

Updates regarding the *OVC FY24 Expanding Access to Sexual Assault Forensic Examinations* solicitation.

July 22, 2024: Application deadlines were changed as follows on pages 1 and 14:

- **Step 2: Application JustGrants Deadline:** July 24, 2024, 8:59 PM ET

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



Solicitation Title: OVC FY24 Expanding Access to Sexual Assault Forensic Examinations

Assistance Listing Number: 16.053

Grants.gov Opportunity Number: O-OVC-2024-172171

Solicitation Release Date: 06/05/2024

Step 1: Application Grants.gov Deadline: 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on July 8, 2024

Step 2: Application JustGrants Deadline: 8:59 p.m. Eastern Time on July 24, 2024

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Synopsis

Program Description Overview

The [U.S. Department of Justice](#) (DOJ), [Office of Justice Programs](#) (OJP), [Office for Victims of Crime](#) (OVC) is seeking applications for funding.

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

With this solicitation, OVC seeks to support (1) the development or expansion of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner/Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SANE/SAFE) programs using a coordinated community response strategy and (2) the provision of training and technical assistance (TTA).

This program furthers the DOJ's mission to uphold the rule of law, to keep our country safe, and to protect civil rights.

Funding Category

Competition ID	Competition Title (Category Name)	Expected Number of Awards	Dollar Amount for Award	Performance Start Date	Performance Duration (Months)
C-OVC-2024-00013-PROD	Purpose Area 1: Establish or Expand SANE/SAFE Programs	5	\$500,000	10/01/2024	36
C-OVC-2024-00014-PROD	Purpose Area 2: Training and Technical Assistance Provider	1	\$1,050,000	10/01/2024	36

Eligibility

- State governments
- Special district governments
- City or township governments
- Public- and State-controlled institutions of higher education
- County governments
- Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)
- Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education
- Other – units of local government, such as towns, boroughs, parishes, villages, or other general purpose political subdivisions of a State

An applicant may submit more than one application, if each application proposes a different project in response to the solicitation. Also, an entity may be proposed as a subrecipient (subgrantee) in more than one application.

OVC will consider applications under which two or more entities (project partners) would carry out the federal award; however, only one entity may be the applicant for the solicitation. Any others must be proposed as subrecipients (subgrantees). See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information on subawards.

OVC may choose to fund applications submitted under this FY 2024 solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and the availability of appropriations.

Agency Contact Information

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

For procedures related to unforeseen technical issues beyond the control of the applicant that impact submission by the deadlines, see the “How To Apply” section, [Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues](#).

For assistance with submitting the [Application for Federal Assistance standard form \(SF-424\)](#) and a [Disclosure of Lobbying Activities \(SF-LLL\)](#) 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. The Grants.gov Support Hotline is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

For technical assistance with submitting the **full application** in JustGrants, contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov. The JustGrants Service Desk operates from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET Monday–Friday and from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET on Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays.

Pre-Application Information Session

OVC will conduct a pre-application webinar during which OVC staff will review this FY 2024 solicitation, provide high-level information about solicitation requirements, and conduct a question-and-answer session with interested potential applicants. Participation is optional. When the webinar has been scheduled, the details and registration information will be available at <https://ovc.ojp.gov/funding/funding-webinars>. To use the time most efficiently, OVC encourages participants to review this solicitation and submit any questions in advance and no later than 2 days prior to the webinar. Submit your questions to askovc@ncjrs.gov with the subject “Questions for OVC FY24 Expanding Access to Sexual Assault Forensic Examinations Webinar.”

We encourage all potential applicants to register for the weekly “Application Mechanics: Submitting an Application Weekly Training Webinar,” held every Wednesday from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern time. Visit the [JustGrants Resources website](#) to learn more and register.

Application Submission Information

Registration

Before submitting an application, an applicant must have a registration in the [System for Award Management \(SAM.gov\)](#).

Submission

Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process that begins in Grants.gov and is completed in JustGrants. See the [Submission Dates and Time](#) section for the Grants.gov and JustGrants application deadlines.

Step 1: The applicant must register for this opportunity in Grants.gov at <https://grants.gov/register> and submit by the Grants.gov deadline the required [Application for Federal Assistance standard form \(SF-424\)](#) and a [Disclosure of Lobbying Activities \(SF-LLL\)](#). See the [Submission Dates and Time](#) section for application deadlines.

Step 2: The applicant must submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at [JustGrants.usdoj.gov](https://justgrants.usdoj.gov) by the JustGrants application deadline. See the [Submission Dates and Time](#) section for application deadlines.

Program Description

Program Description Overview

With this solicitation, OVC seeks to support the development or expansion of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner/Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SANE/SAFE) programs using a coordinated community response strategy under two separate Purpose Areas.

Purpose Area 1 (SANE/SAFE Programs): Under this purpose area, funding will support developing and expanding the skills, expertise, and capacity of SANE/SAFE programs to improve access to medical forensic examinations. This will be accomplished by increasing the number of trained/certified sexual assault forensic examiners through a variety of settings (e.g., hospital, community, telehealth, campus, correctional). Funding will also support service provision to address the needs of sexual assault victims and survivors, such as advocacy, accompaniment (e.g., accompanying victims to court, medical facilities, police departments), and comprehensive post-assault care.

