

**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 for the provision of specialized training and technical assistance to service providers and court personnel in one of three purpose areas: 1) comprehensive legal services, 2) trauma-informed responses and services, and 3) increased identification, referrals, and assistance of human trafficking in court settings. This program furthers the Department's mission by enhancing the victim service field's response to victims of human trafficking.

## **FY 2018 Specialized Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance**

**Applications Due: June 27, 2018**

### **Eligibility**

By statute, grants under this program may be awarded to states, units of local government, federally recognized Indian tribal governments (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior), nonprofit organizations (defined as an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of Title 26 and is exempt from taxation under 501(a) of such title), and nongovernmental organizations (including tribal nonprofits). For the purposes of this program, a unit of local government is any city, county, township, town, borough, parish, village, or other general purpose political subdivision of a state, territory, or federally recognized Indian tribal government. This solicitation seeks eligible applicants under three distinct purpose areas. Eligible applicants must demonstrate experience in providing training and technical assistance in one of the three purpose areas (comprehensive legal services; trauma-informed responses and services; or increased identification, referrals, and assistance of human trafficking in court settings).

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

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

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

OVC welcomes applications under which two or more entities would carry out the federal award; however, only one entity may be the applicant. Any others must be proposed as subrecipients (subgrantees).<sup>1</sup> The applicant must be the entity with primary responsibility for administering the

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<sup>1</sup> For additional information on subawards, see "Budget and Associated Documentation" under [Section D. Application and Submission Information](#).

funding and managing the entire project. Only one application per lead applicant will be considered; however, subrecipients may be part of multiple proposals.

## Deadline

Applicants must register with Grants.gov at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html> prior to submitting an application. All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on June 27, 2018.

To be considered timely, an application must be submitted by the application deadline using Grants.gov, and the applicant must have received a validation message from Grants.gov that indicates successful and timely submission. OJP urges applicants to submit applications at least 72 hours prior to the application due date, to allow time for the applicant 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.

OJP encourages all applicants 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, 606-545-5035, at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html>, or at [support@grants.gov](mailto:support@grants.gov). The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

An applicant that experiences unforeseen Grants.gov technical issues beyond its control that prevent it from submitting its application by the deadline must email the OVC contact identified below **within 24 hours after the application deadline** to request approval to submit its application after the deadline. Additional information on reporting technical issues appears under "Experiencing Unforeseen Grants.gov Technical Issues" in the [How To Apply](#) section.

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) Response Center: toll free at 800-851-3420; via TTY at 301-240-6310 (hearing impaired only); email to [grants@ncjrs.gov](mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov); fax to 301-240-5830; or web chat at <https://webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp>. The NCJRS Response Center operates from 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday, and from 10:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. eastern time on the solicitation closing date.

### Pre-Application Webinar

OVC will conduct one pre-application webinar on May 31, 2018, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. eastern time. Participation in the webinar is optional. OVC staff will review the solicitation requirements and conduct a question and answer session with interested potential applicants. You may register for the webinar at <https://ojp.webex.com/ojp/onstage/g.php?MTID=e93b485df2b6b0461746a076701c86e4c>.

Grants.gov number assigned to this solicitation: OVC-2018-14040

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# FY 2018 Specialized Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance CFDA # 16.320

## A. Program Description

### Overview

The purpose of this program is to enhance the quality and efficiency of services available to assist victims of human trafficking by providing intensive training and technical assistance (TTA) to trafficking service providers and court personnel to assist them in developing and implementing effective interventions that meet the needs of human trafficking survivors. This solicitation focuses on three purpose areas that have been identified as fundamental to the identification, stabilization, and long-term independence of trafficking survivors. They are:

- Purpose Area 1: Comprehensive Legal Services;
- Purpose Area 2: Trauma-Informed Responses and Services; and
- Purpose Area 3: Increased Identification, Referrals, and Assistance of Human Trafficking in Court Settings.

**Statutory Authority:** This project is authorized by 22 U.S.C. § 7105(b)(2).

### Program-Specific Information

To address the problem of human trafficking in the United States, Congress passed, and the President signed into law, the TVPA of 2000 (22 U.S.C. § 7101 et. seq.). The TVPA seeks to combat “severe forms” of human trafficking by punishing traffickers, protecting victims, and mobilizing U.S. Government agencies to wage a global anti-trafficking campaign.

OVC strives to uphold the intent of the TVPA and its subsequent authorizations to ensure that all trafficking victims receive support to access the services they need to heal in the aftermath of victimization. Human trafficking occurs within many different settings within communities and the victims of these crimes are very diverse.

Under this program, a victim of trafficking is defined as a person who has been subjected to a “severe form of trafficking in persons,” which, as defined in 22 U.S.C. § 7102(9), means:

- a. Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age; or
- b. The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

### **Purpose Area 1: Comprehensive Legal Services (OVC-2018-14066)**

Legal services are consistently among the services most provided by OVC Human Trafficking Program grantees, according to data from the Trafficking Information Management System (TIMS); yet, there are many victim service providers and legal professionals who are unfamiliar with the unique legal needs that victims of all ages encounter as a result of trafficking, especially as new pieces of legislation are adopted throughout the country in an effort to provide trafficking victims with additional rights and remedies.

The overarching goal of Purpose Area 1 is to enhance the quality and quantity of legal services provided to victims of human trafficking by assisting legal and social service providers in protecting their client's legal rights—particularly victims' rights—and the civil legal remedies and legal resources available to them. The TTA ultimately supports identification of clients' legal needs and referrals to the most appropriate resources.

The proposed project must address the full range of legal needs of trafficking victims, including, but not limited to, immigration, family law, employment law, victims' rights, civil actions, and criminal restitution. TTA can also assist legal and social service providers in developing additional resources such as pro bono partnerships to expand legal services. The applicant must demonstrate the capacity to provide training and support to service providers throughout the United States, including U.S. territories and tribal lands.

Please note: Direct representation on vacatur or expungement matters, through court filings or through other litigation services, is NOT an allowable use of OVC's FY 2018 funding; however, grantees may counsel victims on expungement or vacatur of any conviction for a non-violent crime that is a direct result of being a trafficking victim. TTA providers should be aware of this as they interact with victim service providers.

### **Purpose Area 2: Trauma-Informed Responses and Services (OVC-2018-14067)**

Trauma-informed approaches are delivered with an understanding of the vulnerabilities and experiences of trauma survivors, including the physical, social, and emotional impact of trauma and its prevalence. A trauma-informed approach recognizes signs of trauma in staff, clients, and others and responds by integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, practices, and settings. Trauma-informed approaches place a priority on restoring the survivor's feelings of safety, choice, and control.

The [Concept of Trauma and Guidance for a Trauma-Informed Approach](#), developed by the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), outlines the framework and key principles of a trauma-informed approach that can be adapted for use in many settings, including trafficking victim service programs. Within this document, SAMHSA indicates that a trauma-informed approach includes "trauma-specific services" or "interventions," and, more broadly, incorporates key trauma principles into the organizational culture.

The overall goal of this purpose area is for a technical assistance provider to assist trafficking victim service providers throughout the process of becoming trauma-informed across SAMHSA's 10 Implementation Domains, which include, but are not limited to, areas such as governance and leadership, policy, physical environment, screening assessment, treatment services, and training and evaluation.

Applicants may propose a variety of activities, including developing and delivering training for trafficking victim service providers, facilitating strategic planning sessions with members of an organization's Board of Directors and staff, and/or assisting organizations in assessing their current policies and practices to determine where improvements can be made. Proposals may also include subawards for trafficking victim service organizations that are committed to developing a trauma-informed approach.

### **Purpose Area 3: Increased Identification, Referrals, and Assistance of Human Trafficking in Court Settings (OVC-2018-14068)**

Despite initiatives, such as the [Human Trafficking and State Courts Collaborative](#), aimed at increasing awareness about human trafficking among court personnel, studies indicate that

there still is an ongoing need for further training. The Urban Institute, in its report, "[Identifying Challenges to Improve the Investigation and Prosecution of State and Local Human Trafficking Cases](#)," indicated that the relatively low identification and prosecution of human trafficking cases and conviction of traffickers may be attributed to the lack of information about the human trafficking laws on the part of relevant stakeholders, including in the criminal justice system.

The purpose of this TTA program is to increase accurate identification of human trafficking victims in court settings, enhance victim referrals to appropriate service providers, and decrease the re-victimization of trafficking victims who interact with the justice system. Applicants should propose a project that builds on (but does not duplicate) previous efforts and resources to educate courts, including those developed through the [Human Trafficking and the State Courts Collaborative](#). Proposals that focus on introductory training on the crime of human trafficking for court personnel ("Trafficking 101") will not be considered.

