

Purpose Area #6 - Children's Justice Act Partnerships for Indian Communities (OVC)

1. Who is eligible to apply for Purpose Area #6 funding?

A federally recognized tribe or an organization that is acting as the **authorized designee** of a federally recognized Indian Tribe may apply. If the applicant is a **tribal designee** under Purpose Area #6, OVC Children's Justice Act Partnerships for Indian Communities (CJA) Program, the applicant will need a tribal resolution or equivalent legal enactment from the tribe as part of the application which should (1) authorize the applicant to submit an application on behalf of the federally recognized Indian tribe and (2) state the tribe's support for the project and its commitment to participate in the project if it is selected for funding. **This resolution or equivalent legal enactment must be current, must be sufficient to demonstrate authority for the application, must contain authorized signature(s), and must be submitted by the application due date.**

In addition, under this purpose area, CTAS FY 2017 CJA Program awardees are not eligible to apply for CTAS FY 2018 Purpose Area #6, CJA Program.

Important Note: Due to the highly competitive nature of this purpose area, if a proposed project does not contain any investigative or prosecutorial activities, OVC strongly encourages the applicant to apply for funding under Purpose Area #7.

2. Can adult victims be supported under Purpose Area #6?

In general, no. Purpose Area #6 is guided by the Children's Justice Act Partnerships for Indian Communities Continuation Grant Program [Victims of Crime Act of 1984, Section 1402(g), 42 U.S.C. 10601(g)], which supports demonstration projects in American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities for the purpose of improving the investigation, prosecution, and handling of child abuse cases, especially cases of child sexual abuse, in a manner that increases support for and lessens trauma to child abuse victims.

3. If a tribe received funding from CTAS FY 2017 CJA, are they eligible to apply for the CTAS FY 2018 Purpose Area #6 Program?

No. CTAS FY 2017CJA Program awardees are *not eligible* to apply for CTAS FY 2018 Purpose Area #6, CJA Program.

4. What activities can be funded under the award?

Allowable activities and services include outreach and awareness, victim assistance services, and travel. Specific examples include the following:

Staffing. Funding may support the salary and fringe benefits for personnel who provide and oversee direct services to improve the investigation, prosecution, and overall handling of child abuse and neglect cases. Staffing may include, but is not limited to: dedicated prosecutors; law enforcement investigators; child protection services personnel; forensic interviewers; case managers; clinical mental health professionals; pediatric sexual assault nurse examiners; and other allied professionals. All personnel must be clearly linked to the funded Children's Justice Act program, justified in the Purpose Area

Narrative and Tribal Narrative Profile, itemized under the appropriate Budget category, and fully described in the Budget Narrative.

Coordination/Outreach/Awareness. Funding may support multidisciplinary team meetings; the development and distribution of written response protocols, policies, and standard operating procedure manuals that promote trauma-informed approaches to the delivery of services to victims of child abuse and neglect and their family members; development of tribal codes related to defining and expanding victims' rights and crimes against children; community forums, PSAs, posters, brochures, fact sheets, etc., that are designed to increase the public's awareness and understanding of child abuse and neglect, the availability of grant-funded services, and crime victims' rights.

Cultural and traditional practices. Applicants are encouraged to incorporate cultural and traditional practices in proposed activities (for example, smudging, sweat lodges, or other traditional healing ceremonies), for victims of child abuse and neglect and their non-abusing family members.

Expanding Services: Applicants are encouraged to expand their victim service programming to serve often unserved eligible victims of crime, including child abuse or neglect victim populations that are underserved because of factors such as age, type of victimization (i.e., trafficking victims or victims of technology facilitated crimes), geographic location, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

Victim assistance. In addition to supporting personnel who provide and oversee direct services to improve the investigation and prosecution of child abuse and neglect cases, funding may be used to provide victim assistance services that are linked to the child's victimization and their family members. Victim assistance may include developmentally appropriate trauma-informed counseling for individual victims; counseling for secondary victims (such as siblings, grandparents, etc.); family therapy; group therapy; case management services; victim advocacy and information about crime victims' rights and services; aid with participating in traditional healing ceremonies or other cultural activities; assistance with food, clothing, and transportation costs; emergency shelter services; assistance with crime victim compensation claims; and medical and dental care. Costs associated with prevention activities are not allowable.

Travel. Airfare, lodging, per diem, and other allowable incidental costs for meeting or training costs related to purpose area activities, including costs associated with at least two program staff to attend three DOJ-required trainings (i.e., CTAS New Grantee Orientation, OVC Regional Trainings, and the OVC-sponsored National Indian Nations Conference). Please use Washington, D.C., as the destination when calculating the estimated costs for required travel since the actual locations will be determined at a future date.