Purpose Area 2 (Training and Technical Assistance): Under this purpose area, funding will support a national TTA provider to provide training and technical assistance for grantees under Purpose Area 1.

Statutory Authority

This project is authorized by the Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2024 (Pub. L. No. 118-42, 138 Stat. 25, 148).

Specific Information

Sexual violence remains a pervasive issue, with survivors often facing significant challenges in accessing essential medical and forensic services. Among the most pressing of these is the critical shortage of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs), particularly in rural, Tribal, and underserved communities. These communities often grapple with limited resources and health care infrastructure, making it challenging to provide specialized services for survivors of sexual violence.

SANEs play a crucial role in providing compassionate and expert care to survivors while conducting medical forensic examinations. Studies have shown that SANE-led exams may result in positive psychological effects, better evidence collection, higher prosecution rates, and increased victim self-efficacy to seek resources for recovery.¹ Another study showed that victims who received care from a SANE were more often offered recommended services and resources and more frequently accepted them.² However, the shortage of SANEs in these communities means that many survivors are turned away by hospitals that do not provide medical forensic exams or a trained examiner, or are forced to travel long distances, often leaving their towns or even their state to access these services, if they are available at all.

There are multiple challenges that contribute to the lack of trained forensic examiners, such as limited availability of training, weak stakeholder support for examiners, and low examiner

¹ Crandall C. S., & Helitzer D. (2003). Impact Evaluation of a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program (No. 203276). National Criminal Justice Reference Service.

<https://nij.ojp.gov/library/publications/impact-evaluation-sexual-assault-nurse-examiner-sane-program>.

² Hollender, M., Almirol, E., Meyer, M., Bearden, H., & Stanford, K. A. (2023). Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners Lead to Improved Uptake of Services: A Cross-Sectional Study. *Western Journal of Emergency Medicine*, 24(5), 974–982. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10527845/>.

retention rates due to the demanding nature of the work. This shortage exacerbates the already daunting barriers survivors face in obtaining timely and comprehensive care following a sexual assault. This shortage also underscores the urgent need for increased resources and support to ensure that all survivors have access to essential post-assault care.

The lack of access to SANEs and medical forensic examinations has profound implications for survivors of sexual violence. Delayed or denied access to these examinations can hinder survivors' ability to collect crucial evidence, which is vital for both medical treatment and legal recourse. Additionally, the trauma of the assault coupled with logistical challenges can deter survivors from seeking care altogether, leading to underreporting and a lack of appropriate followup services.

Beyond the immediate medical forensic examination, survivors require comprehensive post-assault care and advocacy services to aid in their recovery and pursuit of justice. This includes access to counseling and mental health care, followup medical care, and legal support. However, in underserved areas where resources are already strained, these services are often limited or nonexistent. The absence of support systems can compound survivors' trauma and perpetuate cycles of silence and stigma.

Addressing the shortage of SANEs requires a multifaceted approach involving policymakers, health care institutions, and community organizations. Increased funding and training opportunities can incentivize nurses to pursue SANE certification, expanding the pool of qualified professionals. Telehealth initiatives and mobile SANE units can also help bridge the gap by bringing essential services directly to underserved areas.

Solicitation Goals and Objectives

In support of the goal of improving access to comprehensive services for victims of gender-based violence, as described in the [U.S. National Plan to End Gender-Based Violence](#), this solicitation aims to prioritize the needs of survivors of sexual violence by (1) improving access to medical forensic examinations, essential medical treatment, and post-assault care, including advocacy and (2) increasing the number of highly trained sexual assault forensic examiners, especially in underserved and under-resourced communities. It is strongly recommended that Purpose Area 1 applicants use a coordinated community response involving health care providers, law enforcement, and advocacy groups to ensure that survivors receive the holistic care and support they deserve. One national training and technical assistance (TTA) provider will be funded under Purpose Area 2 to increase resources, foster multidisciplinary collaboration, expand education and training opportunities, and provide technical assistance for all Purpose Area 1 award recipients in building their collective capacity to serve victims and survivors.

Purpose Area 1: SANE/SAFE Programs

Goals

The goal of this program is to establish or expand [SANE/SAFE programs](#) that offer trauma-informed sexual assault medical forensic exams and victim services using coordinated community response strategies through a variety of settings (e.g., hospital, community, telehealth, campus, correctional). Applicants may propose innovative ways of bringing experienced medical forensic examiners to communities, such as using a mobile or telehealth model.

New and established programs applying under this solicitation should follow the [National Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations Adults/Adolescents](#) and the [National Protocol for Sexual Abuse Medical Forensic Examinations Pediatric](#), which take a trauma-informed, victim-centered, culturally responsive approach to the medical forensic examination process.

Development of training programs should follow the [National Training Standards for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examiners](#) for all providers who care for victims who have been sexually assaulted and sexually abused.