The selected TTA provider will train court personnel (including judges, court staff, advocates, civil attorneys, and prosecutors) on topics that will improve the treatment of human trafficking victims who interact with courts, such as the accurate identification of sex and labor trafficking; psychological and physiological effects of human trafficking; the intersection of human trafficking with prostitution, domestic violence, and sexual assault; and/or victim services available to trafficking victims. Tailored TTA may also be provided to court personnel to develop trauma-informed, victim-centered policies, procedures, and partnerships related to human trafficking; and to address referrals, victim safety, etc. Court settings may include criminal, drug, mental health, and relevant diversion courts, among others. Proposals may also include subawards for courts that are committed to developing a trauma-informed approach to identifying and responding to trafficking victims.

#### For All Purpose Areas

While the same applicant may submit separate applications under each purpose area, OVC will only make one award for each purpose area. Applicants are advised that funded organizations will be required to work with OVC, its dedicated TTA providers, and other relevant partners to fulfill the requirements outlined in the following section. Relevant OVC-funded TTA providers include the OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center; specialized legal training and technical assistance providers; and the National Resource Center on Reaching Underserved Victims, among others.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to partner with other entities to ensure the necessary capacity outlined in this solicitation, and must explain how they will work together with partners to fulfill the solicitation requirements. All organizations involved in the application must either demonstrate experience providing TTA to victim-serving organizations in the specific purpose area or expertise in delivering direct services to survivors of human trafficking. Applicants must describe how their proposed program will address all trafficking in persons and will enhance the response to all victims of trafficking. Proposed programs that focus on only one form of trafficking or address only one group of victims will not be considered.

In addition, the [2017 Annual Report of the United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking](#) noted that it is important that "comprehensive services be available for all survivors of human trafficking" ([www.state.gov/j/tip/276836.htm#3](http://www.state.gov/j/tip/276836.htm#3)). OVC's priority is to serve all victims of human trafficking and provide them with an array of services to meet their individualized needs. This solicitation is responding to specialized service needs that have been identified by the field to help fill critical gaps in service. Applicants must submit a separate attachment describing their plan for human trafficking survivor involvement in this project. It may be through the participation

of survivor consultants; a survivor advisory board; survivor evaluation of comprehensive, trauma-informed services or court proceedings; or some other method. Costs associated with survivor involvement in the program should be reflected in the proposed budget and the budget narrative.

### **Activities That Compromise Victim Safety and Recovery**

The following activities have been found to jeopardize victim safety or deter or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims. OVC will not fund projects that include these activities.

1. The development of policies or procedures that exclude any victims from receiving safe shelter, advocacy services, counseling, and other assistance.
2. The development of policies or procedures that compromise the confidentiality of information and privacy of persons receiving OVC-funded services.
3. The development of policies or procedures that impose requirements on victims in order to receive services (e.g., receive counseling, seek civil or criminal remedies).
4. The development of policies or procedures that fail to conduct safety planning with victims.
5. The implementation of project designs and budgets that fail to account for the access needs of individuals with disabilities and individuals who have limited English proficiency or are deaf or hard of hearing.
6. The establishment or enhancement of a multidisciplinary collaborative community response without developing appropriate policies regarding confidentiality and information sharing for the members.

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

The overarching goal of this program is to enhance the victim service field's response to victims of human trafficking in the key areas outlined in each purpose area.

The objectives are to—

1. improve the quality and quantity of services in the selected purpose area offered to trafficking survivors by increasing the capacity of victim service providers/court personnel nationwide, through TTA; and
2. improve victim service providers' partnerships at the national, state, and local level with relevant purpose area stakeholders.

Grantees funded through this solicitation will engage in the following activities to meet program goals and objectives:

1. Provide technical assistance on the full range of options within the purpose area to victim service providers or court personnel working with trafficking victims (in particular, to OVC human trafficking grantees).
2. Develop and distribute TTA materials, including those identifying best practices and policies related to the purpose area, to support victim service providers and court personnel working with human trafficking victims.
3. Identify and disseminate other publicly available materials related to the purpose area to help build the capacity of service providers and court personnel.
4. Provide training at relevant conferences, webinars, or through other mechanisms.
5. Assist service providers in developing additional resources, such as partnerships with relevant stakeholders at the national, state, and local level, in order to access a range of available services in the purpose area.

6. Develop and implement a mechanism to solicit TTA recipients' feedback to track if and how they implemented policies or practices, and if they reported improvement in operations in the relevant purpose area as a result of TTA.
7. Coordinate with other OVC-funded TTA provider grantees to avoid duplication of efforts through regular communication.
8. Other activities as required to meet the stated goals and objectives.

The Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables are directly related to the performance measures that demonstrate the results of the work completed, as discussed in [Section D. Application and Submission Information](#), under Program Narrative.

### **Resource Coordination**

OVC works closely with federal partners to ensure resource coordination and provide guidance to federally funded victim service and technical assistance providers, as appropriate. Proposals should fill gaps in the existing provision of TTA to the target audience. All applicants should determine if there is an existing federally funded trafficking TTA provider, and work to ensure that the new application does not duplicate existing TTA currently funded by OVC, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Office on Violence Against Women, or another federal or state office or agency. If there is currently a federally funded trafficking TTA provider serving the same or similar target audience as the applicant's proposal, applicants must document (1) how the new proposal supports different services than those already funded, or provides strong justification why additional funding is needed to fill existing gaps in services; and (2) describe how these services will be coordinated within the geographic area.

Applicants must also include information about any other open award of federal and state funds (including programs supported by Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) victim assistance funds) that are being or will be used, in whole or in part, for one or more of the identical cost items outlined within this application. Applicants with current OVC funding for TTA for victims of human trafficking must demonstrate how the new proposal fills gaps in TTA not previously addressed by the existing OVC grant.

### **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; and
- 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 website at <https://www.crimesolutions.gov> is one resource that applicants may use to find information about evidence-based programs in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services.

### **Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities**

DOJ has prioritized the use of evidence-based programming and deems it critical to continue to build and expand the evidence informing criminal and juvenile justice programs to reach the highest level of rigor possible. Therefore, applicants should note that OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the programs and activities funded under this solicitation. Recipients and subrecipients will be expected to cooperate with program-related assessments or evaluation efforts, including through the collection and provision of information or data requested by OJP (or its designee) for the assessment or evaluation of any activities and/or outcomes of those activities funded under this solicitation. The information or data requested may be in addition to any other financial or performance data already required under this program.

## **B. Federal Award Information**

OVC expects to make up to three awards (one per purpose area) of up to \$900,000 each, with an estimated total amount awarded of up to \$2.7 million. OVC expects to make awards for a 36-month period of performance, to begin on October 1, 2018.

OVC may, in certain cases, provide additional funding in future years to awards made under this solicitation, through continuation awards. In making decisions regarding continuation awards, OJP will consider, among other factors, the availability of appropriations, when the program or project was last competed, OJP's strategic priorities, and OJP's assessment of both the management of the award (for example, timeliness and quality of progress reports), and 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**

OVC expects to make any award under this solicitation in the form of a cooperative agreement, which is a type of award that provides for OJP to have substantial involvement in carrying out award activities. See [Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements](#), under [Section F. Federal Award Administration Information](#), for a brief discussion of what may constitute substantial federal involvement.

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

Award recipients and subawardees (including recipients or subawardees that are pass-through entities<sup>2</sup>) must, as described in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements<sup>3</sup>, as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.303:

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<sup>2</sup> For purposes of this solicitation, the phrase "pass-through entity" includes any recipient or subrecipient that provides a subaward ("subgrant") to a subrecipient (subgrantee) to carry out part of the funded award or program. Additional information on proposed subawards is listed under [What an Application Should Include](#), Section 4c of this solicitation.

<sup>3</sup> The "Part 200 Uniform Requirements" means the DOJ regulation at 2 C.F.R. Part 2800, which adopts (with certain modifications) the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200.

- (a) Establish and maintain effective internal control over the Federal award that provides reasonable assurance that [the recipient (and any subawardee)] 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 subawardees)] 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 subawardee)] considers sensitive consistent with applicable Federal, state, local, and tribal laws regarding privacy and obligations of confidentiality.

To help ensure that applicants understand the applicable administrative requirements and cost principles, OJP encourages prospective applicants to enroll, at no charge, in the DOJ Grants Financial Management Online Training, available at <https://ojpfgm.webfirst.com/>. (This training is required for all OJP award recipients.)

Also, applicants should be aware that OJP collects information from applicants on their financial management and systems of internal controls (among other information) which is used to make award decisions. Under [Section D. Application and Submission Information](#), applicants may access and review a questionnaire – the [OJP Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire](#) – that OJP requires **all** applicants (other than an individual applying in his/her personal capacity) to download, complete, and submit as part of the application.