Additional training. Funding can be used to pay for costs associated with developing and conducting local in-service trainings relevant to the handling, investigation and prosecution of child abuse and neglect cases. Funding may be used to send program staff, and upon approval of your OVC grant manager, staff from collaborative partner agencies and organizations to local, state, and regional training events that address the handling, investigation, and prosecution of child abuse and neglect cases or address the provision of trauma-informed services to the victims and their families.

Equipment and supplies. Enhancement of existing or new equipment and technology exclusively related to this CJA program are permissible. Costs may include: supplies for play therapy; forensic interview

recording equipment; digital cameras; rape kits; medical equipment for a pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program; office furniture and equipment (e.g., printers/scanners, child-friendly furnishings); and materials for traditional crafts and healing ceremonies.

5. What activities cannot be funded under the award?

Prevention and construction-related costs **are not allowed** under this award.

6. Are grant deliverables subject to approval?

Yes, deliverables and some activities produced with grant funds must be reviewed and approved by OVC prior to the production and dissemination of said products. Examples of deliverables include hiring announcements, conference attendance, agendas, workshops, fliers, pamphlets, training curricula, community needs assessments, strategic plans, etc.

7. Can tribes apply for more than the designated award totals?

Applicants may apply for the approximate award amount of up to \$450,000 covering a 36-month project period. DOJ has the discretion to negotiate the scope of work and budget with applicants prior to the awarding of a grant.

8. May the applicant designate which of the performance measures it wishes to address, or is the applicant expected to address all performance measures?

OVC does not require applicants to submit performance measures data with their application. OVC will require successful applicants to submit specific data as part of their reporting requirements. OVC may require the applicant to use a formal performance measurement tool in the future. For the application, applicants should indicate an understanding of these requirements and discuss how they will gather the required data, should they receive funding.

9. Are there budgetary restrictions?

Yes, funding may be used for the activities detailed in the application including: direct services to child abuse victims and their families; and training, personnel, equipment, outreach, etc., to develop or enhance a child abuse or neglect program as described above. The applicant should ensure that no less than 50 percent of the funding be used to directly support the investigation, prosecution, and handling of child abuse cases, especially cases of child sexual abuse, in a manner that increases support for and lessens trauma to child abuse victims. In addition, funds cannot be used to support prevention efforts.

Match is not required.

10. Will OVC offer any technical assistance to grant recipients under this program?

Upon award, OVC will provide access to free training and technical assistance to assist with developing and implementing grant-funded projects. This may include: providing professional development training; specific training for project staff and staff members from collaborative partner agencies and organizations on how to serve victims of child abuse and neglect; assistance with establishing mechanisms to capture required performance measurement data; development of project deliverables; or other training and technical assistance needs that may be identified. OVC expects all awardees to

actively participate in activities and services offered through OVC and to use the OVC-designated training and technical assistance providers as their primary training and technical assistance resource.

11. If we are awarded a cooperative agreement, will our Tribal Government or designee be subjected to monitoring, reporting, and evaluation requirements?

Federal regulations require that any financial assistance from the Federal Government be monitored to ensure that those funds are spent properly. Awarded agencies will be responsible for submitting periodic programmatic progress reports and quarterly federal financial reports.

OVC actively monitors the status and progress of all cooperative agreements. OVC monitoring can include phone discussions, emails, participating in meetings and events, reviewing progress and financial reports, or conducting site visits. Grantees must complete the Office of Justice Programs' financial management training and may have monitoring or site visits conducted by the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

12. How long will the funds be available for obligation, expenditure, and drawdown if we receive an award?

The funds for this program are authorized by the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984. VOCA states that the funds are available for award recipients to use during the Federal Fiscal Year that the award was made, plus three additional Federal Fiscal Years (e.g., VOCA funds awarded in Fiscal Year 2018 are available for use through the end of Fiscal Year 2021). OVC does not have discretion to extend the period of availability to obligate, expend, and drawdown award funds beyond this period. At the end of this period, VOCA funds must be deobligated and returned to the Federal Crime Victims Fund.

Purpose Area #7 - Comprehensive Tribal Victim Assistance Program (OVC)

1. Who is eligible to apply for Purpose Area #7 funding?

A federally recognized tribe or an organization that is acting as the **authorized designee** of a federally recognized Indian tribe may apply. If the applicant is a **tribal designee** under Purpose Area #7, OVC Comprehensive Tribal Victim Assistance (CTVA) Program, the applicant will need a tribal resolution or equivalent legal enactment from the tribe as part of the application, which should (1) authorize the applicant to submit an application on behalf of the federally recognized Indian tribe and (2) state the tribe's support for the project and its commitment to participate in the project if it is selected for funding. **This resolution or equivalent legal enactment must be current, must be sufficient to demonstrate authority for the application, must contain authorized signature(s), and must be submitted by the application due date.**

In addition, under this purpose area, CTAS Purpose Area #7 FY 2017 CTVA Program awardees are not eligible to apply for a CTAS Purpose Area #7 FY 2018 CTVA Program. Important note:

If the applicant would like to complement its child abuse and neglect services program by hiring a dedicated investigator or prosecutor to investigate and prosecute cases of child abuse and neglect, OVC strongly encourages the applicant to apply for funding under Purpose Area #6.