Objectives

- 1) Increase the number and availability of health care providers who are trained or certified to perform medical forensic examinations, especially in rural, Tribal, or underserved communities. Programs are encouraged to establish a network of SANE/SAFE leaders in the service areas that currently lack a comprehensive SANE response. Funding may be used to support SANE salaries and any additional positions according to the needs of the project (i.e., project director/coordinator).
- 2) Provide timely, high-quality medical forensic exams incorporating victim-centered, trauma-informed approaches to all victims of sexual violence.
- 3) Expand access to training and clinical education for SANEs/SAFEs to build and maintain competency (e.g., peer support, mentoring). Funding may be used to support education, training, and certification as well as efforts to promote health and wellness and combat [vicarious trauma](#) and burnout.
- 4) Improve access to comprehensive post-assault care and other support services that promote healing and address the emerging needs of victims and survivors (e.g., advocacy; accompaniment—accompanying victims to court, medical facilities, and police departments; mental health treatment; legal services; shelter; and transportation).
- 5) Support activities that facilitate and strengthen coordinated community responses (e.g., [Sexual Assault Response Teams](#) or Multidisciplinary Teams, also known as SARTs or MDTs). Partnerships should include culturally specific organizations that represent special or underserved populations and victims/survivors as members of the SART/MDT to ensure a culturally relevant and survivor-informed response.

Award recipients under Purpose Area 1 will be expected to participate in training and technical assistance activities facilitated by the selected TTA provider to bolster project success, share resources and solutions, and develop best practices related to SANE/SAFE programming.

Purpose Area 2: Training and Technical Assistance Provider

Goals

OVC will fund a national training and technical assistance (TTA) provider to provide comprehensive training, technical assistance, and other support to assist organizations and communities in building their collective capacity to serve victims of sexual violence. The purpose of TTA is to provide information to award recipients and their partners, enabling them to replicate successful model programs and approaches; promote the adoption of best practices, emerging technologies, and new models; and assist in identifying and addressing operational and programmatic needs. The selected TTA provider will support awarded recipients in building their capacity in SANE/SAFE practice and programming, to include but not limited to, victim-

centered, trauma-informed service provision, policy development, competency evaluation, program development and expansion, and sustainability.

TTA applicants must demonstrate their knowledge and expertise with providing training and technical assistance in SANE/SAFE practice, programming, and training; multidisciplinary partnerships and collaboration; vicarious trauma; victims' rights; and trauma-informed approaches to working with victims. TTA provision will promote the highest standards of care and best practices in forensic nursing. The selected TTA provider is expected to bring innovative and evidence-driven ideas and strategies to the project, and work closely with OVC, other relevant federal agencies and partners, and the awardees to accomplish the goals, objectives, and activities of the project.

Objectives

- 1) Provide ongoing, coordinated, customized technical assistance that will support each Purpose Area 1 award recipient in successfully implementing their program strategy based on the needs of the program and community. This may include support in identifying training needs, program development, sustainability planning, policy and procedure review, multidisciplinary partnerships, telehealth, SARTs, advocacy, data collection, outreach/marketing efforts, confidentiality provisions, and quality improvement.
- 2) Establish regular check-ins and site visits with awardees to identify technical assistance needs. The provision of TTA should be creative and adapted to the needs of each program and can be done by in-person, phone, and email consultations; webinars; and other distance or online learning technologies.
- 3) Establish a highly capable, diverse project team that can provide TTA to strengthen the awardees' response to underserved populations (e.g., individuals with disabilities, LGBTQ, limited English proficiency).
- 4) Integrate innovative models and ensure flexible options for education and training, learning, and practice (e.g., cross-site visits, peer-to-peer exchange opportunities, in-person or virtual grantee meetings, Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes sessions, preceptorships, roundtables) among selected awardees and their partners to promote problem solving, ongoing communication, and innovation through the exchange of information, lessons learned, and new ideas. Strategies may also support regional training initiatives that prepare current and future SANEs/SAFEs to be professional-ready and meet the applicable state certifications and licensure requirements.
- 5) Coordinate with other OVC-funded TTA provider grantees to leverage expertise, deliver joint training or resources, and avoid duplication of efforts.
- 6) Other activities, as required by OVC, to meet the stated goals and objectives.

For information about what the applicant needs to submit regarding Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables, please see the [How to Apply section on the Application Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline Web-Based Form](#).

Priority Areas

In order to further OJP's mission, OJP will provide priority consideration when making award decisions to the following:

1A. Applications that propose project(s) that are designed to meaningfully advance equity and remove barriers to accessing services and opportunities for communities that have been

historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization.

To receive this consideration, the applicant must describe how the proposed project(s) will address identified inequities **and** contribute to greater access to services and opportunities for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization. Project activities under this consideration may include but are not limited to the following: improving victim services, justice responses, prevention initiatives, reentry services and other parts of an organization's or community's efforts to advance public safety. Applicants should propose activities that address the cultural (and linguistic, if appropriate) needs of communities, outline how the proposed activities will be informed by these communities, and implement culturally responsive and inclusive outreach and engagement.

1B. 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 percent** of the requested award funding, as demonstrated in the Budget web-based form) are a *population specific organization* that serves communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization.

For purposes of this solicitation, population specific organizations are nonprofit, nongovernmental, or Tribal organizations that primarily serve members of a specific underserved population and have demonstrated experience and expertise providing targeted services to members of that specific underserved population.

To receive this additional priority consideration, applicants must describe how being a population specific organization (or funding the population specific subrecipient organization(s)) will enhance their ability to implement the proposed project(s) and should also specify which historically underserved populations are intended or expected to be served or have their needs addressed under the proposed project(s).