## **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.

For additional information on cost sharing and match, see the DOJ Grants Financial Guide at <https://ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/PostawardRequirements/chapter3.3b.htm>.

### **Pre-Agreement Costs (also known as Pre-Award Costs)**

Pre-agreement costs are costs 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; an applicant must request and obtain the prior written approval of OJP for all such costs. All such costs incurred prior to award and prior to approval of the costs are incurred at the sole risk of the applicant. (Generally, no applicant should incur project costs *before* submitting an application requesting federal funding for those costs.) Should there be extenuating circumstances that make it appropriate for OJP to consider approving pre-agreement costs, the applicant may contact the point of contact listed on page 2 of this solicitation for the requirements concerning written requests for approval. If approved in advance by OJP, award funds may be used for pre-agreement costs, consistent with the recipient's approved budget and applicable cost principles. See the section on Costs Requiring Prior Approval in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide at <https://ojp.gov/financialguide/doj/index.htm> 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, a 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.<sup>4</sup> The 2018 salary table for SES employees is available on the Office of Personnel Management website at <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/18Tables/exec/html/ES.aspx>. 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. (Non-federal funds used for any such additional compensation will not be considered matching funds, where match requirements apply.) If only a portion of an employee's time is charged to an OJP award, the maximum allowable compensation 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, this limitation on compensation rates allowable under an award. An applicant that requests a waiver should include a detailed justification in the budget narrative of its application. An applicant that does not submit a waiver request and justification with its application should anticipate that OJP will require the applicant to adjust and resubmit the budget.

The justification should address, in the context of the work the individual would do under the award, the particular qualifications and expertise of the individual, the uniqueness of a service the individual will provide, the individual's specific knowledge of the proposed program or project, and a statement that explains whether and how the individual's salary under the award would be commensurate with the regular and customary rate for an individual with his/her qualifications and expertise, and for the work he/she would do under the award.

### **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 OJP and DOJ policy and guidance on approval, planning, and reporting of such events, available at <https://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

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<sup>4</sup> OJP does not apply this limitation on the use of award funds to the nonprofit organizations listed in Appendix VIII to 2 C.F.R. Part 200.

training costs for cooperative agreement recipients, and some conference, meeting, and training costs for grant recipients; and (3) set cost limits, which include 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 "[Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2018 Awards](#)" in the OJP Funding Resource Center at <https://ojp.gov/funding/index.htm>.

## **C. Eligibility Information**

For eligibility information, see the title page.

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

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

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

This section describes in detail what an application should include. An applicant should anticipate that if it fails to submit an application that contains all of the specified elements, it may negatively affect the review of its application; and, should a decision be made to make an award, it may result in the inclusion of award conditions that preclude the recipient from accessing or using award funds until the recipient satisfies the conditions and OJP makes the funds available.

Moreover, an applicant should anticipate that an application that OJP determines is nonresponsive to the scope of the solicitation, or that OJP determines does not include the application elements that OVC has designated to be critical, will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration. For this solicitation, OVC has designated the following application elements as critical:

- Program Narrative;
- Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative;
- MOUs, Letters of Intent, and Subcontracts/Subawards;
- Plan for Action Research;
- Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (as part of the Program Narrative);
- Project Timeline; and,
- Training Plan.

**NOTE:** OJP has combined the Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative in a single document collectively referred to as the Budget Detail Worksheet. See "Budget Information and

Associated Documentation” below for more information about the Budget Detail Worksheet and where it can be accessed.

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

Please review the “Note on File Names and File Types” under [How To Apply](#) to be sure applications are submitted in permitted formats.

## 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).

To avoid processing delays, an applicant must include an accurate legal name on its SF-424. On the SF-424, current OJP award recipients, when completing the field for “Legal Name” (box 8a), should use the same legal name that appears on the prior year award document (which is also the legal name stored in OJP’s financial system). Also, these recipients should enter the Employer Identification Number (EIN) in box 8b exactly as it appears on the prior year award document. An applicant with a current, active award(s) must ensure that its GMS profile is current. If the profile is not current, the applicant should submit a Grant Adjustment Notice (GAN) updating the information on its GMS profile prior to applying under this solicitation.

A new applicant entity should enter its official legal name in box 8a, its address in box 8d, its EIN in box 8b, and its Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number in box 8c of the SF-424. A new applicant entity should attach official legal documents to its application (e.g., articles of incorporation, 501(c)(3) status documentation, organizational letterhead, etc.) to confirm the legal name, address, and EIN entered into the SF-424. OJP will use the System for Award Management (SAM) to confirm the legal name and DUNS number entered in the SF-424; therefore, an applicant should ensure that the information entered in the SF-424 matches its current registration in SAM. See the [How to Apply](#) section for more information on SAM and DUNS numbers.

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

## 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 (such as 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.

### **3. Program Narrative**

The program narrative should be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point font (Times New Roman preferred); have no less than 1-inch margins; and should not exceed 25 pages. Pages should be numbered. If the program narrative fails to comply with these length-related restrictions, OVC may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions. The following sections should be included as part of the program narrative<sup>5</sup>:

#### **a. Statement of the Problem**

Applicants should describe the purpose area issue(s) they will address and the relevance of the purpose area issue(s) to trafficking victims. Applicants should describe any data or research on the selected purpose area in relation to human trafficking victims in the United States, the availability of existing resources in the selected purpose area services, or current gaps in service provision related to the purpose area for trafficking victims. Applicants may use qualitative and quantitative data to describe the problem. Applicants should identify the source of any data or evidence cited. Applicants should describe the TTA that is currently available related to the purpose area and the remaining gaps.

#### **b. Project Design and Implementation**

Applicants should clearly describe how their project will address the challenges presented in the statement of the problem, and the goals, objectives, and deliverables detailed in that section on pages 8–9. They should describe how they will effectively increase the capacity of service providers and court personnel working with trafficking victims across the United States, including the territories. The project design should specifically account for how the applicant will conduct proactive outreach to all current OVC human trafficking grantees and provide in-depth consultations or onsite training to select grantees. Applicants must state their plan for how they will deliver targeted TTA to key stakeholder groups for their purpose area. They should describe, in detail, the activities they will undertake and provide a Project Timeline (as a separate attachment that does not count against the Program Narrative page restrictions; see page 27 for more details) that includes the key staff responsible for each activity.

#### **c. Capabilities and Competencies**

Applicants should describe their experience providing TTA in the selected purpose area and the experience and expertise of key staff members. Applicants should provide position descriptions for all key personnel and resumes as a separate attachment (that will not count against the Program Narrative page restrictions). Applicants should describe their access to resources, facilities, and equipment necessary to carry out the TTA activities described in the Project Design and Implementation section, and their experience and capacity to manage federal grant awards. Applicants should demonstrate that their organization and partners have experience and expertise in the full range of trafficking victim needs in the particular purpose area. For example, Purpose Area 1 applicants must demonstrate knowledge

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<sup>5</sup> For information on subawards (including the details on proposed subawards that should be included in the application), see "Budget and Associated Documentation" under [Section D. Application and Submission Information](#).

of the full range of comprehensive services available to survivors of all forms of trafficking, while Purpose Area 2 applicants must demonstrate knowledge of the full range of legal resources, legislation, and other remedies available to victims of human trafficking including the employment, training, and educational needs of trafficking survivors. Additionally, Purpose Area 3 applicants should be familiar with human trafficking and have an understanding of strategies and court systems training.

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

OJP will require each successful applicant to submit regular performance data that demonstrate the results of the work carried out under the award (see "[General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements](#)" in [Section F. Federal Award Administration Information](#)). The performance data directly relate to the goals, objectives, and deliverables identified under "Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables" in [Section A. Program Description](#).

**Your response to this section must include the following information:**

- A plan for collecting all of the performance measures data required by this solicitation. Award recipients will be required to provide the relevant data by submitting regular client and performance data through OVC's online Trafficking Information Management System (TIMS), located at <https://tims.ovcttac.gov/>. Applicants should examine the key performance measures and required client data in [Appendix A: Performance Measures Table](#).
- A description of the key staff that will be responsible for collecting data and a plan for using TIMS Online.

Performance measures for this solicitation are listed in [Appendix A: Performance Measures Table](#). Applicants should visit OJP's performance measurement page at [www.ojp.gov/performance](http://www.ojp.gov/performance) for more information.

The application should demonstrate the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements for this grant program and detail how the applicant will gather the required data should it receive funding.

Please note that applicants are **not** required to submit performance data with the application. Performance measures information is included as an alert that successful applicants will be required to submit performance data as part of the reporting requirements under an award.