2. Can funds be used to implement a new victim assistance program under Purpose Area #7?

Yes, funds can be used to develop a new or enhance and sustain a comprehensive victim assistance program. The program should provide a coordinated collaborative multidisciplinary response and provide trauma-informed, culturally competent holistic services to victims of crime, their families, and the community.

3. If a tribe received funding from CTAS FY 2017 CTVA, are they eligible to apply for the CTAS FY 2018 Purpose Area #7 CTVA Program?

No. CTAS FY 2017 CTVA Program awardees are **not eligible** to apply for CTAS FY 2018 Purpose Area #7, CTVA Program.

4. What is meant by a coordinated collaborative multidisciplinary response?

Applicants are encouraged to demonstrate strategies that are specific to their community and include collaboration with appropriate local agencies and organizations involved in assisting victims. They must also show their capacity to coordinate with other agencies serving crime victims such as U.S. Attorneys' Offices; Federal Bureau of Investigation field offices; state VOCA administrators; the Bureau of Indian Affairs Law Enforcement Services; state and county law enforcement agencies; the Indian Health Service; mental health clinics; hospitals; and other appropriate tribal and nontribal agencies.

5. What activities can be funded under the award?

Allowable activities and services include outreach and awareness, victim assistance services, and travel. Specific examples include the following:

Staffing: Funding may support the salary and fringe benefits of personnel who provide and oversee staff providing direct victim assistance to victims of crime, such as advocates, case managers, response team coordinators, counselors, individuals contracted to provide direct services to victims (such as short-term individual counseling or support groups). All personnel must be clearly linked to CTVA victim assistance program activities, justified in the Purpose Area Narrative and Tribal Narrative Profile, itemized under the appropriate Budget category, and fully described in the Budget Narrative.

Coordination/Outreach/Awareness. Funding may support multidisciplinary team meetings; the development and distribution of written response protocols, policies, and standard operating procedure manuals that promote trauma-informed approaches to the delivery of victim services; development of tribal codes related to defining and expanding victims' rights, expanding criminal codes, and codes to protect abused or neglected children; and community forums, PSAs, posters, brochures, fact sheets, etc., that are designed to increase the public's awareness and understanding of the victim services available and crime victims' rights.

Cultural and traditional practices. Applicants are encouraged to incorporate cultural and traditional practices in proposed activities (for example, sweat lodges, talking circles, and healing ceremonies) for victims and survivors.

Expanding Services: Applicants are encouraged to expand their victim service programming to serve often unserved eligible victims of crime, including child abuse or neglect victim populations that are underserved because of factors such as age, type of victimization (i.e., trafficking victims or victims of technology facilitated crimes), geographic location, disability, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

Comprehensive victim assistance. Funding must be used to provide comprehensive victim assistance that will support focus areas that may include, but are not limited to, elder abuse, child abuse, homicide, gang violence, youth violence, human trafficking, sexual assault, domestic violence, battery and assault, identity theft, hate crimes, driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs, or comprehensive services to all victims of crime. Examples of allowable costs include: case management, including assessment of client needs, development of individualized service plans, and assessment of eligibility for other public or community-based programs; safety planning; assistance with crime victim compensation claims; information and referrals, including documentation of services provided, and routine follow up to ensure victims' needs are being addressed; basic services including, but not limited to, shelter, housing and sustenance, medical care, substance abuse treatment, dental care, mental health treatment, emergency mental health assessments, related civil legal assistance, individual and group counseling, interpreter and translator services; victim advocacy and information about crime victims' rights and services; education/GED assistance and employment services; transportation assistance; life skills training including, but not limited to, managing personal finances, self-care, parenting classes; and emergency response such as hotline services, call forwarding systems, and rotating on-call cell phones.

*Funding **cannot** support investigation and prosecution services, offender treatment or intervention or prevention efforts.*

Travel. Airfare, lodging, mileage reimbursement, and registration fees for meeting or training costs related to purpose area activities, including costs associated with at least two program staff to attend three OVC and/or DOJ-required trainings (e.g., CTAS New Grantee Orientation, OVC Regional Trainings,

and Indian Nations Conference). Please use Washington, D.C., as the destination when calculating the estimated costs for required travel since the actual location will be determined at a future date.