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

Awards, Amounts, and Durations

Anticipated Number of Awards: 6

Category 1: 5 (SANE/SAFE Programs)

Category 2: 1 (Training and Technical Assistance Provider)

Anticipated Maximum Dollar Amount per Award:

Category 1 anticipated maximum amount: \$500,000

Category 2 anticipated maximum amount: \$1,050,000

Period of Performance Start Date: October 1, 2024

Period of Performance Duration (Months): 36

Anticipated Total Amount To Be Awarded Under This Solicitation: \$3,550,000

Additional Information: While the maximum allowable funding amount is \$500,000 (Category 1) and \$1,050,000 (Category 2), OJP encourages applicants, including those that are new or that have never before received a federal award, to submit a proposed budget that best supports their project objectives and organizational capabilities, even if the proposed budget is at a lower amount than the maximum allowable funding level.

Continuation Funding Intent

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

Availability of Funds

This funding opportunity, and awards under this funding opportunity, are subject to the availability of funding and to any changes 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

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

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

This funding opportunity does not require a match.

Eligibility Information

For eligibility information, [see the Synopsis section](#).

For the purposes of this notice of funding opportunity, "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.

For the purposes of this notice of funding opportunity, other units of local government include towns, boroughs, parishes, villages, or other general purpose political subdivisions of a State.

How To Apply

Application Resources

When preparing and submitting an application, the following resources may aid prospective applicants:

1. Grants.gov "[How to Apply for Grants](#)"
2. OJP "[How To Apply](#)" section in the [Application Resource Guide](#)
3. JustGrants [Application Submission Training](#)

This solicitation (notice of funding opportunity) incorporates guidance provided in the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) (Application Resource Guide), which provides additional information for applicants to prepare and submit applications to OJP for funding. **If this solicitation requires something different from any guidance provided in the [Application Resource Guide](#), the difference will be noted in this solicitation and the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation, rather than the guidance in the [Application Resource Guide](#) that is in conflict.**

How To Apply

Registration

Before submitting an application, all applicants must register with the System for Award Management (SAM.gov). An applicant must renew their registration every 12 months. If an applicant does not renew their SAM.gov registration, it will expire. An expired registration can delay or prevent application submission in Grants.gov and JustGrants. Applicants are encouraged to start the SAM.gov registration process at least 30 days prior to the application deadlines. Applicants who fail to begin the registration or renewal process at least 10 business days prior to the Grants.gov deadline may not complete the process in time and will not be considered for late submission.

Submission

Applications must be submitted to DOJ electronically through a two-step process that begins in Grants.gov and is completed in JustGrants.

Step 1: After registering with SAM.gov, the applicant must submit the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL** in Grants.gov at <https://grants.gov/register> by the Grants.gov deadline. **To leave time to address any technical issues that may arise, an applicant should submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL as early as possible and recommended not later than 48 hours before the Grants.gov deadline.** If an applicant fails to submit in Grants.gov by the deadline, they will be unable to apply in JustGrants. Applicants can confirm Grants.gov submission by verifying their application status shows as “submitted” or “agency tracking number assigned.”

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

OJP recommends that applicants submit the complete application package in JustGrants at least 48 hours prior to the JustGrants deadline. Some of the required sections of the application will be entered directly into JustGrants, and other sections will require documents to be uploaded and attached. Therefore, applicants should allow enough time before the JustGrants deadline to prepare all the requirements of the application. Applicants may save their progress in the system and add to or change the application as needed prior to hitting the “Submit” button at the end of the application in JustGrants.

An applicant will receive emails when successfully submitting in Grants.gov and JustGrants and should maintain all emails and other confirmations received from SAM.gov, Grants.gov, and JustGrants systems.

For additional information, see the “How To Apply” section in the [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 July 8, 2024.

The **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by 8:59 p.m. Eastern Time on July 24, 2024.

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 and application process in sufficient time (i.e., waiting until the due dates identified in this solicitation for those systems to begin the application steps) is not an acceptable reason to request a technical waiver.

Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues Preventing Submission of an Application (Technical Waivers)

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 submission of the application on time.

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 documentation of attempts to receive technical assistance to resolve the issue prior to the application deadline. A tracking number is the most typical documentation and is 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, long call wait times for support do 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.gov Help Desk \(Federal Service Desk\)](#), Monday–Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 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.
- JustGrants: contact the JustGrants Service Desk at JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or 833-872-5175, Monday–Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET and Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 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 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 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 (provide screenshots if applicable);
- 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 (including all information listed above), 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 [Application Resource Guide](#).

Application and Submission Information

Content of Application Submission and Available Surveys

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:

- SF-424 and SF-LLL (in Grants.gov)
- Proposal Abstract (in JustGrants)
- Proposal Narrative (in JustGrants)
- Budget Web-Based Form, which includes the budget details and the budget narrative (in JustGrants)

If OJP determines that an application does not include these elements, it will not proceed to peer review and will not receive any further consideration.

Content of the 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 [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 funding opportunity **is not** subject to [Executive Order \(E.O.\) 12372](#). In completing the SF-424, an applicant should answer question 19 by selecting “Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.”