**Note on Project Evaluations**

An applicant that proposes to use award funds 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." Each applicant should provide sufficient information for OJP to determine whether the particular project it proposes would either

intentionally or unintentionally collect and/or use information in such a way that it meets the DOJ definition of research that appears at 28 C.F.R. Part 46 (“Protection of Human Subjects”).

“Research,” for purposes of human subjects’ protection 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 for purposes of human subjects protection, applicants should consult the decision tree in the “Research and the protection of human subjects” section of the “[Requirements related to Research](#)” webpage of the “[Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2018 Awards](#),” available through the OJP Funding Resource Center at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Explore/SolicitationRequirements/index.htm>.

Every prospective applicant whose application may propose a research or statistical component also should review the “Data Privacy and Confidentiality Requirements” section on that webpage.

#### 4. Budget and Associated Documentation

The Budget Detail Worksheet and the Budget Narrative are now combined in a single document collectively referred to as the Budget Detail Worksheet. The Budget Detail Worksheet is a user-friendly, fillable, Microsoft Excel-based document designed to calculate totals. Additionally, the Excel workbook contains worksheets for multiple budget years that can be completed as necessary. **All applicants should use the Excel version when completing the proposed budget in an application, except in cases where the applicant does not have access to Microsoft Excel or experiences technical difficulties.** If an applicant does not have access to Microsoft Excel or experiences technical difficulties with the Excel version, then the applicant should use the 508-compliant accessible Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) version.

Both versions of the Budget Detail Worksheet can be accessed at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Forms/BudgetDetailWorksheet.htm>.

##### a. Budget Detail Worksheet

The Budget Detail Worksheet should provide the detailed computation for each budget line item, listing the total cost of each and showing how it was calculated by the applicant. For example, costs for personnel should show the annual salary rate and the percentage of time devoted to the project for each employee paid with grant funds. The Budget Detail Worksheet should present a complete itemization of all proposed costs.

For questions pertaining to budget and examples of allowable and unallowable costs, see the DOJ Grants Financial Guide at <https://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).

An applicant should demonstrate in its budget narrative how it will maximize cost effectiveness of award 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 budget narrative should be mathematically sound and correspond clearly 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 those costs are necessary 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 describe costs by year.

**c. Information on Proposed Subawards (if any), and on Proposed Procurement Contracts (if any)**

Applicants for OJP awards typically may propose to make *subawards*. Applicants also may propose to enter into procurement *contracts* under the award.

Whether an action—for federal grants administrative purposes—is a subaward or procurement contract is a critical distinction, as significantly different rules apply to subawards and procurement contracts. If a recipient enters into an agreement that is a subaward of an OJP award, specific rules apply—many of which are set by federal statutes and DOJ regulations; others by award conditions. These rules place particular responsibilities on an OJP recipient for any subawards the OJP recipient may make. The rules determine much of what the written subaward agreement itself must require or provide. The rules also determine much of what an OJP recipient must do both before and after it makes a subaward. If a recipient enters into an agreement that is a procurement contract under an OJP award, a substantially different set of federal rules applies.

OJP has developed the following guidance documents to help clarify the differences between subawards and procurement contracts under an OJP award and outline the compliance and reporting requirements for each. This information can be accessed online at <https://ojp.gov/training/training.htm>.

- [Subawards under OJP Awards and Procurement Contracts under Awards: A Toolkit for OJP Recipients](#)
- [Checklist to Determine Subrecipient or Contractor Classification](#)
- [Sole Source Justification Fact Sheet and Sole Source Review Checklist](#)

In general, the central question is the relationship between what the third-party will do under its agreement with the recipient and what the recipient has committed (to OJP) to do under its award to further a public purpose (e.g., services the recipient will provide, products it will develop or modify, research or evaluation it will conduct). If a third party will provide some of the services the recipient has committed (to OJP) to provide, will develop or modify all or part of a product the recipient has committed (to OJP) to develop or modify, or will conduct part of the research or evaluation the recipient has committed (to OJP) to conduct, OJP will consider the agreement with the third party a *subaward* for purposes of federal grants administrative requirements.

This will be true **even if** the recipient, for internal or other non-federal purposes, labels or treats its agreement as a procurement, a contract, or a procurement contract. Neither the title nor the structure of an agreement determines whether the agreement—for purposes of federal grants administrative requirements—is a *subaward* or is instead a procurement *contract* under an award. The substance of the relationship should be given greater consideration than the form of agreement between the recipient and the outside entity.

**i. Information on proposed subawards**

A recipient of an OJP award may not make subawards ("subgrants") unless the recipient has specific federal authorization to do so. Unless an applicable statute or DOJ regulation specifically authorizes (or requires) subawards, a recipient must have authorization from OJP before it may make a subaward.

A particular subaward may be authorized by OJP because the recipient included a sufficiently detailed description and justification of the proposed subaward in the Program Narrative, Budget Detail Worksheet, and Budget Narrative as approved by OJP. If, however, a particular subaward is not authorized by federal statute or regulation, and is not approved by OJP, the recipient will be required, post-award, to request and obtain written authorization from OJP before it may make the subaward.

If an applicant proposes to make one or more subawards to carry out the federal award and program, the applicant should (1) identify (if known) the proposed subrecipient(s), (2) describe in detail what each subrecipient will do to carry out the federal award and federal program, and (3) provide a justification for the subaward(s), with details on pertinent matters such as special qualifications and areas of expertise. Pertinent information on subawards should appear not only in the Program Narrative, but also in the Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative.

**ii. Information on proposed procurement contracts (with specific justification for proposed noncompetitive contracts over \$150,000)**

Unlike a recipient contemplating a subaward, a recipient of an OJP award generally does not need specific prior federal authorization to enter into an agreement that—for purposes of federal grants administrative requirements—is considered a procurement contract, **provided that** (1) the recipient uses its own documented procurement procedures and (2) those procedures conform to applicable federal law, including the Procurement Standards of the (DOJ) Part 200 Uniform Requirements (as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.317 - 200.326). The Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative should identify proposed procurement contracts. (As discussed above, subawards must be identified and described separately from procurement contracts.)

The Procurement Standards in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements, however, reflect a general expectation that agreements that (for purposes of federal grants administrative requirements) constitute procurement "contracts" under awards will be entered into on the basis of full and open competition. All noncompetitive (sole source) procurement contracts must meet the OJP requirements outlined at <https://ojp.gov/training/subawards-procurement.htm>. If a proposed procurement contract would exceed the simplified acquisition threshold—currently, \$150,000—a recipient of an OJP award may not proceed without competition unless and until the recipient receives specific advance authorization from OJP to use a noncompetitive approach for the procurement. An applicant that (at the time of its application)

intends—without competition—to enter into a procurement contract that would exceed \$150,000 should include a detailed justification that explains to OJP why, in the particular circumstances, it is appropriate to proceed without competition.

If the applicant receives an award, sole source procurements that do not exceed the Simplified Acquisition Threshold (currently \$150,000) must have written justification for the noncompetitive procurement action maintained in the procurement file. If a procurement file does not have the documentation that meets the criteria outlined in 2 C.F.R. 200, the procurement expenditures may not be allowable. Sole source procurement over the \$150,000 Simplified Acquisition Threshold must have prior approval from OJP using a Sole Source GAN. Written documentation justifying the noncompetitive procurement must be submitted with the GAN and maintained in the procurement file.

**d. Pre-Agreement Costs**

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

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

Indirect costs may be charged to an award only if:

- (a) The recipient has a current (unexpired), federally approved indirect cost rate; or
- (b) The recipient 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).

An applicant with a current (unexpired) federally approved indirect cost rate is to attach a copy of the indirect cost rate agreement to the application. An applicant that does not have a current federally approved rate may request one through its cognizant federal agency, which will review all documentation and approve a rate for the applicant entity, or, if the applicant’s accounting system permits, applicants may propose to allocate costs in the direct cost categories.

For assistance with identifying the appropriate cognizant federal agency for indirect costs, please contact the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) Customer Service Center at 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 <https://www.ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/IndirectCosts.pdf>.

Certain OJP recipients have the option of electing to use the “de minimis” indirect cost rate. An applicant that is eligible to use the “de minimis” rate that wishes to use the “de minimis” rate should attach written documentation to the application that advises OJP of both (1) the applicant’s eligibility to use the “de minimis” rate, and (2) its election to do so. If an eligible applicant elects the “de minimis” rate, costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs, but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both. The “de minimis” rate may no longer be used once an approved federally negotiated indirect cost rate is in place. (No entity that ever has had a federally approved negotiated indirect cost rate is eligible to use the “de minimis” rate.) For the “de minimis” rate requirements (including on eligibility to elect to use the rate), see the Part 200 Uniform Requirements, at 2 C.F.R. 200.414(f).

