award; designate a financial point of contact; and review, sign, and accept the award. The award acceptance process involves physical signature of the award document by the authorized representative and the scanning of the fully-executed award document to OJP.

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

If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the agency-approved project proposal and budget, the recipient must comply with award terms and conditions, and other legal requirements, including but not limited to OMB, DOJ or other federal regulations which will be included in the award, incorporated into the award by reference, or are otherwise applicable to the award. OJP strongly encourages prospective applicants to review the information pertaining to these requirements **prior** to submitting an application. To assist applicants and recipients in accessing and reviewing this information, OJP has placed pertinent information on its [Solicitation Requirements](#) page of the [OJP Funding Resource Center](#).

Please note in particular the following two forms, which applicants must accept in GMS prior to the receipt of any award funds, as each details legal requirements with which applicants must provide specific assurances and certifications of compliance. Applicants may view these forms in the Apply section of the [OJP Funding Resource Center](#) and are strongly encouraged to review and consider them carefully prior to making an application for OJP grant funds.

- [Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements](#)
- [Standard Assurances](#)

Upon grant approval, OJP electronically transmits (via GMS) the award document to the prospective award recipient. In addition to other award information, the award document contains award terms and conditions that specify national policy requirements<sup>6</sup> with which recipients of federal funding must comply; uniform administrative requirements, cost principles, and audit requirements; and program-specific terms and conditions required based on

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<sup>6</sup> See *generally* 2 C.F.R. 200.300 (provides a general description of national policy requirements typically applicable to recipients of Federal awards, including the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (FFATA)).

applicable program (statutory) authority or requirements set forth in OJP solicitations and program announcements, and other requirements which may be attached to appropriated funding. For example, certain efforts may call for special requirements, terms, or conditions relating to intellectual property, data/information-sharing or -access, or information security; or audit requirements, expenditures and milestones, or publications and/or press releases. OJP also may place additional terms and conditions on an award based on its risk assessment of the applicant, or for other reasons it determines necessary to fulfill the goals and objectives of the program.

Prospective applicants may access and review the text of mandatory conditions OJP includes in all OJP awards, as well as the text of certain other conditions, such as administrative conditions, via [Mandatory Award Terms and Conditions](#) page of the [OJP Funding Resource Center](#).

As stated above, OVC anticipates that it will make any award from this solicitation in the form of a cooperative agreement. Cooperative agreement awards include standard “federal involvement” conditions that describe the general allocation of responsibility for execution of the funded program. Generally stated, under cooperative agreement awards, responsibility for the day-to-day conduct of the funded project rests with the recipient in implementing the funded and approved proposal and budget, and the award terms and conditions. Responsibility for oversight and redirection of the project, if necessary, rests with OVC.

In addition to any “federal involvement” condition(s), OJP cooperative agreement awards include a special condition specifying certain reporting requirements required in connection with conferences, meetings, retreats, seminars, symposium, training activities, or similar events funded under the award, consistent with OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting.

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

Recipients must submit quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports, final financial and progress reports, and, if applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with the Part 200 Uniform Requirements. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent.

Special Reporting requirements may be required by OJP depending on the statutory, legislative or administrative obligations of the recipient or the program.

### **G. Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)**

For Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s), see the title page.

For contact information for Grants.gov, see the title page.

### **H. Other Information**

#### **Provide Feedback to OJP**

To assist OJP in improving its application and award processes, we encourage applicants to provide feedback on this solicitation, the application submission process, and/or the application review/peer review process. Provide feedback to [OJPSolicitationFeedback@usdoj.gov](mailto:OJPSolicitationFeedback@usdoj.gov).

**IMPORTANT:** This email is for feedback and suggestions only. Replies are **not** sent from this mailbox. If you have specific questions on any program or technical aspect of the solicitation, **you must** directly contact the appropriate number or email listed on the front of this solicitation document. These contacts are provided to help ensure that you can directly reach an individual who can address your specific questions in a timely manner.

If you are interested in being a reviewer for other OJP grant applications, please email your résumé to [ojppeerreview@lmsolas.com](mailto:ojppeerreview@lmsolas.com). The OJP Solicitation Feedback email account will not forward your résumé. **Note:** Neither you nor anyone else from your organization can be a peer reviewer in a competition in which you or your organization have submitted an application.

## Application Checklist

### OVC FY 2016 Vision 21: Building and Enhancing Partnerships to Support Incarcerated Survivors of Sexual Abuse

This application checklist has been created to assist in developing an application.

#### What an Applicant Should Do:

##### *Prior to Registering in Grants.gov:*

\_\_\_\_\_ Acquire a DUNS Number (see page 22)

\_\_\_\_\_ Acquire or renew registration with SAM (see page 22)

##### *To Register with Grants.gov:*

\_\_\_\_\_ Acquire AOR and Grants.gov username/password (see page 23)

\_\_\_\_\_ Acquire AOR confirmation from the E-Biz POC (see page 23)

##### *To Find Funding Opportunity:*

\_\_\_\_\_ Search for the Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov (see page 24)

\_\_\_\_\_ Download Funding Opportunity and Application Package (see page 24)

\_\_\_\_\_ Sign up for Grants.gov email [notifications](#) (optional) (see page 21)

\_\_\_\_\_ Read [Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov](#)

\_\_\_\_\_ Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting

available at [ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/PostawardRequirements/chapter3.10a.htm](#)

(see page 9)

##### *After Application Submission, Receive Grants.gov Email Notifications That:*

\_\_\_\_\_ (1) application has been received,

\_\_\_\_\_ (2) application has either been successfully validated or rejected with errors

(see page 23)

##### *If No Grants.gov Receipt, and Validation or Error Notifications are Received:*

\_\_\_\_\_ Contact OVC regarding experiencing technical difficulties

(see page 2)

#### General Requirements:

\_\_\_\_\_ Review the [Solicitation Requirements](#) in the OJP Funding Resource Center.

#### Scope Requirement:

\_\_\_\_\_ The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of up to \$300,000 per award.

**Eligibility Requirement:** See the title page and [section C](#).

#### What an Application Should Include:

\_\_\_\_\_ Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) (see page 10)

\_\_\_\_\_ Project Abstract (see page 11)

\_\_\_\_\_ Program Narrative and Application Questionnaire (see page 11)

\_\_\_\_\_ Budget Detail Worksheet (see page 15)

\_\_\_\_\_ Budget Narrative (see page 15)

\_\_\_\_\_ Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see page 17)

_____	MOUs and Letters of Support	(see page 17)
_____	Logic Model	(see page 18)
_____	Position Descriptions and Resumes	(see page 18)
_____	Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable)	(see page 18)
_____	Applicant Disclosure of High Risk Status	(see page 18)
_____	Additional Attachments	
_____	_____Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications	(see page 18)
_____	_____Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity	(see page 19)
_____	Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire	(see page 21)
_____	Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)	(see page 21)
_____	Employee Compensation Waiver request and justification (if applicable)	(see page 8)