Content of the JustGrants Application Submission

Entity and User Verification (First Time Applicant)

For first time JustGrants applicants, once the application is received from Grants.gov, DOJ will send an email (from DIAMD-NoReply@usdoj.gov) to the individual listed in Section 8F of the

SF-424 with instructions on how to create a JustGrants account. This email should arrive within 24 hours after this individual receives confirmation from Grants.gov of their SF-424 and SF-LLL submissions. Register the Entity Administrator (the person who manages who can access JustGrants on behalf of the applicant), the Application Submitter, and Authorized Representative for the applicant with JustGrants as early as possible and (recommended) not later than 48-72 hours before the JustGrants deadline. Once registered in JustGrants, the Application Submitter will receive a link in an email to complete the rest of the application in JustGrants. Find additional information on JustGrants Application Submission in the [Application Resource Guide](#).

Standard Applicant 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 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. It should also indicate if the applicant is requesting priority consideration, and if so, what type. Abstracts will be made publicly available on the OJP and USASpending.gov websites if the project is awarded. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for an [example](#) of a proposal abstract.

Data Requested With Application

The following application elements should be submitted in the web-based forms in JustGrants.

Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (including Applicant Disclosure of High Risk Status)

The Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire helps OJP assess the financial management and internal control systems, and the associated potential risks of an applicant as part of the pre-award risk assessment process. Every OJP applicant (other than an individual applying in their personal capacity, not representing an applicant organization) is required to complete the web-based Questionnaire form in JustGrants. See the [Application Resource Guide: Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire \(including Applicant Disclosure of High Risk Status\)](#) for additional guidance on how to complete the questionnaire.

Brief Applicant Entity Questionnaire

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) is collecting the following information to help assess its efforts to attract a broader range of applicants. These questions apply to the applicant entity and its work and scope only, and not to the specific project(s) being proposed within the application. Responses to the questions will not be considered in the application review process. The questions included in the questionnaire are available in the [Standard Forms & Instructions: Brief Applicant Entity Questionnaire](#).

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 size 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, OJP may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions. Tables, charts, and graphs may be included in the Proposal Narrative and can be created in a legible font smaller than 12-point. These items will count toward the page limit.

The Proposal Narrative must include the following sections:

a. Description of the Issue

- State whether the project is local, statewide, or regional in scope.
- State whether the proposed project will establish new programming, expand existing programming, or both.
- Identify and describe the community or communities the project will serve, including the geographic location, demographics of the population, and Tribal communities in the service areas, if applicable.
- Describe the need for, and challenges to providing, medical forensic exams and advocacy to victims of sexual assault in the targeted areas, supported with local/state data.
- Describe gaps in SANE/SAFE coverage and training.
- Describe why these proposed activities are necessary (why important and valuable to the target community) and address a need. Include supporting information, such as data to provide evidence that the need exists, demonstrate the size and scope of the problem, and document the effects of the problem on the target population and the larger community.

b. Project Design and Implementation

- Describe the strategy for addressing the needs identified in the Description of the Issue.
 - State the key goals (what you want to achieve) of the project.
 - Address all the objectives listed in the Goals, Objectives, Deliverables section of this solicitation.
 - List the activities and describe how they relate to the Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline outlined in the web-based form (completed separately from the Proposal Narrative attachment). Activities are the specific actions that will be completed to fulfill the program's objectives and reach the program's goals.
- Provide a detailed description of the methods to be used to carry out each activity (e.g., training, community events, direct services to target population).
- Describe the applicant's commitment to addressing the physical and emotional safety needs of victims through the proposed project.
- Identify any potential challenges to the project's success and describe how the applicant will address those challenges (e.g., nurse shortages, turnover, community buy-in).
- Describe how SART/MDT collaboration will help with the project's success, if applicable.

If an applicant is seeking consideration under Priority 1A, it should explain in this section how the proposed project(s) will meaningfully address identified inequities **and** contribute to greater access to services and opportunities for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization. The applicant should also identify how the project design and implementation will specifically incorporate the input and/or participation of these communities.

c. Capabilities and Competencies

- Describe the capabilities (what the applicant brings to the project such as resources, experience, expertise) and competencies (the unique skills and abilities of the applicant) required to accomplish the goals and objectives of the project.
- Describe the applicant's management structure and the current and proposed staffing plan for the project. Include a list of key personnel responsible for managing and implementing the major pieces of the project and their roles and responsibilities. Proposed project directors/coordinators must have both the expertise and experience to perform crucial leadership functions and sufficient time to devote to the project to provide the needed guidance and supervision.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1B, it should: (1) describe within this section how being a population specific organization (or funding a population specific subrecipient organization at a minimum of 40% of the project budget) will enhance its capabilities and competencies to implement the proposed project; (2) specify which populations are intended or expected to be served, have their needs addressed, and/or be affected by the proposed project; and (3) include information to confirm that the population specific organization is specifically designed to serve communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization (examples of such information include, but are not limited to, the website address, charter, mission statement, or operating principles of the population specific organization).

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

- Describe the process for measuring project performance.
- Identify who will collect the data, who is responsible for performance measurements, and how the information will be used to guide and evaluate the project's impact.
- Describe the process to accurately report data in OVC's Performance Measurement Tool (PMT).

Note: An applicant is **not** required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included to provide notice that award recipients will be required to submit performance data as part of each award's reporting requirements.