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

Every OJP applicant (other than an individual applying in his or her personal capacity) is required to download, complete, and submit the OJP Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (Questionnaire) at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/FinancialCapability.pdf> as part of its application. The 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.

The Questionnaire should only be completed by financial staff most familiar with the applicant's systems, policies, and procedures in order to ensure that the correct responses are recorded and submitted to OJP. The responses on the Questionnaire directly impact the pre-award risk assessment and should accurately reflect the applicant's financial management and internal control system at the time of the application. The pre-award risk assessment is only one of multiple factors and criteria used in determining funding. However, a pre-award risk assessment that indicates that an applicant poses a higher risk to OJP may affect the funding decision and/or result in additional reporting requirements, monitoring, special conditions, withholding of award funds, or other additional award requirements.

Among other things, the form requires each applicant to disclose whether it currently is designated "high risk" by a federal grant-making agency outside of DOJ. For purposes of this disclosure, high risk includes any status under which a federal awarding agency provides additional oversight due to the applicant's past performance, or other programmatic or financial concerns with the applicant. If an applicant is designated high risk by another federal awarding agency, the applicant must provide the following information:

- The federal awarding agency that currently designates the applicant high risk
- The date the applicant was designated high risk
- The high-risk point of contact at that federal awarding agency (name, phone number, and email address)
- The reasons for the high-risk status, as set out by the federal awarding agency

OJP seeks this information to help ensure appropriate federal oversight of OJP awards. An applicant that is considered "high-risk" by another federal awarding agency is not automatically disqualified from receiving an OJP award. OJP may, however, consider the information in award decisions, and may impose additional OJP oversight of any award under this solicitation (including through the conditions that accompany the award document).

## **7. Disclosure of Lobbying Activities**

Each applicant must complete and submit this information. An applicant that expends any funds for lobbying activities is to provide all of the information requested on the form Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) posted at <https://ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/Disclosure.pdf>. An applicant that does not expend any funds for lobbying activities is to enter "N/A" in the text boxes for item 10 ("a. Name and Address of Lobbying Registrant" and "b. Individuals Performing Services").

**8. Additional Attachments**

**a. Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications**

Each applicant is to disclose whether it has (or is proposed as a subrecipient under) any pending applications for federally funded grants or cooperative agreements that (1) include requests for funding to support the same project being proposed in the application under this solicitation, and (2) would cover any identical cost items outlined in the budget submitted to OJP as part of the application under this solicitation. The applicant is to disclose applications made directly to federal awarding agencies, and also applications for subawards of federal funds (e.g., applications to State agencies that will subaward (“subgrant”) federal funds).

OJP seeks this information to help avoid 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.

Each applicant that has one or more pending applications as described above is 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 federal or State funding agency

Federal or State Funding Agency	Solicitation Name/Project Name	Name/Phone/Email for Point of Contact at Federal or State Funding Agency
DOJ/Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)	COPS Hiring Program	Jane Doe, 202/000-0000; jane.doe@usdoj.gov
Health and Human Services/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	Drug-Free Communities Mentoring Program/ North County Youth Mentoring Program	John Doe, 202/000-0000; john.doe@hhs.gov

Each applicant should include the table as a separate attachment to its application. The file should be named “Disclosure of Pending Applications.” The applicant’s Legal Name on the application must match the entity named on the disclosure of pending applications statement.

Any applicant that does not have any pending applications as described above is to submit, as a separate attachment, a statement to this effect: “[Applicant Name on SF-424] does not have (and is not proposed as a subrecipient under) any pending applications submitted within the last 12 months for federally funded grants or cooperative agreements (or for subawards under federal grants or cooperative agreements) that request funding to support the same project being proposed in this

application to OJP and that would cover any identical cost items outlined in the budget submitted as part of this application.”

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

If an application proposes research (including research and development) and/or evaluation, the applicant must demonstrate research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, before it may receive award funds. The applicant must demonstrate independence and integrity regarding both this proposed research and/or evaluation, and any current or prior related projects.

Each application should include an attachment that addresses **both** i. and ii below.

- i. For purposes of this solicitation, each applicant is to document research and evaluation independence and integrity by including one of the following two items:
  - a. A specific assurance that the applicant has reviewed its application to identify any actual or potential apparent conflicts of interest (including through review of pertinent information on the principal investigator, any co-principal investigators, and any subrecipients), and that the applicant has identified no such conflicts of interest—whether personal or financial or organizational (including on the part of the applicant entity or on the part of staff, investigators, or subrecipients)—that could affect the independence or integrity of the research, including the design, conduct, and reporting of the research.

OR

- b. A specific description of actual or potential apparent conflicts of interest that the applicant has identified—including through review of pertinent information on the principal investigator, any co-principal investigators, and any subrecipients—that could affect the independence or integrity of the research, including the design, conduct, or reporting of the research. These conflicts may be personal (e.g., on the part of investigators or other staff), financial, or organizational (related to the applicant or any subrecipient entity). Some examples of potential investigator (or other personal) conflict situations are 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 would not be given an award 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), because the organization in such an instance might 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, each applicant is to address 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 actual or potential apparent conflicts of interest (personal, financial, or organizational) exist, then the applicant should provide a brief narrative explanation of how and why it reached that conclusion. The applicant also is to include an explanation of the specific processes and procedures that the applicant has in place, or will put in place, to identify and prevent (or, at the very least, mitigate) any such conflicts of interest pertinent to the funded project during the period of performance. Documentation that may be helpful in this regard may include organizational codes of ethics/conduct and policies regarding organizational, personal, and financial conflicts of interest. There is no guarantee that the plan, if any, will be accepted as proposed.

OR

- b. If the applicant has identified actual or potential apparent conflicts of interest (personal, financial, or organizational) that could affect the independence and integrity of the research, including the design, conduct, or reporting of the research, the applicant is to provide a specific and robust mitigation plan to address each of those conflicts. At a minimum, the applicant is expected to explain the specific processes and procedures that the applicant has in place, or will put in place, to identify and eliminate (or, at the very least, mitigate) any such conflicts of interest pertinent to the funded project during the period of performance. Documentation that may be helpful in this regard may include organizational codes of ethics/conduct and policies regarding organizational, personal, and financial conflicts of interest. There is no guarantee that the plan, if any, will be accepted as proposed.

OJP will assess research and evaluation independence and integrity based on considerations such as the adequacy of the applicant's efforts to identify factors that could affect the objectivity or integrity of the proposed staff and/or the applicant entity (and any subrecipients) 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.

**c. Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation**

An applicant that is a nonprofit organization may be required to make certain disclosures relating to the processes it uses to determine the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees, and key employees.

Under certain circumstances, a nonprofit organization that provides unreasonably high compensation to certain persons may subject both the organization's managers and those who receive the compensation to additional federal taxes. A rebuttable presumption of the reasonableness of a nonprofit organization's compensation arrangements, however, may be available if the nonprofit organization satisfied certain rules set out in Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations with regard to its compensation decisions.

Each applicant nonprofit organization must state at the time of its application (question 9c in the "OJP Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire," located at <http://ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/FinancialCapability.pdf> and mentioned earlier) whether or not the applicant entity believes (or asserts) that it currently satisfies the requirements of 26 C.F.R. 53.4958-6 (which relate to establishing or invoking a rebuttable presumption of reasonableness of compensation of certain individuals and entities).

A nonprofit organization that states in the questionnaire that it believes (or asserts) that it has satisfied the requirements of 26 C.F.R. 53.4958-6 must then disclose, in an attachment to its application (to be titled "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation"), the process used by the applicant nonprofit organization to determine the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees, and key employees (together, "covered persons").

At a minimum, the disclosure must describe in pertinent detail: (1) the composition of the body that reviews and approves compensation arrangements for covered persons; (2) the methods and practices used by the applicant nonprofit organization to ensure that no individual with a conflict of interest participates as a member of the body that reviews and approves a compensation arrangement for a covered person; (3) the appropriate data as to comparability of compensation that is obtained in advance and relied upon by the body that reviews and approves compensation arrangements for covered persons; and (4) the written or electronic records that the applicant organization maintains as concurrent documentation of the decisions with respect to compensation of covered persons made by the body that reviews and approves such compensation arrangements, including records of deliberations and of the basis for decisions.

For purposes of the required disclosure, the following terms and phrases have the meanings set out by the IRS for use in connection with 26 C.F.R. 53.4958-6: officers, directors, trustees, key employees, compensation, conflict of interest, appropriate data as to comparability, adequate documentation, and concurrent documentation.