In addition, we encourage applicants to include costs associated with attending other conferences, trainings, workshops, or professional development opportunities that are directly related to purpose area activities in their travel budgets.

Training. Funding can be used to support training specific to victim assistance topics, victim-related topics, training and technical assistance conferences, seminars, classes, and other program staff professional development resources. For example training for SANEs, forensic interviewing or other specialized topics not available through the TTA provider.

Upon award, the OVC AI/AN TTA provider(s) will provide training on some specific victim assistance topics at no cost; therefore, prior to seeking other training, awardees must ensure that their training needs cannot be met by the OVC AI/AN TTA provider and obtain approval through OVC before seeking training from other sources.

Equipment and supplies. Funds may support new or enhancement of existing equipment and technology exclusively related to the enhancement or implementation of the victim assistance program. Costs may include computers, fax machines, printers, scanners, cameras, office furniture, equipment necessary to establish an information-sharing database, leasing vehicles for use by program staff, small appliances and cleaning supplies for shelter, supplies necessary to create brochures, posters, fliers, resource manuals, materials for traditional arts and crafts, etc.

6. What activities cannot be funded under the CTVA Purpose Area # 7 award?

Funds **cannot** be used to support investigation and prosecution activities or prevention efforts. If the applicant would like to complement its child victim services program by hiring a dedicated investigator or prosecutor to investigate and prosecute cases of child abuse and neglect, OVC strongly encourages the applicant to apply for funding under Purpose Area #6.

7. Are grant deliverables subject to approval?

Yes, deliverables and some activities produced with grant funds must be reviewed and approved by OVC prior to the production and dissemination of said products. Examples of deliverables include hiring announcements, conference attendance, agendas, workshops, fliers, pamphlets, training curricula, community needs assessments, strategic plans, etc.

8. Can tribes apply for more than the designated award totals?

Applicants may apply for the approximate award amount of up to \$450,000 covering a 36-month project period. DOJ has the discretion to negotiate the scope of work and budget with applicants prior to the awarding of the cooperative agreement.

9. May the applicant designate which of the performance measures it wishes to address, or is the applicant expected to address all performance measures?

OVC does not require applicants to submit performance measures data with their application. OVC will require successful applicants to submit specific data as part of their reporting requirements. OVC may require the applicant to use a formal performance measurement tool in the future. For the application,

applicants should indicate an understanding of these requirements and discuss how they will gather the required data, should they receive funding.

10. Are there budgetary restrictions? What restrictions pertain to personnel and fringe benefits?

Yes, funding may be used for the activities detailed in the application including; direct services, training, personnel, equipment, outreach, etc.

If a position is supported with these CTVA funds, total costs associated with salary and fringe benefits may not exceed 50 percent of the federal grant amount under the purpose area, if that position or positions are not dedicated to solely providing direct victim services. In addition, if the applicant is (currently) funding a half-time victim-related position with other federal funds, resources under Purpose Area #7 may complement that position as long as the applicant does not exceed the aforementioned stipulation. **Match is not required.**

11. Will OVC offer any technical assistance to grant recipients under this program?

Upon award, OVC will provide access to free training and technical assistance to assist with developing and implementing grant-funded project. This may include, providing professional development training, specific training for project staff and staff members from collaborative partner agencies and organizations on providing victim services; establishing mechanisms to capture required performance measurement data; development of project deliverables; or other training and technical assistance needs that may be identified. OVC expects all awardees to actively participate in activities and services offered through OVC, and to use the OVC-designated training and technical assistance providers as their primary training and technical assistance resource.

12. If we are awarded a cooperative agreement under CTVA Purpose Area # 7, will our Tribal Government or designee be subjected to monitoring, reporting, and evaluation requirements?

Federal regulations require that any financial assistance from the Federal Government be monitored to ensure that those funds are spent properly. Awarded agencies will be responsible for submitting periodic programmatic progress reports and quarterly federal financial reports.

OVC actively monitors the status and progress of all cooperative agreements. OVC monitoring can include phone discussions, emails, participating in meetings and events, reviewing progress and financial reports, or conducting site visits. Grantees must complete the Office of Justice Programs' financial management training and may have monitoring or site visits conducted by the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

13. How long will the funds be available for obligation, expenditure, and drawdown if we receive an award?

The funds for this program are authorized by the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984. VOCA states that the funds are available for award recipients to use during the Federal Fiscal Year that the award was made, plus three additional Federal Fiscal Years (e.g., VOCA funds awarded in Fiscal Year 2018 are available for use through the end of Fiscal Year 2021). OVC does not have discretion to extend the period of availability to obligate, expend, and drawdown award funds beyond this period. At the end of this period, VOCA funds must be deobligated and returned to the Federal Crime Victims Fund.