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 solicitation goals and objectives identified in the "[Goals and Objectives](#)" section. Applicants can visit

[OJP's performance measurement page](http://www.ojp.gov/performance) at www.ojp.gov/performance for more information on performance measurement activities.

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found at [Office for Victims of Crime Transforming Victims Services Performance Measures \(ojp.gov\)](http://www.ojp.gov). Use the [OVC TVS Solicitation Discretionary Performance Measures Map \(ojp.gov\)](http://www.ojp.gov) for examples of how previous solicitations have been mapped to performance measures within the questionnaire.

OVC will require award recipients to submit quarterly performance measure data in OVC's Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) and separately submit a semi-annual performance report in JustGrants. For trainings and resources, use [Transforming Victim Services Discretionary Grantee Performance Measures \(ojp.gov\)](http://www.ojp.gov). 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 [Application Resource Guide](#).

Application Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline Web-Based Form

The applicant will submit the project's goals, objectives, deliverables and timeline in the JustGrants web-based form. This is a summary of the goals, objectives, deliverables, and timeline that relate to the proposal narrative. The applicant will also enter the projected fiscal year and quarter that each objective and deliverable will be completed. 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 proposal narrative.
- **Program Objectives and Timeline:** The applicant should include objectives to accomplish its goals noted in the proposal narrative. Objectives are specific, measurable actions to reach the project's desired results. The included timelines should be clearly linked to the goal.
- **Deliverables and Timeline:** Project deliverables refer to outputs—tangible (for example, a report or a website) or intangible (for example, greater feelings of safety reported by the community)—that are documented and submitted within the scope of a project. Deliverables include timelines.

Deliverables Expected by Successful Applicants

Program objectives and deliverables should be included in one timeline.

Purpose Area 1 Deliverables:

- Written policies and procedures that address the standardization of victim-centered care, to include informed consent, patient safety, privacy, confidentiality, culturally and linguistically appropriate services, care to patients with communication needs (e.g., Deaf, hard of hearing, etc.), and a streamlined referral process that increases access to victim advocacy services for cases involving a medical forensic exam. Survivors representing the communities to be served by the project should be included in policy and procedure development to allow them to inform the process (*Year 1*).

- Written security policies and procedures for telehealth systems that ensure HIPAA compliance, privacy, and security of private health information that is stored, processed, or transmitted (*by end of Year 1 – telehealth programs only*).
- Comprehensive training plan for SANE/SAFE support and professional development (*Year 1*).
- Sustainability plan to ensure that programs can continue in an effective way beyond grant funding (*Year 2*).
- Executed memorandum of understanding, subcontract, or other agreement with a rape crisis center, victim services provider, or state sexual assault coalition to facilitate advocacy services and strengthen community response (*Year 1*).

Purpose Area 2 Deliverables:

- Development of a TTA plan for FY24 SAFE award recipients (*Year 1*).
- Completion of site assessments or visits (in person or virtual) to all newly funded SAFE awardees (*Year 2*). Any additional in-person TTA visits as determined necessary to address site needs should be made in consultation with OVC.
- Development of site visit reports.

Budget and Associated Documentation

Funding Restrictions

The scope of this program is to support SANE programming and victim services. The use of funds under this program should focus primarily on direct services. The following activities cannot be supported under this program:

- Research, defined in 28 C.F.R. § 46.102 as a systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge.
- Tuition reimbursement in lieu of salary for project staff.

Limited funds may be used to support:

- Process evaluations or assessment for internal improvement purposes only, such as by convening a listening session to identify service gaps in the community or surveying training participants about the quality of training content and delivery.

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

Budget Detail and Narrative Web-Based Form

The applicant will complete the JustGrants web-based budget form, which includes both detailed calculations and budget narrative sections.

For additional information about how to prepare a budget for federal funding, see the [“Application Resource Guide”](#) section on [Budget Preparation and Submission Information](#) and the technical steps to complete the budget form in JustGrants in the [Complete the Application in JustGrants: Budget](#) training.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1A and has proposed activities to incorporate the input and participation of communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime,

violence and victimization, financial support for the identified activities and participation must be reflected in the web-based budget form.

If the applicant is seeking priority consideration under Priority 1B based on the identification of a proposed subrecipient as a population specific organization, the proposed funding for the subrecipient must **reflect a minimum of 40 percent of the total award funding** within the web-based budget form. The budget narrative must also describe how the **activities that will be funded** with the (minimum) 40 percent of award funding provided to the subrecipient **specifically relate to the proposed project** that will meaningfully address identified inequities and contribute to greater access to services and opportunities for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization.

[Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs](#)

OJP strongly encourages every applicant that proposes to use award funds for any conference-, meeting-, or training-related activity (or similar event) to review carefully—before submitting an application—the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on prior approval, planning, and reporting of conference/meeting/training 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. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on costs associated with language assistance.

[Budget/Financial Attachments](#)

[Pre-Agreement \(Pre-Award\) Costs \(if applicable\)](#)

Pre-agreement costs are defined as costs requiring approval incurred by the applicant prior to the start date of the period of performance of the federal award. OJP does not typically approve pre-agreement costs. If a successful applicant, in anticipation of the Federal award, but before the start date of the period of performance, incurs costs which are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the funded project, those costs may not be charged to the award. See the “Costs Requiring Prior Approval” section in the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide Post-Award Requirements](#) for more information.