Applicant nonprofit organizations should note that following receipt of an appropriate request, OJP may be authorized or required by law to make information submitted to satisfy this requirement available for public inspection. Also, a recipient may be required to make a prompt supplemental disclosure after the award in certain circumstances (e.g., changes in the way the organization determines compensation).

**d. Plan for Action Research**

Applicants must describe a plan for action research activities that will guide them in assessing program performance through the life of the award.

Action research involves the collection and analysis of data during a project to assess project performance, identify areas for improvement, and provide direction. It is a collaborative effort between a researcher and project staff that provides timely analysis of data to help inform project activities. Action research is not a systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge, and therefore would not be considered research involving human subjects. Action researchers are expected to be knowledgeable in the collection and analysis of data, relevant evaluation literature,

and the operation of the program. Grantees will provide OVC with annual action research reports (annual summary reports and a comprehensive final report over the award period).

**The plan must include the following information:**

- A description of the proposed action research consultant(s) who will conduct research and evaluation activities for the project.
- A description of the qualifications of the consultant(s).
- Identification of key staff who will be involved in action research activities and the work of the consultant.
- An explanation of the basic methodology and timeline for the action research.

**Applicants must allocate 2–7 percent of their total project budget, including match funds, to support action research activities.** The plan must include an itemized list of costs to conduct action research activities, including the percent of time that staff contribute to action research; the cost of a consultant; and costs related to travel or supplies related to action research. The applicant should incorporate these costs within their Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative.

Evaluator staff should be external to the applicant organization. Applicants are encouraged to partner with consultants who have a working knowledge of social service programs, such as institutions of higher learning with this specialty.

**e. Training Plan**

Training activities are integral to a community's response to human trafficking. Applicants must include, as a separate attachment to this application, implementation plans for conducting local trainings for project partners and other community members, and plans to provide staff with professional development opportunities (including travel to attend local and national victim assistance or regional or national trafficking conferences).

**The training plan should include the following information:**

- Topics of trainings.
- Tentative dates or frequency of training events.
- Key staff involved in delivering training.
- Identification of specific professional development opportunities for staff, including costs to attend local or national victim assistance or regional or national trafficking conferences.

Costs dedicated to training and professional development activities must be included as line items within the appropriate categories of the Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative.

As with the action research plan, it is strongly recommended that the training plan includes a chart to illustrate the breakdown of federal funds and match amounts for each project staff person, consultant, and contractual entity that will devote effort towards training activities. The Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative should match the

amounts shown on the chart. It must be clear where these numbers are pulled from within the budget.

**f. MOUs, Letters of Intent, and/or Subcontracts/Subgrants**

For services to be provided by project partners, applicants must provide subcontracts/subgrants, Letters of Intent, or MOUs describing the commitment from that organization to provide the specialized service(s) and the fee for the service or cost to the grant for each service. If services are to be provided as in-kind match, pro bono, government-subsidized programs, or at no cost to the grant, this must be clearly stated in the MOU, Letter of Intent, or subcontract/subgrant.

Subagreements must be a fee-for-service agreement and submitted as one separate attachment to the application.

The following information must be included in these types of documents:

- Names of the organizations to be involved.
- Scope of the direct specialized service(s) and other work to be performed under the agreement.
- Duration of the agreement.
- Estimated cost per victim or cost of actual services provided, describing whether it is a fee-for-service, in-kind match, or no-cost. (Applicants must describe how services will be provided to victims without the use of grant funds.)
- Total amount of the agreement.
- Whether or not there is a minimum or maximum number of victims that may be served under the agreement.

Applications with insufficient documentation to fully demonstrate the applicant's ability to implement their proposed service plan will be negatively scored during the review process. Awards made to applicants 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.

**g. Project Timeline**

The timeline document must include the following:

- Milestone project goals.
- Related objectives, activities (including data collection and programmatic and financial reporting), and expected completion dates.
- Organization and person(s) responsible for completing each task on the timeline.

**h. Position Descriptions and Resumes**

Position descriptions and resumes for key positions should be tailored to the applicant to demonstrate qualifications of each key individual involved in the project.

**i. Plan for Survivor Involvement**

Applicants must submit an attachment describing their plan for human trafficking survivor involvement in this project, whether through the participation of survivor consultants, a survivor advisory board, survivor evaluation of services offered, or some other method. The plan should describe how survivor involvement will impact the implementation of the

project. This attachment should include an itemized list of costs that are included in the budget to support the implementation of the plan.

**j. Privacy Certificate**

OVC and recipients of OVC funding are subject to confidentiality requirements protecting research and statistical information collected that is identifiable to a private person under the DOJ regulations found at 28 C.F.R. Part 22. Identifying characteristics include, but are not limited to, identifiers such as name, address, Social Security number or other identifying number, fingerprints, voiceprints, photographs, genetic information, or any other item or combination of data about a person that could reasonably lead, directly or indirectly, by reference to other information, or to identification of that individual(s). OVC requires that applicants submit an updated Privacy Certificate with their application. A Privacy Certificate must be approved prior to engaging in any project activities that involve data collection on individuals through observations, interviews, reports, or review of administrative records, or any project tasks likely to result in the gathering or development of information identifiable to individuals. OVC-funded activities that require a Privacy Certificate prior to conducting the activity include, but may not be limited to, a needs assessment, program evaluation, survey, or focus group interview. For a sample Model Privacy Certificate, visit <https://ojp.gov/funding/Apply/Resources/PrivacyCertification.pdf>. For additional guidance on Privacy Certificate content, visit the National Institute of Justice's Privacy Certificate Guidance at [www.nij.gov/funding/humansubjects/Pages/privacy-certificate-guidance.aspx](http://www.nij.gov/funding/humansubjects/Pages/privacy-certificate-guidance.aspx).

**How To Apply**

Applicants must register in and submit applications through [Grants.gov](https://www.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 <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html>. Applicants that experience technical difficulties during this process should call the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at **800-518-4726** or **606-545-5035**, which operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

**Important Grants.gov update.** Grants.gov has updated its application tool. The legacy PDF application package has been phased out and was retired on December 31, 2017. Grants.gov Workspace is now the standard application method for applying for grants. OJP applicants should familiarize themselves with the Workspace option now. For complete information and instructions on using Workspace (and other changes), go to the Workspace Overview page at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/workspace-overview.html>.

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 of registration and a user password. OJP encourages applicants to **register several weeks before** the application submission deadline. In addition, OJP urges applicants to submit applications at least 72 hours prior to the application due date, in order to allow time for the applicant 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.

OJP strongly encourages all prospective applicants to sign up for Grants.gov email notifications regarding this solicitation at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/manage-subscriptions.html>. 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. Attachments are also labeled to describe the file being attached (e.g., Project Narrative, Budget Narrative, Other, etc.) Please ensure that all required documents are attached in the correct Grants.gov category and are labeled correctly. Do not embed “mandatory” attachments within another file.

**Note on File Names and File Types:** Grants.gov only permits the use of certain specific characters in the file names of attachments. Valid file names may include only the characters shown in the table below. Grants.gov rejects any application that includes an attachment(s) with a file name that contains any characters not shown in the table below. Grants.gov forwards successfully submitted applications to the OJP Grants Management System (GMS).

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 ( . )			

**\*When using the ampersand (&) in XML, applicants must use the “&amp;” format.**

**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:

**Unique Entity Identifier (DUNS Number) and System for Award Management**

Every applicant entity must comply with all applicable SAM and unique entity identifier (currently, a DUNS number) requirements. SAM is the repository for certain standard information about federal financial assistance applicants, recipients, and subrecipients. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit identification number provided by the commercial company Dun and Bradstreet. More detailed information about SAM and the DUNS number is in the numbered sections below.

If an applicant entity has not fully complied with the applicable SAM and unique identifier requirements by the time OJP makes award decisions, OJP may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award and may use that determination as a basis for making the award to a different applicant.

**Applying as an Individual**

An individual who wishes to apply in his/her personal capacity should search Grants.gov for funding opportunities for which individuals are eligible to apply. Use the Funding Opportunity

Number (FON) to register. (An applicant applying as an individual must comply with all applicable Grants.gov individual registration requirements.)

Enter the FON at <https://apply07.grants.gov/apply/IndCPRregister> to complete the registration form and create a username and password for Grants.gov. (An applicant applying as an individual should complete all steps below except 1, 2 and 4.)

## Registration and Submission Steps

1. **Acquire a unique entity identifier (currently, a DUNS number).** In general, the Office of Management and Budget requires every applicant for a federal award (other than an individual) to include a "unique entity identifier" in each application, including an application for a supplemental award. Currently, a DUNS number is the required unique entity identifier.

This unique entity identifier is used for tracking purposes, and to validate address and point of contact information for applicants, recipients, and subrecipients. It will be used throughout the life cycle of an OJP award. 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 <https://www.dnb.com/>. A DUNS number is usually received within 1-2 business days.

2. **Acquire or maintain registration with SAM.** Any applicant for an OJP award creating a new entity registration in SAM.gov must provide an original, signed notarized letter stating that the applicant is the authorized Entity Administrator before the registration will be activated. To learn more about this process change, read the FAQs at <https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/organization/federal-acquisition-service/office-of-systems-management/integrated-award-environment-iae/sam-update>. Information about the notarized letter is posted at [https://www.fsd.gov/fsd-gov/answer.do?sysparm\\_kbid=d2e67885db0d5f00b3257d321f96194b&sysparm\\_search=kb0013183](https://www.fsd.gov/fsd-gov/answer.do?sysparm_kbid=d2e67885db0d5f00b3257d321f96194b&sysparm_search=kb0013183).

All applicants for OJP awards (other than individuals) must maintain current registrations in the SAM database. Applicants will need the authorizing official of the organization and an EIN. An applicant must be registered in SAM to successfully register in Grants.gov. Each applicant must **update or renew its SAM registration at least annually** to maintain an active status. SAM registration and renewal can take as long as 10 business days to complete (2 more weeks to acquire an EIN).

An application 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 as long as 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. An applicant entity's "unique entity identifier" (DUNS number) must be used to complete this step. For more information about the registration process for organizations and other entities, go to <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration.html>. Individuals registering with Grants.gov should go to <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/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 (CFDA) number for this solicitation is 16.320, titled "Services for Trafficking Victims," and the funding opportunity number is OVC-2018-14040.
6. **Select the correct Competition ID.** Some OJP solicitations posted to Grants.gov contain multiple purpose areas, denoted by the individual Competition ID. If applying to a solicitation with multiple Competition IDs, select the appropriate Competition ID for the intended purpose area of the application.

**Purpose Area 1: Comprehensive Legal Services (OVC-2018-14066)**

**Purpose Area 2: Trauma-Informed Responses and Services (OVC-2018-14067)**

**Purpose Area 3: Increased Identification, Referrals, and Assistance of Human Trafficking in Court Settings (OVC-2018-14068)**

7. **Access Funding Opportunity and Application Package from Grants.gov.** Select "Apply for Grants" under the "Applicants" column. Enter your email address to be notified of any changes to the opportunity package before the closing date. Click the Workspace icon to use Grants.gov Workspace.
8. **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. The second will state whether the application has been validated and successfully submitted, or whether it has been 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 an application well ahead of the deadline provides time to correct the problem(s) that caused the rejection. **Important:** OJP urges each applicant to submit its application **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. Applications must be successfully submitted through Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on June 27, 2018.

Go to <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/organization-registration.html> for further details on DUNS numbers, SAM, and Grants.gov registration steps and timeframes.

**Note: Application Versions**

If an applicant submits multiple versions of the same application, OJP will review only the most recent system-validated version submitted.

## **Experiencing Unforeseen Grants.gov Technical Issues**

An applicant that experiences unforeseen Grants.gov technical issues beyond its control that prevent it from submitting its application by the deadline must contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html> or the SAM Help Desk (Federal Service Desk) at <https://www.fsd.gov/fsd-gov/home.do> to report the technical issue and receive a tracking number. The applicant must email the OVC contact identified in the Contact Information section on the title page **within 24 hours after the application deadline** to request approval to submit its application after the deadline. The applicant's email must describe the technical difficulties, and must 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: OJP does not automatically approve requests to submit a late application.** After OJP reviews the applicant's request, and contacts the Grants.gov or SAM Help Desks to verify 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 untimely application submission was due to the applicant's failure to follow all required procedures, OJP will deny the applicant's request to submit its application.

The following conditions generally are 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, such as issues with firewalls or browser incompatibility.

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

## **E. Application Review Information**

### **Review Criteria**

Applications that meet basic minimum requirements will be evaluated by peer reviewers using the following review criteria.

1. Statement of the Problem/Description of the Issue (15%)
2. Project Design and Implementation (35%)
3. Capabilities and Competencies (25%)
4. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (5%)
5. Plan for Action Research (10%)
6. Budget (10%): complete, cost effective, and allowable (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities). Budget narratives should demonstrate generally 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>6</sup>

### **Review Process**

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

Peer reviewers will review the applications submitted under this solicitation that meet basic minimum requirements. For purposes of assessing whether an application meets basic minimum requirements and should proceed to further consideration, OJP screens applications for compliance with those requirements. Although specific requirements may vary, the following are common requirements applicable to all solicitations for funding under OJP programs:

- The application must be submitted by an eligible type of applicant.
- The application must request funding within programmatic funding constraints (if applicable).
- The application must be responsive to the scope of the solicitation.
- The application must include all items designated as “critical elements.”
- The applicant must not be identified in SAM as excluded from receiving federal awards.

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

Peer review panels will evaluate, score, and rate applications that meet basic minimum requirements. OVC may use internal peer reviewers, external peer reviewers, or a combination, to assess applications on technical merit using the solicitation’s review 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. Peer reviewers’ ratings and any resulting recommendations are advisory only, although reviewer views are considered carefully. Other important considerations for OVC include geographic diversity, strategic priorities, and available funding, as well as the extent to which the Budget Detail Worksheet and Budget Narrative accurately explain project costs that are reasonable, necessary, and otherwise allowable under federal law and applicable federal cost principles.

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 that has one or more prior federal awards has a satisfactory record with respect to performance, integrity, and business ethics, OJP checks whether the applicant is listed in SAM as excluded from receiving a federal award.

In addition, if OJP anticipates that an award will exceed \$150,000 in federal funds, OJP also must review and consider any information about the applicant that appears in the non-public

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<sup>6</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.

segment of the integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently, the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)).

**Important note on FAPIIS:** An applicant, at its option, may review and comment on any information about itself that currently appears in FAPIIS and was entered by a federal awarding agency. OJP will consider any such comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in FAPIIS, in its assessment of the risk posed by the applicant.

The evaluation of risks goes beyond information in SAM, however. OJP itself has in place a framework for evaluating risks posed by applicants for competitive awards. OJP takes into account information pertinent to matters such as—

1. Applicant financial stability and fiscal integrity,
2. Quality of the applicant's management systems, and the applicant's ability to meet prescribed management standards, including those outlined in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide,
3. Applicant's history of performance under OJP and other DOJ awards (including compliance with reporting requirements and award conditions), and awards from other federal agencies,
4. Reports and findings from audits of the applicant, including audits under the Part 200 Uniform Requirements,
5. Applicant's ability to comply with statutory and regulatory requirements, and to effectively implement other award requirements.

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 take into account not only peer review ratings and OVC recommendations, but also other factors as indicated in this section.

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

### **Federal Award Notices**

Award notifications will be made by September 30, 2018. OJP sends award notifications 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 steps to take in GMS to start the award acceptance process. GMS automatically issues the notifications at 9:00 p.m. eastern time on the award date.

For each successful applicant, an individual with the necessary authority to bind the applicant will be required to log in; execute a set of legal certifications and a set of legal assurances; designate a financial point of contact; thoroughly review the award, including all award conditions; and sign and accept the award. The award acceptance process requires physical signature of the award document by the authorized representative and the scanning and submission 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 OJP-approved application, the recipient must comply with all award conditions, and all applicable requirements of federal statutes and regulations (including applicable requirements referred to

in the assurances and certifications executed in connection with award acceptance). OJP strongly encourages prospective applicants to review information on post-award legal requirements and common OJP award conditions **prior** to submitting an application.

**Lobbying, promoting, or advocating the legalization/regulation of prostitution.**

The Federal Government is opposed to prostitution and related activities, which are inherently harmful and dehumanizing and contribute to the phenomenon of trafficking in persons. U.S. nongovernmental organizations and their subgrantees cannot use U.S. Government funds to lobby for, promote, or advocate the legalization or regulation of prostitution as a legitimate form of work. Foreign nongovernmental organizations and their subgrantees that receive U.S. Government funds to fight trafficking in persons cannot lobby for, promote, or advocate the legalization or regulation of prostitution as a legitimate form of work. It is the responsibility of the primary grantee to ensure these criteria are met by its subgrantees.

Applicants should consult the "[Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2018 Awards](#)," available in the OJP Funding Resource Center at <https://ojp.gov/funding/index.htm>. In addition, applicants should examine the following two legal documents, as each successful applicant must execute both documents before it may receive any award funds. (An applicant is not required to submit these documents as part of an application.)