[Indirect Cost Rate Agreement \(if applicable\)](#)

Indirect costs are costs of an organization that are not readily assignable to a particular project but are necessary to the operation of the organization and the performance of the project. Examples of costs usually treated as indirect include those incurred for facility operation and maintenance, depreciation, and administrative salaries. The requirements for the development and submission of indirect cost proposals and cost allocation plans are listed in Appendices III – VII of 2 C.F.R. Part 200. A non-federal applicant should follow the guidelines applicable to its type of organization. If applicable, an applicant with a current federally-approved indirect cost rate agreement will upload it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the [DOJ Financial Guide](#) for additional information on [Indirect Cost Rate Agreement](#).

[Consultant Rate \(if applicable\)](#)

Costs for consultant services require prior approval from OJP. If the proposed project expects to fund consultant services, compensation for individual consultant services is to be reasonable

and consistent with that paid for similar services in the marketplace. See the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#) for information on the consultant rates, which require prior approval from OJP.

[Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards Over \\$250,000; Waiver \(if applicable\)](#)

If an applicant proposes to hire employees with Federal award funds, for any award of more than \$250,000 made under a funding opportunity, an award recipient may not use federal funds to pay total cash compensation (salary plus cash bonuses) to any employee of the recipient at a rate that exceeds 110 percent 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. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on the "Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards over \$250,000; Waiver."

[Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation \(if applicable\)](#)

This notice of funding opportunity expressly modifies the Application Resource Guide by not incorporating its "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation" provisions. Applicants to this funding opportunity are not required to provide this disclosure.

Additional Application Components

The applicant will attach the additional requested documentation in JustGrants.

Curriculum Vitae or Resumes

Provide resumes of key personnel who will work on the proposed project.

Letters of Support

Applicants should include, for each named supporting entity, a signed letter of support that outlines the supporting entity's reasons for supporting for the project. Applications submitted from two or more entities are encouraged to submit signed letters of support that provide a detailed description of why the proposed project should receive federal funding.

Each letter of support may include the following: (1) a description of the relationship between the applicant entity and the supporting entity; (2) a description of the need and what benefits would be gained from the project; (3) a description of the applicant's capacity to complete the proposed project. Letters of support should be signed and dated and then submitted as one separate attachment to the application in JustGrants.

Bibliography/References

Provide a reference list or bibliography that includes all the sources cited in the proposal.

Tables/Charts/Graphs or Maps

Provide tables, charts, graphs, or maps that give more details about your proposal. These might be Gantt, PERT, or flow charts. The applicant will attach the additional requested documentation in JustGrants.

List of Individuals in the Application

Provide a list of individuals identified in the application that describes the roles for each that will support the project. For key roles, include education, responsibilities, and qualifications. An organizational chart may be provided.

[Request To Use Incentives or Stipends \(if applicable\)](#)

Stipends/Incentives To Participate in Services: Neither cash, non-cash stipends, nor incentives may be paid to victims to encourage their participation in services.

With OVC approval, nominal cash or non-cash stipends to facilitate access to services (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) are allowable.

Disclosures and Assurances

The applicant will address the following disclosures and assurances.

[Disclosure of Lobbying Activities](#)

The SF-LLL attachment that was completed and submitted in Grants.gov is attached to this section.

[Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items](#)

To ensure funding coordination across grant making agencies, and to avoid unnecessary or inappropriate duplication among grant awards, the applicant will disclose if it has any pending applications for federal funding, including pending applications for subawards of federal funds. Complete the JustGrants web-based Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

[DOJ Certified Standard Assurances](#)

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

Application Review Information

Review Criteria

Basic Minimum Review Criteria

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 requirements for all OJP solicitations:

- The application must be submitted by an eligible type of applicant.

- The application must request funding within any stated programmatic funding limits or boundaries.
- The application must be responsive to the scope of the solicitation.
- The application must include all items necessary to meet the basic minimum requirements.

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 (20%): evaluate the applicant's understanding of the program/issue to be addressed.
- Project Design and Implementation (30%): evaluate the strength of the proposal, including information provided in the goals, objectives, timelines, and deliverables web-based form.
- Capabilities and Competencies (20%): 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 (15%): evaluate the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements and the plan for collecting the required data.
- Budget (15%): evaluate for completeness, cost effectiveness, and allowability (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

Other Review Criteria/Factors

Other important considerations for OJP 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. Costs are allowable when they are reasonable, allocable to, and necessary for the performance of the federal award, and when they comply with the funding statute and agency requirements (to include the conditions of the award), including the cost principles set out in the [Uniform Requirements 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E](#).

Risk Criteria/Factors

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

In addition, if OJP anticipates that an award will exceed \$250,000 in federal funds, OJP also must review and consider any information about the applicant that appears in the non-public segment of the integrity and performance system accessible through SAM.gov.

Important note on Responsibility/Qualification Data (formerly FAPIIS): An applicant may review and comment on any information about its organization that currently appears in SAM.gov and was entered by a federal awarding agency. OJP will consider such comments by the applicant,

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

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. 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 30. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on award notifications and instructions.