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

The webpages accessible through the "[Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2018 Awards](#)" are intended to give applicants for OJP awards a general overview of important statutes, regulations, and award conditions that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP grants and cooperative agreements awarded in FY 2018. Individual OJP awards typically also will include additional award conditions. Those additional conditions may relate to the particular statute, program, or solicitation under which the award is made; to the substance of the funded application; to the recipient's performance under other federal awards; to the recipient's legal status (e.g., as a for-profit entity); or to other pertinent considerations.

As stated above, OVC expects that it will make any award under this solicitation in the form of a cooperative agreement. Cooperative agreements include a condition in the award document that sets out the nature of the "substantial federal involvement" in carrying out the award and program. Generally stated, under OJP cooperative agreement awards, responsibility for the day-to-day conduct of the funded project rests with the recipient. OJP, however, may have substantial involvement in matters such as substantive coordination of technical efforts and site selection, and review and approval of project work plans, research designs, data collection instruments, and major project-generated materials. In addition, OJP often indicates in the award terms and conditions that it may redirect the project if necessary.

In addition to an award condition that sets out the nature of the anticipated "substantial federal involvement" in the award, cooperative agreements awarded by OJP include an award condition that requires specific reporting in connection with conferences, meetings, retreats, seminars, symposia, training activities, or similar events funded under the award.

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

In addition to the deliverables described in [Section A. Program Description](#), any recipient of an award under this solicitation will be required to submit the following reports and data.

Required reports. Recipients typically must submit quarterly financial reports, semiannual progress reports, final financial and progress 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.)

Awards that exceed \$500,000 will include an additional condition that, under specific circumstances, will require the recipient to report (to FAPIIS) information on civil, criminal, and administrative proceedings connected with (or connected to the performance of) either the OJP award or any other grant, cooperative agreement, or procurement contract from the federal government. Additional information on this reporting requirement appears in the text of the award condition posted on the OJP webpage at <https://ojp.gov/funding/FAPIIS.htm>.

Data on performance measures. In addition to required reports, each award recipient also must provide data that measure the results of the work done under the award. To demonstrate program progress and success, and to assist DOJ in 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, OJP will require any award recipient, post award, to provide performance data as part of regular progress reporting. Successful applicants will be required to access OJP's performance measurement page at <https://ojp.gov/performance/> to view the specific reporting requirements for this grant program. Performance measures are also listed as an [Appendix A](#).

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

For OJP contact(s), see the title page.

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

## **H. Other Information**

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

All applications submitted to OJP (including all attachments to applications) are subject to the federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and to the Privacy Act. By law, DOJ may withhold information that is responsive to a request pursuant to FOIA if DOJ determines that the responsive information either is protected under the Privacy Act or falls within the scope of one of nine statutory exemptions under FOIA. DOJ cannot agree in advance of a request pursuant to FOIA not to release some or all portions of an application.

In its review of records that are responsive to a FOIA request, OJP will withhold information in those records that plainly falls within the scope of the Privacy Act or one of the statutory exemptions under FOIA. (Some examples include certain types of information in budgets, and names and contact information for project staff other than certain key personnel.) In appropriate circumstances, OJP will request the views of the applicant/recipient that submitted a responsive document.

For example, if OJP receives a request pursuant to FOIA for an application submitted by a nonprofit or for-profit organization or an institution of higher education, or for an application that involves research, OJP typically will contact the applicant/recipient that submitted the application and ask it to identify—quite precisely—any particular information in the application that the applicant/recipient believes falls under a FOIA exemption, the specific exemption it believes applies, and why. After considering the submission by the applicant/recipient, OJP makes an independent assessment regarding withholding information. OJP generally follows a similar process for requests pursuant to FOIA for applications that may contain law enforcement-sensitive information.

### **Provide Feedback to OJP**

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

**IMPORTANT:** This email is for feedback and suggestions only. OJP does **not** reply from this mailbox to messages it receives in this mailbox. Any prospective applicant that has specific questions on any program or technical aspect of the solicitation **must** use the appropriate telephone number or email listed on the front of this document to obtain information. These contacts are provided to help ensure that prospective applicants can directly reach an individual who can address specific questions in a timely manner.

If you are interested in being a reviewer for other OJP grant applications, please email your resume to [ojpprsupport@usdoj.gov](mailto:ojpprsupport@usdoj.gov). (Do not send your resume to the OJP Solicitation Feedback email account.) **Note:** Neither you nor anyone else from your organization or entity can be a peer reviewer in a competition in which you or your organization/entity has submitted an application.

## Appendix A: Performance Measures Table

Objective	Performance Measure(s)	Data Recipient Provides
<p>Increase capacity of victim service providers nationwide in one of three purpose areas to improve quality and quantity of services offered to trafficking survivors.</p>	<p>Number of TTA requests received.</p> <p>Number of trainings completed, and number of service providers seeking training who were not served.</p> <p>Number of TTA recipients who implemented one or more policies or practices as a result of TTA received.</p> <p>Recipient's input on TTA provided.</p>	<p>Number and type of requests for TTA, broken down by topic and type of provider.</p> <p>Number and type of requests for TTA not filled, by topic, type of provider, and reason.</p> <p>Method of TTA provided, including, but not limited to, telephone calls, webinars, site visits, and conference sessions.</p> <p>Number and type of TTA requests referred to other TTA providers.</p> <p>Number of professionals trained, by topic, type of provider, and method</p> <p>Number and type of policies or practices implemented.</p> <p>Surveys, evaluation forms, or other type of tool to assess the quality of TTA delivered.</p>
<p>Improve victim service providers' partnerships at the national, state, and local level with relevant purpose area stakeholders.</p>	<p>Number of TTA recipients that reported applying knowledge acquired through trainings received.</p>	<p>Number of professionals trained, by topic, type of provider, and method.</p> <p>Number of TTA recipients reporting that policies or practices were implemented as a result of TTA.</p> <p>Number of victims of human trafficking accurately identified as a result of TTA provided.</p>

	<p>Number of materials developed.</p> <p>Number of materials disseminated.</p> <p>Number of agencies/ organizations reporting improvements in partnerships as a result of TTA.</p>	<p>Number and type of referrals to legal and social services reported as a result of TTA received.</p> <p>Number of training materials developed, by topic.</p> <p>Number of materials disseminated, by topic.</p> <p>Surveys, evaluation forms, or other type of tool to assess if recipients applied legal knowledge obtained through TTA received.</p>
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## **Appendix B: Application Checklist**

### **FY 2018 Specialized Human Trafficking and Technical Assistance**

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application.

#### **What an Applicant Should Do:**

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

- Acquire a DUNS Number (see page 28)
- Acquire or renew registration with SAM (see page 29)

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

- Acquire AOR and Grants.gov username/password (see page 29)
- Acquire AOR confirmation from the E-Biz POC (see page 29)

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

- Search for the Funding Opportunity on Grants.gov (see page 29)
- Select the correct Competition ID (see page 30)
- Access Funding Opportunity and Application Package (see page 30)
- Sign up for Grants.gov email [notifications](#) (optional) (see page 27)
- 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](http://ojp.gov/financialguide/doj/PostawardRequirements/chapter3.10a.htm) (see page 11)

##### *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 30)

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

- Contact OVC's NCJRS Resource Center regarding experiencing technical difficulties (see page 2)

#### **Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements:**

- Review the "[Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2018 Awards](#)" in the OJP Funding Resource Center.

#### **Scope Requirement:**

- The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of \$900,000.

**Eligibility Requirement:** See eligibility requirements on the title page.

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

- Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) (see page 13)
  - Articles of Incorporation or 501(c)(3) Status Documentation (if applicable) (see page 13)
- Project Abstract (see page 13)
- Program Narrative\* (see page 14)
  - Statement of the Problem (see page 14)
  - Project Design and Implementation (see page 14)

_____	Capabilities and Competencies	(see page 14)
_____	Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures*	(see page 15)
_____	Budget Detail Worksheet*	(see page 16)
_____	Budget Narrative*	(see page 16)
_____	Information on Proposed Subawards (if any), and on Proposed Procurement Contracts (if any)	(see page 18)
_____	Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)	(see page 19)
_____	Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire	(see page 20)
_____	<a href="#">Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL)</a>	(see page 20)
_____	Additional Attachments	
_____	Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications	(see page 20)
_____	Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity	(see page 21)
_____	Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation	(see page 23)
_____	Plan for Action Research*	(see page 24)
_____	Training Plan*	(see page 25)
_____	MOUs, Letters of Intent, and/or Subcontracts/Subgrants*	(see page 25)
_____	Project Timeline*	(see page 26)
_____	Position Descriptions and Resumes	(see page 26)
_____	Plan for Survivor Involvement	(see page 67)
_____	Privacy Certificate	(see page 26)
_____	Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable)	(see page 11)

\*Denotes critical elements, as indicated in "What an Application Should Include" under [Section D. Application and Submission Information](#).