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 (programs or practices that have been evaluated as effective), see the [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 on what should be included in the application, see the [Application Resource Guide](#) section entitled “Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities.”

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 [Application Resource Guide](#).

Civil Rights Compliance

If a successful applicant accepts funding from OJP—as a recipient of OJP funding—that award recipient must comply with certain federal civil rights laws that prohibit it from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disability in how the recipient delivers its program’s services or benefits and in its employment practices. The civil rights laws that may be applicable to the award include Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), the nondiscrimination provisions of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (Safe Streets Act), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. These and other federal civil rights laws are discussed in greater detail here: [Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2024 Awards](#) under the “Civil Rights Requirements” section, and additional resources are available from the [OJP Office for Civil Rights](#).

Part of complying with civil rights laws that prohibit national origin discrimination includes recipients taking reasonable steps to ensure that people who are limited in their English proficiency (LEP) because of their national origin have meaningful access to a recipient's program and activity. An LEP person is one whose first language is not English and who has a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English. To help recipients meet this obligation to serve LEP persons, DOJ has published a number of resources, including a language access assessment and planning tool, which are available at <https://www.lep.gov/language-access-planning>. Additional resources are available at <https://www.ojp.gov/program/civil-rights-office/limited-english-proficient-lep>. If the award recipient proposes a program or activity that would deliver services or benefits to LEP individuals, the recipient may use grant funds to support the costs of taking reasonable steps (e.g., interpretation or translation services) to provide meaningful access. Similarly, recipients are responsible for ensuring that their programs and activities are readily accessible to qualified individuals with disabilities. Applicants for OJP funding must allocate grant funds or explain how other available resources will be used to ensure meaningful and full access to their programs. For example, grant funds can be used to support American Sign Language (ASL) interpreter services for deaf or hard of hearing individuals or the purchase of adaptive equipment for individuals with mobility or cognitive disabilities. For resources, see <https://www.ada.gov/> or contact OJP.

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 [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Information Technology Security Clauses

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of information related to information technology security. See the [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 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 [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 Synopsis.

Other Information

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

See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. §§ 552 and 552a).

Provide Feedback to OJP

See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for information on how to provide feedback to OJP.

Performance Measures

A list of performance measure questions for this program can be found at [Office for Victims of Crime Transforming Victims Services Performance Measures \(ojp.gov\)](#). Use the solicitation map at [OVC TVS Solicitation Discretionary Performance Measures Map \(ojp.gov\)](#) for examples of how previous solicitations have been mapped to performance measures within the questionnaire.

OVC will require award recipients to submit quarterly performance measure data in OVC's Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) and separately submit a semi-annual performance report in JustGrants. For trainings and resources, use [Transforming Victim Services Discretionary Grantee Performance Measures \(ojp.gov\)](#). OVC will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process, if the applicant is selected for award.

Application Checklist

OVC FY24 Expanding Access to Sexual Assault Forensic Examinations

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

- Confirm your entity's registration in the [System Award Management \(SAM.gov\)](#) is active through the solicitation period; submit a new or renewal registration in SAM.gov if needed (see [Application Resource Guide](#)).

Register in Grants.gov

- Acquire an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and a Grants.gov username and password (see [Application Resource Guide](#)).
- Acquire AOR confirmation from the E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) (see [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).
- Select the correct Competition ID.
- Access the funding opportunity and application package (see Step 7 in the [Application Resource Guide](#)).
- Sign up for Grants.gov email [notifications](#) (optional) (see [Application Resource Guide](#)).
- Read [Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov](#) (about [browser compatibility and special characters in file names](#)).
- Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting available at <https://www.ojp.gov/funding/financialguidedoj/iii-postaward-requirements#6g3y8> (see [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 2024 Awards](#)" in the [OJP Funding Resource Center](#).

Review the Scope Requirement

- The federal amount requested is within the allowable limits of \$500,000 (Category 1) and \$1,050,000 (Category 2).

Review Eligibility Requirement

- Review the "Eligibility" section in the Synopsis and "Eligibility Information" section in the solicitation.

Application Step 1

After registering with SAM.gov, 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 regarding technical difficulties (see [“Application Resource Guide” section on Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues](#)).

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

- Entity and User Verification (First Time Applicant)
- Standard Applicant information (SF-424 information from Grants.gov)
- Proposal Abstract*
- Proposal Narrative*
- Application Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline web-based form

Budget and Associated Documentation

- Budget Detail Narrative and web-based form*
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see [Application Resource Guide](#))
- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see [Application Resource Guide](#))

Additional Application Components

- Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see [Application Resource Guide](#))
- Bibliography/References (if applicable)
- Letters of Support (if applicable)
- List of key personnel and resumes
- Organizational chart (if applicable)

Disclosures and Assurances

- [Disclosure of Lobbying Activities \(SF-LLL\)](#) (see [Application Resource Guide](#))
- Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (see [Application Resource Guide](#))
- DOJ Certified Standard Assurances (see [Application Resource Guide](#))
- DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing (see [Application Resource Guide](#))

- Applicant Disclosure and Justification – DOJ High-Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see [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 regarding technical difficulties. See the [Application Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

Standard Solicitation Resources

[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.

[Weekly Training Webinars](#) are advertised here and provide opportunities for users to receive topic-specific training, direct technical assistance, and support on JustGrants system functionality.